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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (YEAR C) (PAGE 115)

Sunday 5th January 2025
The Epiphany of the Lord
 08.30 Mass for Rev Alan Malone Intentions (Turner) (Fr M)
 10.30 Mass for Anne & Peter Hammond (Carolan) (Fr L)
 Children's Liturgy resumes today
 Refreshments resume today
 17.30 Mass for Nicholas Burke RIP (Fr M)

Monday 6th January **Feria of Christmas**
No Mass

Tuesday 7th January **Feria of Christmas**
 09.00 Mass for Deceased Members of Cascarini Family (Fr L)

Wednesday 8th January **Feria of Christmas**
 09.00 Mass for Anna Falcinelli & Domenico Magnani (Foundation) (Fr L)

Thursday 9th January **Feria of Christmas**
 09.00 Mass for Pat Lee RIP (Fr L)
 19.00 First Holy Communion Parents' Meeting (hall)

Friday 10th January **Feria of Christmas**
 09.00 Mass for Fr John Lawrence RIP (PACT) (Fr M)
 Adoration until 10.00am
 Confessions straight after the Blessed Sacrament is exposed

Saturday 11th January **Feria of Christmas**
 10.00 Mass for Kath & Bill Hewett RIP (Crashaw) (Fr L)
 Confessions until 11.00am

Sunday 12th January
The Baptism of the Lord
 08.30 Dora & Robert Turner RIP (Fr L)
 10.30 Mass of Commitment for First Holy Communion Children/Mass for Udoalah Family Members (Ibeji) (Fr M)
 Children's Liturgy
 Refreshments in hall
 17.30 Mass in Thanksgiving (Coroi) (Fr L)

THE END OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Funeral of Noreen Lambe RIP: Noreen's Requiem Mass will be at St John Vianney Church on Friday 24th January at 10.00am, followed by Eltham Crematorium at 11.45am. Parking will be available in Heathfield Road on single yellow lines from 9.00am until 12.00noon.

First Holy Communion 2025: Our first parents meeting will be on Thursday 9th January at 7.00pm **in the church now**. This meeting is for **parents only** and should last only 1 hour. Both Fr Michael and Fr Luke will be in attendance, along with our Catechists.
 The Mass of Commitment for the children will follow on Sunday 12th January at 10.30 Mass.

Please ensure you make a note of these dates. All need to attend.

Christmas thanks: Fr Michael writes: Many thanks to those who helped prepare the church and parish for the Christmas celebrations and who took an active part in the various Masses. Thankfully we had servers, readers, welcomers, EMs, musicians and choir members for the three Masses. A lot of hard work went into everything, and the church looked attractive with flowers, new Nativity lights in the window, a lovely stable and tree plus a clean church. I was present at two of the Masses. The 6pm went very well with lots of people and some children dressed up. The children were very attentive and responsive during the story. I found it uplifting and prayerful. Fr Luke celebrated the 10pm Mass. We had a carol in Urdu sung by a parishioner and the Mass went very well. The 9.30 on Christmas Day was fairly well attended and again was prayerful and joyous. We both hope you enjoyed the Masses. Many thanks from Fr Luke and myself for the cards you gave us and also for some gifts. Very kind. Thank you for the Christmas Collection which came to £4173.28, which includes standing orders and card payments. This must be the highest total since I came here.
 Thank you and God bless you all.

Children's Liturgy: Resumes today at 10.30 Mass. Our classes are held every Sunday for children under the age of 7, or for those who haven't made their First Holy Communion yet.
 We teach the children how to make the sign of the cross and pray and read simple scripture readings to them. An activity is usually carried out too, if we have time.
 If you feel you would like to assist with this, please let one of our catechists know (the ladies who take the children out) or email Cath: bexlevheath@rcaos.org.uk A DBS form will need to be completed and passed prior to helping. Thank you in advance. Cath

Our Crib offerings are supporting the Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund: This charity helps local families in crisis who are struggling to put food on the table, keep warm and provide a safe home for their children. There are many vulnerable families in need of support and our parish will be donating our Crib Offering to support this important work. Every penny donated will be given out via CCS's Southwark Crisis Fund to support local families in need. You can donate at the Crib or via the CCS website www.cathchild.org.uk/crib

Food Bank Items: It would greatly be appreciated if you could donate any food items to support our local food banks at Trinity Place and Devonshire Road. Usual items are needed, tinned meat & fish, pasta and pasta sauces, long life milk, rice, etc. If you can spare some nice treats too, that would be amazing. Please leave items in food bank box in porch. Thank you.

