

**PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, KwaZulu-Natal)**

Monsignor Gordon Read

Telephone: 01376 570348

Address: The Presbytery, Church Street, Kelvedon, C05 9AH

Email: kelvedon@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Parish Website: www.kelvedoncatholicparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net

**Parish Facebook Page www.facebook.com/kelvedoncatholic
twitter.com/KelvCathParish www.instagram.com/kelvedoncatholicparish**



PARISH NEWSLETTER

25th December 2016

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

First Reading Is 62:1-5
Responsorial Psalm Ps 88:4-5.16-17.27.29
Second Reading Acts 13:16-17.22-25
Gospel Mt 1:18-25

First Reading Is 9:1-7
Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1-3.11-13
Second Reading Titus 2:11-14
Gospel Lk 2:1-14

First Reading Is 62:11-12
Responsorial Psalm Ps 96:1.6.11-12
Second Reading Titus 3:4-7
Gospel Lk 2:15-20

First Reading Is 52:7-10
Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1-6
Second Reading Heb 1:1-6
Gospel Jn 1:1-18



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD: “Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Christmas!

Christ is born for us - let us rejoice in the day of our salvation!

Let us open our hearts to receive the grace of this day, which is Christ himself. Jesus is the radiant “day” which has dawned on the horizon of humanity. A day of mercy, in which God our Father has revealed his great tenderness to the entire world. A day of light, which dispels the darkness of fear and anxiety. A day of peace, which makes for encounter, dialogue and, above all, reconciliation. A day of joy: a “great joy” for the poor, the lowly and for all the people (cf. Lk 2:10).

On this day, Jesus, the Saviour is born of the Virgin Mary. The Crib makes us see the “sign” which God has given us: “a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger” (Lk 2:12). Like the shepherds of Bethlehem, may we too set out to see this sign, this event which is renewed yearly in the Church. Christmas is an event which is renewed in every family, parish and community which receives the love of God made incarnate in Jesus Christ. Like Mary, the Church shows to everyone the “sign” of God: the Child whom she bore in her womb and to whom she gave birth, yet who is the Son of the Most High, since he “is of the Holy Spirit” (Mt 1:20). He is truly the Saviour, for he is the Lamb of God who takes upon himself the sin of the world (cf. Jn 1:29). With the shepherds, let us bow down before the Lamb, let us worship God’s goodness made flesh, and let us allow tears of repentance to fill our eyes and cleanse our hearts. This is something we all need!

He alone, he alone can save us. Only God’s mercy can free humanity from the many forms of evil, at times monstrous evil, which selfishness spawns in our midst. The grace of God can convert hearts and offer mankind a way out of humanly insoluble situations.

Today, then, let us together rejoice in the day of our salvation. As we contemplate the Crib, let us gaze on the open arms of Jesus, which show us the merciful embrace of God, as we hear the cries of the Child who whispers to us: “for my brethren and companions’ sake, I will say: Peace be within you” (Ps 121[122]:8).” ***From Pope Francis’s Christmas message for 2016.***

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially ***Samantha Upton, Margaret Britain, Paul Britain, Vanessa Dann, Angelina Barber, June Jezierski, Mrs Van Stolk Senior, Denis Wood, Hayley Hetzel, Julie Trueman, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Hopwood*** & any unknown to us.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember ***Adrian Scott, Sheila South, Frank Poeciecha, Edna McGuire, Miles Swinburne, Bernard Vesmilio, Rachel Evans, John Barrett, Leonard Chamberlain, Michael Vickers, Ted Godden*** and ***Patricia Carr*** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

MASS TIMES: Masses this week will be at the usual times except for Monday at 10.00 a.m. and Thursday when there is a Requiem Mass for Lilian Taylor 11.00 a.m. at Tiptree.

CONGRATULATIONS: To **Francis Alexis Kemp** baptised at Coggeshall last Sunday and also to **Martin** and **Francis McCarthy** who made their First Holy Communion recently at Kelvedon.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM FR ARTHUR: Some will have received an e-mail from Fr Arthur but while he is well he will not be sending any cards out this year.

BESTERS: If you have one of the **BLUE BOXES** can you please return it so that Jadwiga Smith can empty and count the contents.

ESSEX RECUSANT SOCIETY: The next meeting of the Essex Recusant Society (Brentwood Diocesan Historical Society) will be on Saturday 21 January, 2.30 p.m. at The Grange, 93 Queens Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4EY. The speaker will be Rev. Dr. Ken Carleton, Church Historian and Permanent Deacon at St Alban, Elm Park, who will be speaking on the Bishops of London during the Tudor Reformation.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2017: Bishop Alan will lead our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 23rd July - 28th July. The cost per person - full board and flights - is £695. Booking information will appear very soon.

MARRIAGE MATTERS (twoinoneflesh.or.uk): **Excitement and joy.** Mary knew the excitement and joy of this special day; Joseph too. He and Mary were 'together' beginning a new journey, and no doubt believed all was going to be well. We, too, like Mary and Joseph, need to be open to the joy and excitements of new beginnings 'together', especially when they involve experiences that are totally new.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: For **Sunday 11th December - £890.98** and **Sunday 17th December - £769.85**

Liturgical Rotas 1st January 2017	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ministers of Welcome
COGGESHALL	Derek Hand Jane Crone	Neville Bridgman	Mollie Blackwell
KELVEDON	Tom McInally Jadwiga Smith	Elsie Smith	Gloria Streat
TIPTREE	Michael Wigley	Sue Petchey	Jude Cody

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:
Morning & Evening Prayer: Week 1**

SATURDAY 24th December <i>Christmas Eve</i>	Kelvedon	6.30 p.m.	<i>Vigil Mass for Families: All Parishioners</i>
SUNDAY 25th December <i>Christmas Day</i>	Tollesbury (St Mary's) Kelvedon Coggeshall Tiptree	9.00 p.m. 12.00 midnight 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m.	<i>Mass of Midnight: Adrian Scott (anniversary)</i> <i>Midnight Mass - carols from 11.30 p.m.:</i> Private Intention All Parishioners Winnie Mitchell Lynn RIP
MONDAY 26th December <i>St Stephen</i>	Kelvedon	10.00 a.m.	Altar Servers
TUESDAY 27th December <i>St John the Evangelist</i>	Kelvedon	8.00 a.m.	Keith Smith RIP
WEDNESDAY 28th December <i>Holy Innocents</i>	Kelvedon	7.30 p.m.	Private Intention
THURSDAY 29th December <i>St Thomas of Canterbury</i>	Tiptree	11.00 a.m.	<i>Requiem: Lilian Vera Taylor RIP</i>
FRIDAY 30th December <i>Holy Family</i>	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Thomas Wall RIP
SATURDAY 31st December <i>St Sylvester</i>	Kelvedon	10.00 a.m.	Private Intention
SUNDAY 1st January <i>Mary, Mother of God</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Intention Denis Wood All Parishioners John Barrett RIP

***Sacrament of Reconciliation: this Saturday 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction***