

**Parish of Effingham and Fetcham**  
Our Lady of Sorrows and Church of the Holy Spirit

Parish Team:

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Live-stream on YouTube "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish":

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

*A Very Warm Welcome to Parishioners and Visitors*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Sundays: Cycle C    Weekdays: Year II    19 December 2021



Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to visit Elizabeth. Thus she brings together four of the central people in St Luke's infancy narrative: Mary, Elizabeth, John the Baptist and, of course, Jesus—two women and two unborn babies. It's a real family gathering, full of tenderness and joy, praise and wonder. And it's totally focused on the real meaning of Christmas!—the fact that Jesus our Saviour is coming into the world to heal the wounds of sin and division, and to bring people together in love of God and of one another. As soon as Mary knows her vocation to be the Mother of God she sets out on this journey to bring her Son to others, and to bring them to Him.

Many of us or our loved ones will be hoping to set out on similar journeys very soon, to be united in love with one another and sharing our love of God and our joy at the closeness of Jesus. We will want to journey to church for the same reasons.

But, of course, many will not be able to make such journeys this year because of the pandemic—or because of sickness, frailty, poverty or persecution. So it's also a time for phoning and zooming! And it's a time for praying—journeying in our hearts to Jesus, in the manger, and just as truly in the poor and isolated.

Wishing you all a very joy-filled and Christ-filled Christmas,

*Fr Stephen*

## **This Week**

We welcome into our Catholic Parish Community through the Sacrament of Baptism  
**Amy Jean Lalsing.**



**Poinsettias for Crib at Holy Spirit:** If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one to decorate the crib, please leave it in the church THIS **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> or**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December.** Please don't leave plants outside or in the church before this as they are not keen on the cold. Thank you.

**Additional Mass.** On Christmas Eve morning at 10.00 am, there is a Mass at OLOS.



### **Christmas Mass Offerings**

Our Christmas Mass Offering is our gift to Fr Stephen. Please make any cheques payable to 'Parish of Effingham and Fetcham', not to Father Stephen. Donations are eligible for Gift Aid. Parishioners registered on the Gift Aid scheme should use the PURPLE envelopes marked 'Christmas Gift or Offering' available at the back of the church. Please write your name and postcode on them, otherwise they cannot be entered on the GiftWise system. Anyone else can use the WHITE one-off envelopes with your name and address. Thank you.

### **Help Feed People in Need**

Food donations for those needing support can be left in the box in the porch of each church, for onward distribution. Many thanks

## **Covid Update**

Following the government's introduction of Plan B, can I remind you that it is a legal requirement to wear a face mask in church (unless you are exempt). Masks should cover both mouth and nose please.

Please also:

- Take regular lateral flow tests, esp. before Sunday and Christmas Masses.
- Don't come to church if you have a positive test result or any symptoms of covid (even if you don't think you actually have covid).
- Continue to use hand sanitiser when you arrive and leave.
- Wrap up warm, as we will keep windows and doors open for ventilation.

As always during the pandemic, everyone will need to make a responsible decision as to whether they should come to church or stay at home, based on their personal circumstances and bearing in mind others in their family and the wider community. Please consider staying at home if you have young children who are likely to run around and potentially spread infection.

All Masses from OLOS are still live-streamed (see link on front page). St Alphege Hall will be open for overflow seating for all Sunday and Christmas Masses at OLOS.

As things stand, we are not introducing a booking system for the Masses over the Christmas period. However, please note that we cannot allow people to stand inside at the back of the churches. Once they are full, any more people will need to stay outside or return home.

Finally, I do encourage you all to get the "booster" vaccination as soon as you can.

Thank you as always for your cooperation and charity towards one another, *Fr Stephen*



**Crib Collection:** This year's crib collection is for the Catholic Children's Society. Every single penny donated will go into our Arundel & Brighton Crisis fund and will be given out in emergency grants for disadvantaged families living in the Arundel & Brighton Diocese who are facing crisis in their lives. If you would like to Gift Aid your donation, please use one of the special envelopes provided. Thank you.

**General**

**Carols Around the Tree.** Many thanks to all who came along to the carols last Sunday. It was a wonderful event with well over 100 attending, including many guests. Particular thanks to Graham and Kate for amazing organisation, to Maddox Farm for the choir, and to Valeria for the violin group. Do have a look at the photos on our website at <https://www.effinghamandfetcham.org.uk/carol-singing.html>. And please keep praying that these New Evangelisation events will touch people's hearts and souls, and draw them closer to the Lord.



