



Dear parishioners,

Advent is now well under way – and happily, we can resume our Sunday Masses with a congregation as of this Sunday, 6th December. More details below – and news of other events...

1. The picture above is a little reminder that this Saturday – 5th December – **we have a sale of Christmas Trees and Advent Wreaths at our church**. So, if you plan to decorate your house this Christmas season, do consider supporting your school and parish at the same time. Full details are given below.
2. **Of course, our spiritual preparations for Christmas are even more important than the decoration of our homes!**

Now that public worship can resume, we will have Sunday Masses at these times – **Saturday 5.30 pm, Sunday 8.00 am, 9.30am, 11.30am and 6.00 pm**– we look forward very much to seeing you again.

In addition, weekday Masses take place from Monday – Friday at 9.30 am, and on Saturdays at 10.00 am. Confessions are available after Mass each day.

There are Holy Hours, concluding with Benediction, on Fridays 10.00 am – 11.00 am and Sundays 5.00 pm – 5.45 pm. Again, Confessions are available during these Holy Hours.

3. Please find attached to this email a message from Antony Legge, the Chairman of our Pastoral and Finance Committee, which outlines the parish's current financial situation. As you will see, Holy Ghost has weathered the storms of the past year fairly well, so that we can enter the New Year with confidence. **THIS IS ENTIRELY DUE TO THE GENEROSITY OF OUR PARISHIONERS** – and I am very grateful to all those who have continued to support the parish in these challenging times. You are all owed a big vote of thanks. Of course, the challenges are not over yet – but, whatever comes, I feel that Holy Ghost can face the future with hope, knowing that we have such a strong and supportive community behind us.
4. One way in which many people have been showing their support, both for the parish and for our wider community, has been through our 'acts of kindness and courage' campaign. Please

see our separate emails for more details. It would be wonderful to have even more people on board – especially as Christmas draws near...

5.

6. Our local SVP group is seeking laptop or tablet for senior parishioner

Our local SVP group is trying to help one of our senior parishioners gain internet access at this difficult time to ensure they have contact with the outside world, in particular giving them the ability to stream Mass online. Crucial to this is sourcing a laptop or tablet. If you have one that you're no longer using and can spare, please contact Liz at liz.leelondon@gmail.com. Many thanks in advance for any help with this.

7. Please find below all the details of our tree and wreath sale...

The PTA at our parish primary school is holding its **annual Christmas Tree Sale** in the church courtyard on Saturday 5th December. The trees are top quality Nordman Fir, and are on sale at competitive prices:

4 – 5 ft: £28

5 – 6 ft: £40

6 – 7 ft: £54

7 – 8 ft: £68

Trees will be available for collection on the morning of Saturday 5th December, from 8.00 am till 11.00 am or for £10 extra they can be delivered to your door. The service is available to any local household and all profits go to help the school.

To place an order, simply email hgpta@hotmail.co.uk

The PTA are taking orders from 16th – 29th November.

8. On the same day and at the same time, you can also buy the **Christmas wreath** for your front door. These are available from Lalage Barran, one of our church flower arrangers and a professional florist who usually sells wreaths at our parish Christmas Fair. Lalage will be donating a percentage of the profits from her wreaths to parish funds, so you will be supporting our church, as well as gaining a beautiful wreath for yourself! The wreaths need to be pre-ordered, which you can do by contacting Lalage either at lalage.barranflowers@gmail.com or on 07831 854852. The prices are as follows:

12 inches =£30.00

14inches =£35.00

16 inches =£40.00

Incidentally, Lalage always makes the wreath for the Presbytery door (pictured below) – they are highly recommended!

With our best wishes and every blessing,

Fr Richard and Fr Giovanni