

ST JOHN FISHER CHURCH

Maidstone Road, Rochester, ME1 3EN

Newsletter - 25th December 2016 – Christmas Day

Readings: Isaiah 9: 1–7; Titus: 2: 11 - 14

Responsorial Psalm: *Today a saviour has been born to us; he is Christ the Lord.*

Gospel acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia! I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!*

Gospel: Luke 2: 1– 14

Bible verse to remember:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means ‘God-is-with-us’ [Mt 1:23].



Wish you all a very Holy and Happy Christmas. May this Christmas bring God’s **Peace** and **Joy** to you and your family – Fr Antony

Our Parish: The Historic Rochester is a land of Saints and Martyrs. The land where our Catholic church stands in Priestsfields, was a portion of land which had originally been given by King Ethelbert to St Augustine for the support of the secular priests who first served Rochester in the Seventh Century. Our patron Saint St John Fisher, St William of Perth, Fr Gerard and Fr Dickinson are the saints and martyrs of Rochester.

Our parish community still keeps that remnant of the faith of those Saints and Martyrs in our words and deeds and spread that faith to others. If you are a visitor today or new to our parish, you are most welcome, not only to experience God’s powerful presence in this holy place but also to cherish the friendship of our spiritual and friendly community. Kindly find a **Welcome Pack** in the porch to complete and hand over to Fr Antony.

Our new website: <http://stjohnfisher.me.uk>

“All of us want peace. Many people build it day by day through small gestures and acts; many of them are suffering, yet patiently persevere in their efforts to be peacemakers”. In 2017, may we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words and deeds, and to becoming nonviolent people and to build nonviolent communities that care for our common home. “Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be an artisan of peace”.
- Pope Francis

Crib Offering this year for the **Friends of the Holy Land**.

Your offerings this week are your personal gift to Fr Antony.

New Year Liturgy:

Saturday

6pm Adoration

7pm Holy Mass

All usual Sunday Masses

HOLY MASSES THIS WEEK.

Sunday 25th December	9am 11am 6pm	People of the Parish. Crotty & Fredericks Families. No Mass.	NATIVITY OF THE LORD.
Monday	10am	Seamus O'Brien - R.I.P.	St Stephen, the first Martyr
Tuesday	10am	Headley Price - R.I.P.	Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist
Wednesday	10am	James McDonnell-R.I.P.	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs.
Thursday		No Mass.	
Friday	10am	John Naughton - R.I.P.	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph.
Saturday	10am	Margaret O'Connor – Wellbeing	Saint Sylvester, Pope.
Saturday Sunday 1st January	6pm 7pm 9am 11am 6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament People of the Parish Augustine Carnell Len Murphy R.I.P. Seamus O'Brian R.I.P.	Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

Sunday 18th December

Collections: Loose - £239.52; Envelopes - £319.20= £558.72

Building Fund: £177.74

Attendance: 9am - 108; 11am -78 ;6pm – 41 = 227

100 Club: £20 – Maureen Endicott N^o 102; £10 – Owen Fredericks N^o 66

We can't hope to fulfil the challenge Christ puts before us every day unless we are firmly rooted in the spiritual life, in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Only then will we be able to listen and respond to the word of God speaking deep in our hearts. Only then will we recognise the prompting of the Holy Spirit and be able to discern what the Spirit is asking of us in our own lives and as members of the local Church. **Archbishop Peter Smith**

Slimming World: A Brand New Slimming World group is coming to our Parish Hall! Jess will be holding her first night Tuesday 3rd January at 7.30pm. If you want to start a journey in the new year towards a healthier life you can contact Jess on 07827 297405 or just come along on 3rd January. If anyone needs to hire the Hall on a regular basis in the afternoons and/or evenings, please let us know.

Little Johnny was at his Nan's house for Christmas Dinner.

His dad said, "Johnny, would you like to say grace?"

Johnny replied, "I don't need to. Nanny's a good cook!"



Clergy: Fr Antony Megalan Sellam, tel. 845430

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Deacon Malcolm Turner, tel. 255558

Deacon Felim McCarthy, tel. 830145

Voluntary Secretary: Gill Hanson, tel. 312171

School: St. William of Perth, tel. 404267

Every Friday after 10am Mass we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Each Saturday 10am Mass is followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation.

Find this Newsletter in

<http://stjohnfisher.me.uk>

to receive by email: johngods@blueyonder.co.uk

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