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School's last Open Morning is on 14th January 2025 at 9.30am.

Please pray for the sick and those in special need of your prayers: Claire Wansbury, Mary McGinty, Alan and Rene Fisher, Baby Jemima Rita James, Fr Jeff, Shirley Angerer, Josephine Treloar, Jacqueline Downey, Steve Smith, Annie and Gerry McDonagh Snr, Gerry McDonagh Jnr and Martin McDonagh, Keith Smith, Samantha Butler, Carole, Dean McClumpha, Mrs Chris Lynch, Ashleigh, Fr Michael, Kathy Blakemore, Kirsty, Robin Robinson, Alice, John Moore, Pauline Viegas, Deirdre Collins, Susan Dassanyake, Nuala Pawley, Helena Riley, Richard Whiteside, Sally Pain, Florrie Pereira, Fr John Ryan (former Parish Priest of Crayford), Jo O'Donnell, Matthew Butler, Nadia Sheehy, Steve Pitt, Goretti Stone, Little Buster Sprules, David Collison, Christine Edwards, Santana Fernandes, Maria Pereira, Leonie Viegas, Paul Robson, Jack Goodrich, Gloria Slaney, Andy Wansbury and Roy Miller.

Hiring of Hall: Please contact Cath Bird: 07989 156111 or email: bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

Receiving electronic newsletter: Please email bexleyheath@rcaos.org.uk

HOW TO MAKE YOUR OFFERTORY DONATION: Offertory Basket / Card Machine in the porch.

Payment online: Account No: 21089620 **Sort Code:** 51-70-14 **Account Name:** RCAS Bexleyheath

Please do consider Gift Aiding your donation if you are a taxpayer. Forms are available in the porch beside the booklet rack.

Basket Collection, Card Machine Collection and Standing Orders received.

Readers' Rotas: January – February 2025: These are available in the porch to collect.

Catholic Directory 2025: Copies are available to purchase in the porch at a cost of £7.50 each. Please make payment either in the "CTS" wall safe or pay by card at the machine, selecting "Repository". Thank you.

Men's Spiritual Exercises, 31 March – 5 April 2025: A 5-day version of the Ignatian Exercises offered specifically for men (whether lay or ordained), this retreat will be preached by the Benedictine Monks of St Joseph's Abbey, France. Founded in 1988, this community has retained its charism of a specific apostolate to men and of engaging them through a shortened version of the Ignatian Exercises. One-to-one direction will be offered alongside the talks. Priests are welcome to attend and concelebrate or celebrate their own Mass. For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-spiritual-exercises/>

Save the date: Saturday 25th January 2025 9.30am- 4.30pm Building a Better Marriage: This day, held at **St Stephen's parish hall, Welling**, starting at 9.30am until 4.30pm, is a day in which married couples can privately explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into the communication and the call of the Church to the married. There is no charge for this course. Booking is essential - please contact Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk or phone 07983 524 727 Refreshments will be provided but **please bring a packed lunch**.

Message from Cath on Bexley Winter Shelter: As mentioned a few weeks ago, I'm looking for donations of warm men's clothing, coats, joggers, jumpers, hoodies etc. including new boxer shorts, sizes S/M and M/L. In addition to this, the usual toiletries: men's/ladies deodorant, small tins of Vaseline, toothbrushes/toothpaste. We do occasionally have women homeless, so sanitary items would be great too. Please contact me if you have any questions you'd like to ask. Cath 07989 15611 or caththebird@gmail.com With grateful thanks as always. Cath.

Offertory Collections for December 2024

Date	Basket	Gift Aid	Loose	S/Orders	Card	Total
1.12.24	608.65	187	421.65			
8.2.24	492.85	129	363.85			
15.12.24	534.13	205.5	328.63			
22.12.24	523.83	138.83	384.49			
29.12.24	510.31	179	331.31			
		839.33	1829.93	1865.67	456	4990.93