

O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM

A Responsory from Christmas Matins:

O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
jacentem in praesepio:*
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare
Dominum Jesum Christum.
Ave Maria, gratia plena: Dominus tecum.*

O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see
the new-born Lord, lying in a manger!*

Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy
to bear our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.

Look at the way the words and the music fit together to make this chant. Following the shapes of the notes (called *neumes*), we can see that there is a relatively modest 'O...' to start it off, and while *mysterium* and *sacramentum* have a number of notes per syllable (this stretching of a vowel over several notes is called a *melisma*) it really gets going at the final -a of *animalia*, animals: think of this as a version of 'the cattle are lowing, the baby awakes...' See also how at *natum*, 'born' or 'new-born', the notes gently descend, as 'He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all.' Finally, the joyous 'Ave Maria', a goodly leap up from the preceding note: we have been allowed to join in with the scene before us. Still, remember that even the animals got there first. Happy Christmas!

Resp. 3.

O magnum * mysté- ri- um,

et admi-rá- bi-le sa- cra- mén- tum, ut a-nimá-

li- a vi-dé-rent Dó- minum ná- tum,

ja-céntem in praesé-pi- o: * Be-á- ta Vir- go,

cú-jus ví-sce-ra me-ru-é- runt portá-

re Dó-mi- num Chrí- stum. V. A- ve,

Ma-rí- a, grá- ti- a plé- na: Dó- mi- nus té-

cum. * Be-á- ta.

Fr Daniel

CHRISTMASTIDE MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass 5.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary with *Nativity Play*
First Mass of Christmas 9.30pm Holy Rood

Christmas Day Mass 9.15am Our Lady of the Rosary
Mass 11.15am Holy Rood

As is our custom, **Masses in the Christmas Octave** (that is, until Monday 1 January) will be at 10.00am each day, and there will be only one Mass a day. Please check what is happening on the front page of this newsletter.

Members of the **Archconfraternity of St Stephen** should note that Mass on their patronal festival, Tuesday 26 December, is at 10.00am at Our Lady of the Rosary. There will be a **Holy Hour**, concluding with **Benediction**, between 4.00-5.00pm at Holy Rood on Sunday 31 December (New Year's Eve). We shall give thanks for the blessings of this past year, ask Almighty God to heal the wounds we have received, and those we have inflicted, and pray for His will to be done in our lives in the year to come.

The Holy Family: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Psalm 104; Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19; Luke 2:22-40

The Epiphany: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6; Matthew 2:1-12



St Edmund Campion Deanery, Old Berkshire
Thames Isis Pastoral Area

Hinksey Catholic Parish

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SUNDAY 24 December	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B) DIVINE OFFICE WK 4 Saturday Vigil Sung Mass 5pm Holy Rood <i>Divine Worship</i> Sung Mass 6.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary <i>Pro populo</i> Sunday Sung Mass 9.15am Our Lady of the Rosary Sung Mass 11.15am Holy Rood <i>Nickey Lacey's Ints</i>
SUNDAY 24 December ✱	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Vigil Sung Mass and Nativity Play 5.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary Night Sung Mass 9.30pm Holy Rood
MONDAY 25 December	Christmas Day Mass 9.15am Our Lady of the Rosary Mass 11.15am Holy Rood Pro populo
Tues 26 Dec	St Stephen Mass 10.00am Our Lady of the Rosary <i>Peter Cowley RIP (Anniv)</i>
Wed 27 Dec	St John, Ap, Ev Mass 10.00am Holy Rood <i>Mary Maleary RIP</i>
Thur 28 Dec	Holy Innocents, M Mass 10.00am Holy Rood <i>Anthony Jukes RIP</i>
Fri 29 Dec	St Thomas Becket, Bp, M Mass (<i>Latin</i>) 10.00am Holy Rood <i>Parish Clergy</i>
Sat 30 Dec	<i>Christmas Octave</i> Mass 10.00am Holy Rood <i>Rosary, Confessions until 11.00</i>
SUNDAY 31 December	HOLY FAMILY (YEAR B) Saturday Vigil Sung Mass 5pm Holy Rood <i>Divine Worship</i> Sung Mass 6.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary Sunday Sung Mass 9.15am Our Lady of the Rosary <i>Kevin Sharkey RIP</i> Sung Mass 11.15am Holy Rood <i>Pro populo</i> <i>Holy Hour 4.00pm-5.00pm Holy Rood for God's blessing on the New Year</i>
Monday 1 Jan	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Mass 10.00am Our Lady of the Rosary
Tuesday 2 Jan	Ss Basil & Gregory Bps & Drs Mass 9.30am Our Lady <i>Catherine Harker RIP</i>
Weds 3 Jan	<i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i> Mass 9.00am Holy Rood <i>Julie Stokes's Ints</i>
Thursday 4 Jan	<i>of Christmastide</i> Mass 6.30pm Holy Rood (<i>Divine Worship</i>)
Friday 5 Jan	<i>of Christmastide</i> Mass 8.30am St Thomas More <i>J Mahoney RIP</i>
Saturday 6 Jan	<i>of Christmastide</i> Mass 9.00am Holy Rood (<i>Rosary; Confessions until 10.00am</i>)
SUNDAY 7 January	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD Saturday Vigil Sung Mass 5pm Holy Rood <i>Divine Worship</i> Sung Mass 6.30pm Our Lady of the Rosary <i>Pro populo</i> Mass 7.30pm Holy Rood (<i>in Portuguese</i>) Sunday Sung Mass 9.15am Our Lady of the Rosary Sung Mass 11.15am Holy Rood <i>Pro populo</i>

Our Lady of the Rosary, Botley, OX2 9BD ✱ Holy Rood, Abingdon Road, OX1 4LD
St Thomas More, Grace Dieu, Boars Hill, OX1 5DN

THANKS | Let me take this space to thank everyone who has been involved in our parish's preparations for Christmas. There are, as always, too many to name individually, but you will see in some obvious, and other not-so-obvious ways how many people have been at work. Everyone says to priests 'it's your busy time, Father' - I know that isn't just true for priests! So, a personal and heartfelt thank-you to **you** for all that you do for the spread of the Gospel in this place. *Fr Daniel*

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING | The collection taken at Christmas Masses in this country goes to the support of the parish priest. It forms a significant part of the priest's annual income. There are yellow envelopes available for this purpose in church this weekend, if you would like to contribute. It is, as ever, gratefully received.

