

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES
OF MOLESEY & HERSHAM
St Barnabas Vine Road Molesey
All Saints Queens Road Hersham

19 DECEMBER 2021

**FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

*Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down on the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.*

Parish Priest: Fr Richard Biggerstaff
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Confessions: *By appointment and before and after the
Saturday Masses at Molesey & Hersham*

My dear Parishioners,

This Sunday St Luke presents to us the beautiful meeting between Our Lady and her cousin Elizabeth. The scene is filled with love and tenderness and the excitement at the meeting of these two women is palpable. We are invited to close our eyes and contemplate the scene.

Picture these two women. A work of art might help you, easily accessible on the web. Try the painter Raphael's Visitation for example. Elizabeth is significantly older. Mary is heavy with child. She touches her unborn child and with her other hand clasps the hand of Elizabeth. Elizabeth looks at young Mary with a reverent love whilst Mary looks down. God the Father is depicted in the clouds, for the scene is brought about by the Divine Will. In the distance there is a sense of the baptism of John which will come about in the future. But the real beauty of the picture is that we are invited into it, not as bystanders or even witnesses, but as co-operators.

The power of these holy days is that each one of us is called to co-operate with God's plan 'for us men and for our salvation' and

The Parish Office Tuesday – Friday 9.15 am-12.15pm

Tel: 020 8941 8400

Email: stbarnabaseastmolesey@btconnect.com

Parishes' Website: WWW.stbarnabasmolesey.org

Church Hall Hire Molesey Theresa D'Burrage

Tel: 07453 174 354

Email: theresa.dsouza852@btinternet.com

Church Hall Hire Hersham Paul Fields

Email: paul_fields@ntlworld.com

Kiltegan Fathers 20 Beauchamp Road Molesey

Sisters of Christian Retreat 35 Seymour Road Molesey

Cardinal Newman Catholic Primary Hersham

Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Burnham

Tel: 01932 222 536

Email: office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk

Website: www.cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk

St Alban's Catholic Primary Molesey

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brannigan

Tel: 0208 8979 5893

Email: admin@stalbans.surrey.sch.uk

Website: www.stalbans.surrey.sch.uk

welcome the Christ child into the very heart of our being. He humbled Himself to share in our humanity.....May he raise us, by the mystery of the Incarnation, to share in His divine life.

These last three Sundays of Advent we have considered and I continue the themes of preparation for the Synod of Bishops broadly focussing on Mission, Participation & Communion. Next year there will be opportunities to meet and discuss, meanwhile feedback is welcomed by the diocese at

<https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/synod>.

'Mission Mondays' in Advent

This last Monday of Advent there will be:

6.30am Mass followed by croissants in the hall at Molesey.

At Hersham there will be:

Monday 20th December

7pm Mass followed by talk on The Nunc Dimittis

My prayers and affectionate good wishes to you all
Fr Richard

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY MASSES

AT MOLESEY: All Live streamed

Monday at 6.30am, Tuesday at 9.30am, Thursday at 9.30am, Friday at 5pm (*Vigil Mass of Christmas*) and at 9pm (*Mass of Christmas*) & Sunday 11am & 6pm.

AT HERSHAM: All live streamed

Monday 7pm, Wednesday at 9.30am, Friday at 7pm (*Vigil Mass of Christmas*), Saturday 9.15am (*Mass of Christmas*) & Sunday 9am

To access the live stream Molesey & Hersham go to www.stbarnabasmolesey.org and click on the picture of the appropriate church.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Holy Ones of Encouragement

For regular updates, news and devotions

Access the page by going to

www.stbarnabasmolesey.org

and click on the Facebook icon.

You do not have to join Facebook to see this.

PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS

Soul of Christ, sanctify me;
Body of Christ, save me;
Blood of Christ, inebriate me;
Water from the side of Christ, wash me;
Passion of Christ, strengthen me;
O good Jesus hear me;
Within your wounds hide me;
Suffer me not to be separated from you,
From the evil one protect me;
At the hour of my death, call me;
And bid me come to thee; That with thy
saints I may be praise thee
For all eternity. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion

This prayer is said when it is not possible for us to receive Holy Communion. If you are watching a live stream Mass you might like to say the prayer as the priest receives Holy Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

For those who are suffering

O God, who willed that our infirmities be borne by your Only Begotten Son to show the value of human suffering, listen in kindness to our prayers for our brothers and sisters who are sick; grant that all who are oppressed by pain, distress or other afflictions may know that they are chosen among those proclaimed blessed and are united to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Merciful God, come to the help of your people. Be our shelter in this time of peril and strengthen the bonds of our community. Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease and assist those whose skill and art can put an end to this affliction. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

LET US PRAY FOR: *For those who are sick in our parishes:* Antony Leonard, David Morgan, John O'Reilly, Kevin O'Connor, Eptisam Yusef, Peter Weeks, Eileen Firth, Patrick Russell, Ann Griffin, Andy Hanges, Patricia Malcolm, Rose Collins, Maureen Lloyd, Therese Ayres, Ann Livingston, Dina Yates, Sheila Day, Nicoletta Lanzisera, Richard D'Alton, Nedra Gilson, the Superville and McComb family, Mark.