**Advance Warning.** The Parish Office will be closed from **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 1.00 pm until Thursday 6th January 2022.**

Please bear in mind that for much of that time emails will not be monitored so you may have to wait longer than usual for a response. Thank you for your understanding.



**Mary's Meals.** "Give until 31 Jan 2022 and your donation will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.6 million – meaning we can reach even more hungry children with life-changing school meals" If you would like to donate, please click on the link [Donate | Mary's Meals UK \(marysmeals.org.uk\)](https://marysmeals.org.uk)

**Emergency Afghanistan Appeal (CAFOD)**

A renewed Afghanistan Appeal has been launched this week by CAFOD in conjunction with the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC). At present, more than half the population of Afghanistan are facing extreme hunger, with some parts of the country close to famine conditions. The numbers of people seeking aid increases daily, and the situation will deteriorate with the onset of winter. Please pray for the people of Afghanistan and give to the CAFOD appeal if you can. Donations can be made:

- Online at: [Afghanistan Crisis Appeal | CAFOD](#)
- By phone: 0303 303 3030
- By cheque: payable to CAFOD and sent to: CAFOD Head Office, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB.

Thank you.

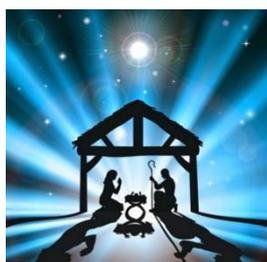


<i>Please pray for all those in our Parish who are sick:</i>	
Marie Bliss	Jim Morgan
Michael Boulvard	Paddy Payne
Pauline Boulvard	Maureen Rennison
Sue Brackenbury	Piers Ripley-Duggan
Christopher Browne	Allison Roberts
Amy Chapman	Jean Rowlandson
Maggi Cooke	Karen Silver
John Donovan	Mary Skilton
Mary Doran	Jenny Smith
Mary Hefford	Margaret Summers
Derek Knott	Pat Turton
Tessa Knott	Simon Turton
Noreen Landers	Andrea Vaughan
Joanna Mills	Alf Wiggins
Janet Morgan	

## This Week's Masses and Intentions

4th Sunday of Advent

Saturday Vigil		18 Dec	6.00 pm	OLOS	Jean Tailby - RIP
Sunday		19 Dec	9.00 am	OLOS	Peter Cross (20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) - RIP
Sunday		19 Dec	11.00 am	HS	People of the Parish
Monday		20 Dec	Noon	HS	Maria Fitch - RIP
Tuesday		21 Dec	9.15 am	OLOS	The Baker Family - Thanksgiving
Wednesday		22 Dec	9.15 am	HS	Amy Lydon - RIP
Thursday		23 Dec	9.15 am	OLOS	Elisha & Ken Harmer - RIP
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>24 Dec</b>	<b>10.00 am*</b>	<b>OLOS*</b>	<b>Celebrant's Intention</b>



### Masses over the Christmas Period

Friday	<b>Christmas Eve</b>	24 Dec	6.00 pm	OLOS	People of the Parish
		24 Dec	9.00 pm	HS	Pat Bray - RIP
Saturday	<b>Christmas Day</b>	25 Dec	9.00 am	OLOS	Holy Souls in Purgatory
		25 Dec	10.30 am	HS	Peace in the World
Sunday	<b>Boxing Day (Feast of The Holy Family)</b>	26 Dec	9.00 am	OLOS	People of the Parish
		26 Dec	11.00 am	HS	Joe Daly - Wellbeing

HS = Holy Spirit, Fetcham      OLOS = Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham

All Masses from OLOS are live-streamed on YouTube at "Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Parish" <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>

**Eucharistic Adoration** – Thursday mornings, from the end of Mass to 11.00 am.

#### Confessions

#### Saturdays

11.00-11.45 am HS, Fetcham

5.00-5.30 pm OLOS, Effingham

**In Advent** – after each Sunday Mass

### Next Sunday: The Holy Family

Samuel 1:20-22.24-28 | Psalm 83:2-3.5-6.9-10.R.v5 | 1John 3:1-2.21-24 | Luke 2:41-52

**Please get Newsletter items to the Parish office by 10.00am Wednesday**

Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878