

☆ Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi ☆

338 Wokingham Road, Earley, Reading RG6 7DA

Tel.: 0118 966 3711 E-mail: parish@olop.org.uk

Parish Website: www.olop.org.uk

Portsmouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity Number 246871

Parish Priest: **Father Anthony Ikhenoba**

Parish Secretary: Jane O'Rourke

Hall bookings: hallbookingsolop@googlemail.com 0118 9875588

LODDON VALLEY PASTORAL AREA



20th December 2009

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year C

• **Offertory collection**
13th December:
 Envelopes £127.72
 Loose cash £411.27
 Standing Orders £640.50
Total: £1179.49

Thank you
 for your kind donations

Christmas Masses: please see notice board in Advent Room for rota showing all **ministries** you have kindly volunteered to do **for our Christmas Masses**

! **NEW ROTA** - for Ministers who take **Holy Communion to the Sick & Housebound** of our parish: the new rota is now available (starts on Sunday 10th January 2010). **Please take your copy from Advent Room now**

New **Welcome Ministry Rota** is also now out - for those with e-mail, please check your inbox!

New rotas are being made for Sacristans, Readers for 9am & 5pm Masses, Ministers of Communion for all Masses, Opening & Closing of Church on weekdays and on Saturdays. If you are interested in joining any of these rotas, please contact Jane in Parish Office, or Mel Noronha - 9698595 or e-mail 2jand2m@talktalk.net

Latest issue of Portsmouth People for December/January is now available - take a copy

Due to the Christmas break, **CONFESSIONS** will next be heard in the confessional **on the FIRST FRIDAY OF FEBRUARY (5th Feb.) from 6.30pm**, or by appointment

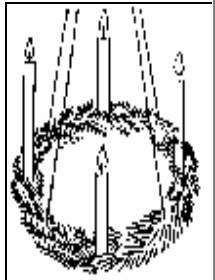
A thing of great joy

Our opportunity to make concrete our relationship with God is obvious at Advent. More so a feeling of joy is in the air, not necessarily because of Christmas but because of what Jesus is to us. Knowing Jesus is a thing of great joy. It was the same feeling expressed by Elizabeth when honoured with a visit from the mother of God: "The child in my womb leaped for joy..." (Luke 1:44). Our connection with Him is a great privilege and brings about joy. This joy must not be taken away from us or diminished by anyone or by any situation if Christ's spirit is in us: "No one will take your joy from you..." (John 16:22).

Leading into Christmas, our feeling of joy should be even greater as we try to intensify our spiritual activities, especially prayer and doing God's will.

May the coming days bring us more joy in our lives and those of others.

Fr. Anthony



The virgin is with child and shall bear a son, and she will call him Emmanuel

TODAY Our neighbours at Christ The King are holding a **Christmas Carol Service TODAY Sunday 20th December at 4.30 pm** and all are welcome

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week from **6am until 9.30am**. The **LAST DAY for this is Wed. 23rd Dec.**



Take a **yellow leaflet** for details of our **Christmas Masses** and services, or see the **bright yellow posters** on notice boards



Children's Christmas Service, 5pm on Christmas Eve -

Adults only admitted if accompanied by a child!
 Please come dressed to take part as an angel or a shepherd or a manger animal. The First Holy Communion children will lead us in our service, which will last about 1 hour



Christmas collections:

Please remember - collections at our 3 Christmas Masses (unlike normal Sundays) go directly to your Parish Priest.

Please show your appreciation for Father Anthony by your generosity. Thank you

Our next quarterly parish **BAPTISM preparation sessions** will be held on **Tuesday 12th January and Tuesday 19th January 2010**, each at **8pm** here in the D. B. Room. If you wish to celebrate a baptism, please complete a baptism form (available in Advent Room) and return it to the Parish Office, then turn up here for BOTH sessions




! See card in Advent Room with thanks & Christmas wishes from our Wednesday Club to all who helped at the Wednesday Club Christmas tea party

Double issue of The Universe and The Catholic Times over Christmas and New Year, for issues dated 27th December 2009 and 3rd January 2010. Price of The Universe will be £2.40 per copy & The Catholic Times will be £2 per copy. From 10th January both papers will return to their normal single issue and usual prices - £1.20 for The Universe and £1 for The Catholic Times

Our next parish newsletter will be printed on Wed. 23rd December for our Christmas Masses and will cover days up to & including Sunday 10th January 2010

Our next FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MEETING is on **Sunday 10th January, at 2pm** in church / D.B. Room