DAY BY DAY | January copies are available at the back of the church (£1)

PARISH COLLECTION TOTALS
Week ending 17 December 2017

Main collection plate: £883.46
Standing orders: £600

Parish giving info: Cheques should be made payable to: **PRCDTR North Hinksey Our Lady** Bank transfers to account number **00883337**, sort code **309304**. For Gift aid, please complete the gift aid declaration found at the back of the church and return it to the office.

FORTHCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS | **13-14 January** White Flower Appeal; **11 March** Clergy Assistance Fund.

PARISH OFFICE | Please note that the office will be closed until **Tuesday 2 January** (inclusive).

CHILDREN'S DIARY

Children's activities take place during the 9.15am Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary.
Sunday 24 December: No children's liturgy
Christmas Eve: Mass with Nativity Play 5.30pm
Monday 25 December: Christmas Day no children's liturgy.
For more information, contact Blanka mccarthybb22@hotmail.com

YOUTH EVENT | There will be an Epiphany Mass at 5pm on **Saturday 6th January** at St Edmund's and Our Lady in Abingdon, followed by a talk by Heather Abel about her pilgrimage along the Camino to Santiago de Compostela from 6 -7:30pm.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019 | Our Diocese is sending a group of 18-30s to World Youth Day, Panama in January 2019 (21st-27th). Anyone who would like to go should express their interest by emailing youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk no later than **15th January**. Support will be given for those needing sponsorship and fundraising.

FACT | Volunteers needed to support ex-prisoners, prisoners' children and families and also prisoners themselves. If you are interested please email emma.oconnor@prisonadvice.org.uk or 0771 230 6940. Please see poster in church.

NEW BOOK BY FR PAUL ROWAN
Bishop Philip warmly commends this new scholarly work on the great and saintly English writer, journalist, poet and Christian apologist, G.K. Chesterton, his life, his thought, his writings by Fr Paul Rowan, Assistant Head at Beaulieu Convent School in Jersey. Fr Rowan's book, **The Scrappy Evangelist: Chesterton and a New Apologetics for Today** is an important contribution to Chesterton studies.

IN OUR PRAYERS

THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED |
Andres Barranco, Anderson Barranco, Sean Hodgkins, Vanessa Clark, John Finch, Maurice McAvoy, Peggy Duhig, Anne Lansberry, Ted Renshaw, Brian Hodgkins, Mary Hodgkins, Moira Fryer
THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED |
Catherine Harker, May Robinson, Anthony Boreham.

REQUIEM MASS ✕ Catherine Harker died on Sunday 17 December, fortified by the Sacraments of the church. Our prayers are with her family. Her funeral will be on **Wednesday 17 January** at Our Lady of the Rosary.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS |
The Elderly : That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

PRAYER REQUESTS ✕ If you would like a prayer for your own intention, for your parish or for any need, do go to the home page of the diocese website, scroll down to the "prayer request" button, where you can leave an anonymous request which will go to 40 intercessors throughout the diocese.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT OLOR ✕ Please note that there is no Adoration at Our Lady on St Stephen's Day (Tuesday 26 December).

CRIB OFFERINGS | This year with the encouragement of Bishop Philip, this parish will be donating crib offerings to Friends of the Holy Land. Every penny will help the poorest Christian families, especially around Bethlehem, The West Bank, Gaza and Israel. FHL is non-political and ecumenical. Please keep our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land in your prayers and please be generous.

ORDINARIATE | Mass, Saturdays at 5pm (for the Sunday obligation); 6.30pm on Thursdays, both at Holy Rood. Masses using the Ordinarate Missal, which anyone is welcome to attend, are indicated by *Divine Worship* in the newsletter. Music at Mass will be Gregorian Chant until next term. If you are interested in singing chant, come and see.

A CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM THE BISHOP | Thanks to a generous donor, this Christmas the Bishop wants to give everyone (all adults and children) coming to Mass on Christmas Day a copy of Matthew Kelly's best-selling book, Rediscover Jesus. He hopes you enjoy it. Please make sure you collect your copy on the day!

CHRISTMAS DINNER | If your Christmas dinner is important to you, consider helping someone else too: for £22.32 you can reserve a place for a homeless person through Crisis at Christmas. This provides clean clothes, three meals, and a health check, as well. See www.crisis.org.uk/redbauble for more, or phone 0800 999 8050

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND
✕ Celebrating the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus & the Immaculate Heart of Mary in the Holy Land, 6 places available from the **1-10 June 2018**. For more details please see poster in church.

YOUTH GROUP | see Youth Diary opposite:
WOMEN'S READING GROUP | A group of women from the Parish meets once a month on a Monday evening, 8.30-9.30pm to read and discuss together AMORIS LAETITIA. If you would like to join, please contact maria.rosa.antognazza@kcl.ac.uk.
MEN'S GROUP | As advertised.