



1. This weekend we celebrate the **Third Sunday of Advent – ‘Gaudete’, or ‘Rejoicing’ Sunday**. The readings can be found on page 88 of the Parish Mass Books.
2. **The Parish’s traditional Carol Service** will take place **this Sunday, 11th December at 4.00 pm**, with lessons and carols to help us prepare for the coming of Our Lord at Christmas. As usual there will be mulled wine and mince pies served outside afterwards (weather permitting – otherwise in the Parish Centre!) All very welcome – we look forward to seeing you there!
3. **There will be 12.30 lunchtime Masses on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in Advent, until 21st December inclusive.**
4. **A very big THANK YOU** to everyone who took part in the Seniors’ Christmas Lunch last Sunday – it was a lovely, joyful and very festive occasion, in which so many people played a part. Special thanks are due to Stefano who, as for several years now, pulled everything together, and to all those who helped in so many ways, great and small, in making this event such a big success.
5. **Please see the accompanying poster with details of our Christmas services.**
6. **Envelopes for your Christmas Offering** are now in the church porch – the Christmas Offering is your personal gift to the priests of the parish.
7. **The deadline for returning school application forms for Holy Ghost School (and other Catholic Primary Schools) is January 15th.** *Since Fr Richard hopes to take some time off after*

Christmas, it would be appreciated if these forms could be given in before Christmas, where possible, so that he can sign them before going away.

8. **Families who will be applying for places in a Catholic school – Primary, Secondary or Sixth Form – in the near future should make sure they fill in a ‘Mass attendance form’ every Sunday (or Saturday evening) during term time. Forms are available at the back of church and, once completed, should be left in the tray provided. These forms are used by the clergy to assist them in completing school reference forms when asked – most schools require evidence of 3 years weekly Mass attendance.**

9. **A Carer is wanted for an elderly parishioner**, one night a week from 6pm initially, please call 07977 810534.

10. **Online Luxury Raffle: we have some fantastic raffle items in our online raffle.** <https://app.galabid.com/holyghostchurch/items>
We have a Fortnum & Mason Hamper, some wonderful hampers that will sort out all your Christmas gifting needs, Spa voucher, tickets to Have I Got News for You and lunch vouchers galore. Please register using the link above and buy raffle tickets for the amazing selection. Each item is individually listed and raffled separately with an online secure checkout. We hope you buy raffle tickets for a few of the items. In order to allow more ticket purchases, the Online Raffle will close at 9pm Thursday 15th December and you will be notified directly from the website if you win. The winners can collect their prizes from the Parish Office from the Friday after the raffle closes. On this same link you can make a general donation to the Church of any amount you choose. We appreciate any amount you can spare.