Please advise the parish offices of those names and intentions you would like added to our list for our prayers.

Those who have died: Fr Dominic Byrne, Ann Daly, Tina Cruz Riquet, Eddie Murphy, Cathy Stayne, Lucian Farcasi, Geoffrey Hayes, Wally Grey, Tim Lamb, Nick Harvey, Tim Hipperson, Geoffrey Maud, Esther Inskipp, Fr Kevin Alban, Julie

Benton-MacLeod, Jose Odackal Joseph, Ben Adderley, Eileen Creed, Sandrine Atkins, Charles Alexander, Nellie Widdup, Bette Reed, Bobbettie McColl, Beatrice Hammond, Desmond Alphonso, Dennis Lackey, Gilly Becker, Mgr Barry Wymes, Fr Richard Lear CJ, Sue Bolton, Patrick Duggan, Kathleen Bell, Peggy Fitzgerald, Edward Quigley, Carl Zalman, Carmen Szkwirko, Harry O'Sullivan, William Ritchie, Teresa Redmond, Rosanna Hilling, Helena Wallis, John Knowles, Kathleen Kelly (Lambert), Gerry Firth, Glen Adderley, Salvator Messini, Rui Da Silva, Maria Camara.

Those who anniversaries fall this week:

Fr Bernard McGrath, Fr Thomas Purcell, Fr James Martin, Canon Herbert Fincham.

An On Line Link for Mass Prayers

The readings from daily Mass:

<http://universalis.com/mass.h>

THE COLLECTION ON CHRISTMAS DAY will be for Fr Richard. Priests of this diocese receive no salary, so your generosity at Christmas & Easter forms the bulk of a priest's personal income.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS at the outside crib at St Barnabas Molesey on Tuesday 21st December at 6pm.

CRIB SERVICE FOR YOUNG FAMILIES at St Barnabas, Molesey on 23rd December at 3pm.

If you would like your child to participate, please contact Jean Casha 07960-654-813

MASS INTENTIONS are gladly received. Please fill out a Mass Intention envelope. Hersham Masses can be organised in the sacristy after Mass there and Molesey through the parish offices. *When requesting a Mass Intention, please indicate whether the Mass is for the deceased, the sick or another reason.*

THINKING OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC? We have two groups running in our parishes at All Saints and St Barnabas. Please contact Fr Richard or Yvonne Foster through the parish office.

INFANT BAPTISM PREPARATION at St Barnabas, Molesey on Friday 21st January in the church. Please contact the Parish Office.

PARISH FINANCES

With the suspension of Sunday Masses and the lack of a Sunday collection, please consider the financial needs of the parishes. Whilst it might be possible to set aside your Sunday contribution why not think about a standing order to the parishes?

FOR HERSHAM

Account Name:

ALL SAINTS HERSHAM

Account Number 21077295

FOR MOLESEY

Account Name:

MOLESEY ST BARNABAS

Account Number 71077252

The Sort Code for both accounts is 40-05-20 Many parishioners already support the parishes by direct giving through their bank. You will understand that we need to support our parishes even though we may not be at church as regularly

CONFIRMATION 2022

If you are in school year 10 and would like to join the parishes' confirmation course, please email Fr Richard. If, young or old, you have never been confirmed, please also take this opportunity to contact Fr Richard to talk about arranging celebrating this Sacrament of the Holy Spirit.

ST BARNABAS TEEN SPACE YOUR SPACE every Friday evening from 7.30pm-9.30pm for Year 7 and above just turn up!

A space to meet with friends, table tennis, snooker, tuck. There will be adults present but its up to you to organise your own activities of just hang out together! For more details, please contact Jean Casha 07960-654-813. Re-starting in January

ST BARNABAS YOUTH CLUB FOR YEAR 3 & UPWARDS

New rules -

1. **Children must be registered.**
2. **Cost £1 per session**
3. **Times 6pm to 7.30pm**
4. **Parents are NOT to come into the hall in order to be COVID compliant.**

Registration: If your child would like to attend you must text Jean Casha 07960-654-813 with the following information –

Name, surname, School Year, phone number, address and permission to add your number to the closed Whatsapp group.

Re-starting in January.

FOODBANK DONATIONS AT HERE TO HELP -ELMBRIDGE

One of our parishioners, David Bone, has set up a Facebook site called Here to Help – Elmbridge. This initiative is to offer help to people in our local community who are in need in terms of food, gifts, clothes and furniture. **If you are in need or would like to help** or are able to offer your time to collect and deliver items, please get in contact with David on **07714 683090** or via **Facebook** via the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/732010290666981/>

Alongside Here to Help Elmbridge

David is running a campaign to provide Christmas gifts (new only) for the Afghanistan refugee children currently in hotels in Elmbridge (130+)

- 1- All gifts **MUST** be new. This is for health and safety reasons, as well as those relating to dignity. The price should be no more than £10.
- 2- As the majority of families are still

in hotel accommodation, nothing messy. Please, no slime, glitter, glue or paints.

3 - No edibles (allergy and religious considerations).

4 - Nothing with religious content or symbolism

5- Nothing overly complicated. Simple English books are ok though.

2- 6- No 'war toys' - eg plastic guns, swords and so forth.

7 - Gift bags would be much preferred over gift wrapping

Also I am aiming to provide to the 50 families food hampers again suitable for hotel living such as tins of sweets biscuits crisps soft drinks etc.

ALL SAINTS HERSHAM & ST BARNABAS MOLESEY FOOD BANK DONATIONS.

Items urgently required:

1. Tinned macaroni cheese
2. Pasta Sauce
3. Instant noodles
4. Shaving razors
5. Laundry tablets
6. Long life sponge puddings
7. Tinned custard
8. Hot chocolate
9. Jam/ honey
10. Shower gel
11. Sweet & savoury Christmas treats (donated by 1st Dec)

NO FRESH FOOD, PLEASE.

Collection points:

1. At the back of All Saints and St. Barnabas churches.
2. The Food Bank Warehouse, Faulkners Road, Hershams - opposite Lilliput's Nursery. Open on Wednesday 10.00-12.00 noon.

OR PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING A FINANCIAL DONATION, which will be used to buy fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs on the day of the distribution of the food parcels.

A financial donation can be made either online at waltonhershams.foodbank.org.uk

or, at All Saints, in the form of a cheque, made payable to 'Walton and Hersham Foodbank' and put into an envelope labelled Food Bank. This may be placed into the weekly offertory collection plate and it will then be forwarded.

NEW GROUP FOR CATHOLIC Young Adults Please anyone between the ages of 18-35 years old get in touch with lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk to find out more.

CAFOD

(CAFOD is The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development and is the official laid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales and part of Caritas International . CAFOD works with local partners in Africa, Asia, Latin America, The Caribbean and the Middle East - a total of 165 countries)_

How to contact CAFOD
www.cafod.org.uk or email cafod@cafod.org.uk or telephone **0303 303 3030**

Address: CAFOD Head Office, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, LONDON, SE1 7JB
UK charity number 1160384
company limited by guarantee number 09387398

Parish Representative (All Saints)
Marion DAWES -01932 231317

ST ALBAN'S OPENING MORNINGS for School entry September 2022. We welcome prospective parents to visit St Alban's Catholic Primary School and learn more about our wonderful School. Please email at admin@stalbans.surrey.sch.uk or call the School office on 020 8979 5893 to arrange a tour.

BECOMING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR at St Alban's Catholic Primary School

Governors make a significant contribution to the success of our Catholic schools. Our Diocese requires that Local Governing Committees must have a majority of foundation governors, appointed by the

Bishop. Foundation governors must be practising Catholics, with appropriate professional experience to contribute to the strategic leadership of the school. In order for each committee to keep a balanced and representative membership, it helps to have a register of potential suitable candidates. If you believe that you or someone you know, has the appropriate credentials to be a governor at St Alban's or any other school in the Xavier Catholic Education Trust and are interested in being put forward for future vacancies, please register your interest with the school office: admin@stalbans.surrey.sch.uk .

DATES FOR OUR DIARIES and COMMUNITY NEWS

1 December to 06 January. ADVENT WINDOW TRAIL, organised by Churches Together, Hersham . A new window is open every day to 24 December. Details of where to find the Advent Windows are in the foyer at All Saints Church. Our Advent window is at Hersham Day Centre. Enjoy walking the trail and please support the local business who are participating.

MOLESEY CHURCHES NIGHT SHELTER. This local venture is open until the end of March 2022. They provide their guests with a bed with hot meals at breakfast and evenings plus access to support services. They still need volunteers to provide meals, and / or a friendly face to chat with guests. Financial contributions are also needed. For more information, contact nightshelter@spwm.org.uk or see their website moleseycns.org.

HERSHAM DAY CENTRE The Day Centre is opened Monday- Friday from 9am - 4pm. Social groups and activities are available each day, with hairdressing and other treatments, plus access to other services. Amy and her team are looking forward to meeting you. Contact them on 01932 246 267. Some information is available at All Saints Church.

MARY'S MEALS Join our Big Family Christmas and help to feed even more hungry children with Mary's Meals.

For just £15.90 you can set a place for yourself or a loved one at our virtual Christmas dinner table. Your name will appear online and you'll receive a beautiful digital placemat to pass on. And thanks to Double The Love, your donation will be matched by a group of generous supporters – with up to £1.6 million available.

This means each place set will give two children the gift of life-changing school meals for a whole year – bringing them food, joy and hope this festive season. For more details or to donate please go email info@marysmeals.org or to the main website. **There will be a second collection for Mary's Meals at HERSHAM & MOLESEY on Sunday 26 December at all Masses.**

Lastly, please remember our young children and their families who are beginning their journey for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. Also, our families who are preparing for the baptism of their babies.

AND FINALLY, If you know of anybody in difficulty, or anybody who is not receiving news or anybody who is anxious, please, please contact the parish priest who will be only too pleased to do what he can. May the good Lord continue to bless us all.

*Fr Richard Biggerstaff,
Parish Priest of All Saints Hersham with St
Barnabas Molesey.*