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	MASS INTENTION	PARISH DIARY
Sunday 20 th Dec.	9 am 11 am 5 pm	4th Sunday of Advent	Margery Tormey RIP Clive Wright RIP; Peter Tilton RIP (Found ^{dn} . Mass); Agnes Ogunlela thanksgiving Jacqueline Ramanankilana RIP	NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY
Monday 21 st Dec.	6am Ador.^{tn} NO MASS	St. Peter Canisius		7.30pm: Penitential Service, St. Joseph's (Tilehurst)
Tuesday 22 nd Dec.	6am Ador.^{tn} 9.20: Rosary 10 am		10am: Funeral Mass for Mary Carter RIP Liboria and Paulo Tejero RIP	
Wednes. 23 rd Dec.	6am Ador.^{tn} 9.20: Rosary 9.45 am	St. John of Kanty	George Bentley RIP (Foundation Mass)	★ 2pm: PARISH OFFICE CLOSSES ★ for Christmas break
Thursday 24 th Dec.	11.30pm	Christmas Eve	Family & friends of the parish	5pm: Children's Carol Service 11.30pm: Midnight Mass
Friday 25 th Dec.	9 am 11 am	Christmas Day	Family & friends of the parish Family & friends of the parish	HAPPY CHRISTMAS! 
Sat. 26 th	NO MASS			
Sunday 27 th Dec.	9 am 11 am 5 pm	Holy Family	Thanksgiving - Gunasekera family Bernard Ramanankilana RIP Ronald Evans RIP	NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY



Please keep in your prayers all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Peter Tilton (1991), Gladys Arnold (2001), Martha Franks (1998), Margaret Sellers (1998),
Maureen Chapman (2000), Muriel Bowman-Smith (1976), Pauline Thackram (2001),
Donald Wignall (1996), and Anthony Lesner (1999).

*** NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY during Christmas school holidays - back on Sunday 10th January ***

*** NO CUBS / BEAVERS / SCOUTS during Christmas school holidays - back in January ***

TOMORROW

FACING CHRISTMAS: An Ecumenical candlelit Service recognising that Christmas can be a difficult time and a challenge whether it is through bereavement, divorce, redundancy, illness or separation. Please join us at St. John Bosco on Monday 21st December at 7pm for this special service; refreshments afterwards. **Everyone is welcome**



Next **rehearsal for pantomime**, 'A Midwinter Night's Dream', is on Wed. 30th December 10am-2pm in HALL

Blessed Hugh Faringdon School - latest newsletter is now available from Advent Room



Please check our LOST PROPERTY box for any items that may be yours (children's clothing, a hat, jewellery, a bag...). **All items still here on Wednesday 23rd December will be taken to Oxfam....**

Introduction to Counselling Course - Philippi Trust are holding a foundation course in counselling over 3 weekends (22nd-23rd January, 12th-13th February and 12th-13th March; Friday 6-10pm, Saturday 9-6pm) in Brookside Church, Lower Earley. See posters. For more information please contact Philippi Trust on 0118 966 7422 or e-mail: reading@philippitrust.freeserve.co.uk

Reminder: thank you to all parishioners who book Mass intentions, but please remember - only **ONE Mass intention per Mass.** Please choose the next available date if there is already an intention written for a Mass

Children's real letters to God:

Dear God,
Please put another holiday between Christmas and Easter. There is nothing good in there now.

Ginny

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2009-2010: ONLY 3 COPIES LEFT of our latest diocesan directory - **£3.50** each.

Please contact Jane in the Parish Office if you wish to buy one.

Alternatively, all information is available online: <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/directory/>

SUNDAY MASS TIMES IN LODDON VALLEY PASTORAL AREA

- ♦ **St. John Bosco, Woodley:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10am.
- ♦ **Christ the King, Whitley:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10am.
- ♦ **St. Thomas More, Twyford:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10.30am.
- ♦ **Our Lady of Peace, Wargrave:** Sun. 9am.

Emergency contact numbers for Ministry of a priest:

- Fr. Anthony Ikhenoba **0118 966 3711,**
- Fr. Chris Whelan **0118 969 3423,**
- Fr. Bruce Barnes **0118 931 4469,**
- Fr. Vincent Flanagan **0118 934 0854.**

PLEASE CALL YOUR OWN PARISH PRIEST FIRST

The Parish Office is open this week on Tuesday and Wednesday, 9am - 2pm.
WED. 23RD DEC. IS THE LAST DAY THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN BEFORE CHRISTMAS;
it will re-open on Tuesday 5th January 2010. Thank you for all your cards and kind wishes!

Wishing you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas

