

WELCOME TO THE
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

31st December 2017

HOLY FAMILY

The child grew, filled with wisdom.

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel

Gn 15:1-6;21:1-3
Ps 104:1-6.8-9
Heb 11:8.11-12.17-19
Lk 2:22-40



Joseph and Mary
took him to
Jerusalem
to present him
to the Lord

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY: Almighty God has set before us the Holy Family as a model and example of love, yet we know that every family is unique and made up of frail human beings. We are not called on to copy the Holy Family in externals but rather to learn from the message and dynamic of love both human and divine. In his exhortation 'The joy of the Gospel' Pope Francis wrote, "272. *Loving others is a spiritual force drawing us to union with God; indeed, one who does not love others "walks in the darkness" (1 Jn 2:11), "remains in death" (1 Jn 3:14) and "does not know God" (1 Jn 4:8). Benedict XVI has said that "closing our eyes to our neighbour also blinds us to God", [209] and that love is, in the end, the only light which "can always illuminate a world grown dim and give us the courage needed to keep living and working". [210] When we live out a spirituality of drawing nearer to others and seeking their welfare, our hearts are opened wide to the Lord's greatest and most beautiful gifts. Whenever we encounter another person in love, we learn something new about God...This openness of the heart is a source of joy, since "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). We do not live better when we flee, hide, refuse to share, stop giving and lock ourselves up in own comforts. Such a life is nothing less than slow suicide.*

274. If we are to share our lives with others and generously give of ourselves, we also have to realize that every person is worthy of our giving. Not for their physical appearance, their abilities, their language, their way of thinking, or for any satisfaction that we might receive, but rather because they are God's handiwork, his creation. God created that person in his image, and he or she reflects something of God's glory. Every human being is the object of God's infinite tenderness, and he himself is present in their lives. Jesus offered his precious blood on the cross for that person. Appearances notwithstanding, every person is immensely holy and deserves our love. Consequently, if I can help at least one person to have a better life, that already justifies the offering of my life. It is a wonderful thing to be God's faithful people. We achieve fulfilment when we break down walls and our heart is filled with faces and names!"

Our own family life and relationships face us with this challenge in a very real and concrete way!

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially **Sean O'Leary, Rona Roberts, Ann Ross, Rosemary Tuite, Michelle Bryant, Samantha Upton, Margaret Britain, Paul Britain, Vanessa Dann, Angelina Barber, 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** and any unknown to us.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember **Ted Godden, Patricia Carr, Kate Warner, Alexandra Hutley, John Moffet, Ronald Barnes, Doreen Rooney, Joseph Martin, Mary Shah, Hilary Rowley, David Bartlett, Peter Eary, John Griffin, Paul Reilly, Susan Ambrose** and **Peter Joyce** whose anniversaries occur at this time.