

## PARISH

**Note: 'MASS OF MIDNIGHT' on 24th December is at 10pm.**

**Live Nativity 2015:** You may recall two years ago the wonderful event in the Town Centre when churches in Watford got together to stage a live enactment of the nativity, with many members of our parish taking part. **12th December** (between 10am and 4pm) sees the event being staged again with a live crib scene (with volunteers dressed in period costumes provided by the Palace Theatre) along with a sheep, goat and donkey in a (separate) stable. We are looking for volunteers to take part as the Holy Family, magi or shepherds for one hour on the day. In particular, we would love to hear from mothers with baby to take the part of Mary and Jesus. Holy Rood played a major part in the success of the 2013 Live Nativity. Please contact Fr Paul on 224085 or Kevin Ambrose on [kpambrose@gmail.com](mailto:kpambrose@gmail.com).

**The Governing Body of St Anthony's Catholic Primary School** : are consulting on their proposed Admissions Policy for 2017-18. The consultation is open up to 10th January 2016. The proposed documentation and explanatory letter is available on the school website: <http://www.stanthonys.herts.sch.uk>.

**A 'Year of Mercy'** called for by Pope Francis begins this Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. It concludes on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The Pope said when announcing it 'I am convinced that the whole church will find in this jubilee the joy to rediscover and render fruitful the mercy of God, with which we are all called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time.'

**A booklet 'A pilgrimage Companion for the Year of Mercy'** which explains more is on sale today for £1.

**The Year of Mercy:** The extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy begins with Pope Francis opening the Pope Francis opening the Holy Door in the Vatican on 8th December.

The Cardinal will open the Holy Door in Westminster Cathedral in the context of Vespers and Benediction at 3.30pm on Sunday, 13 December. You are very welcome to attend. Those making a brief pilgrimage during the Year to the Cathedral Holy Door or the others through the Diocese may gain the Jubilee Indulgence for themselves or the Holy Souls. More information about events during the year, Holy Doors and the indulgence is available on the Diocesan website <http://rcdow.org.uk/year-of-mercy/>

In addition to the Cathedral, there are Holy Doors at: Brook Green; the Italian Church, Clerkenwell; Endfield; Haverstock Hill; Hounslow; Kingsland; Lincoln's Inn Fields; Marylebone; Soho Square; Stanmore; Waltham Cross; Our Lady's, Welwyn Garden City; Our Lady of Willesden.

**Jubilee Year of Mercy:** The Dominican Sisters of Rosary Priory invite you the first in a series of four reflections on praying the Mysteries of the Rosary during the Year of Mercy on Monday 7th December 2015 from 11am-12am. Eve of the Year of Mercy Vigil of the Immaculate Conception. "The Joyful Mysteries" led by Sr Avril OP at *The Convent Chapel, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, Herts. WD23 4EE.*

**Celebrating Christmas in Song:** With Sr. Avril OP and friends - Friday, 11th December at 7pm. To register, please contact the office on 020 8950 4000 or visit [www.nilandconferencecentre.co.uk/programmeofevents/](http://www.nilandconferencecentre.co.uk/programmeofevents/)

**Reconciliation Service:** in preparation for Christmas Tuesday 15th December at 10.30am.

**This Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December:** The Feast of 'The Immaculate Conception' we have an evening Mass at 7.30pm to open the Year of Mercy in Holy Rood.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** this Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 8pm - 9pm.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 7.30pm - 9pm.

**Confession** Friday 18th December from 8pm - 9pm.

**Advent Lunches** will be served in the parish centre after the 12 noon Mass on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December. Full ploughman's meal £4. Soup, roll and tea/coffee £2. Tea/coffee and biscuit 50p. All monies raised for charity. Do come and join us!

**Repository:** Nativity sets (Cribs) for sale, plus a selection of other Christmas items. Please look!

**Christmas Posters:** These are available at the back of the Church. Please take one and put in your window.

There is a selection of **Advent booklets** for sale in the CTS display at the back of the church, beside the Repository. There are also booklets for the Year of Mercy, including the booklet written by Fr. Ivano. Extra copies are on sale at the Repository.

**Music Group:** Musicians and singers are reminded that the next music at 6.30pm Mass will be on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2015 with rehearsal starting at 5.30pm. New singers/players would always be welcomed at any time. Call Sue & Ceri Llewellyn on 01923 229763 for information.

**Confirmation Application Forms:** are at the back of the church to be returned by Sunday, 20th December.

**Last Weekend's Collection: Envelopes: £865.44      Loose: £846.22**  
**Standing Orders: £ 498.38. Thank You Sincerely**