

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 29th December 2019

Feast of the Holy Family (A) Psalter Week 1



The Parish of the Holy Trinity, Stroud Green

with Holy Innocents, Hornsey

WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY - Seeking to know and serve God and our local community

Today's hymns are: and 794, 47, 305, 310 and 755 Please stay for refreshments after Mass.

A Journey into Exile

Even though we call Mary, Joseph and the new-born Jesus the Holy Family, that does not mean they never had problems to face, as every family has. In today's gospel reading we hear how they had to flee as refugees to Egypt because the child Jesus' life was in danger from king Herod - in much the same way as refugees from war-torn countries today have to flee to save their lives.

Later the public life of Jesus must have taken its toll on Mary. In the Temple when he was an infant, old Simeon had predicted that a sword of sorrow would pierce Mary's soul. How she must have been pained to hear his enemies say that Jesus was a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners, and at the end, when Mary watched her son die in public disgrace, on the cross.

Recalling these incidents in the Christmas season, reminds us that the birth of Christ shows the reality of God entering into the fullness of our human situation with not just its joys and happiness, but also is brokenness and suffering. The exile of Jesus, Mary and Joseph to Egypt should bring to our minds the plight of those who have to flee conflict and persecution in our own time. What welcome would we / do we give them? Throughout scripture, care for the exile and the excluded is seen as a sign of faith in the God, who in Jesus, left his heavenly home to dwell 'in exile' with us.

THIS WEEK

(Services are at Holy Trinity unless indicated otherwise)

Monday 30th	6th Day in the Octave of Christmas No public services
Tuesday 31st 6.30 pm	7th Day in the Octave of Christmas Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour
7.30 pm	Mass
Wednesday 1st	Mary, Mother of God No public Services
Thursday 2nd	SS Basil & Gregory No public Services
Friday 3rd 9.30 am	Christmas Feria Mass at Holy Trinity
Saturday 4th 10.00 am	Christmas Feria Clearing in the church hall
SUNDAY 5th 11.30 am	Epiphany of the Lord Sung Mass

Baptism Today

We welcome young Perdy Bell and her parents, Godparents and family to Holy Trinity today. Perdy is to be baptised during the 11.30 am Mass.

Church Flowers, Cleaning and Decorating

Many thanks to everyone who helped clean and decorate the church so beautifully for Christmas, and who gave money for the Christmas flowers.

Stewardship of time, talents and treasure

Please take one of the letters from the PCC if you haven't already done so. Thank you to those who have responded.

Please Reclaim

There are a number of serving dishes etc that have been left in church by the kind people who have brought food for parish occasions over the past few months. Please check them and take them if they are yours. Many thanks.

Clear out Day - Saturday 4th January from 10.00 am

We are starting 2020 with a day of clearing of rubbish and surplus objects that have been left in the church loft and the hall. All help welcome.

Fulham Epiphany Festival Saturday 11th January

Bishop Jonathan will celebrate a Mass at Southwark Cathedral at 11.00 am on 11th January, and there will be afternoon workshops on sacramental preparation and stewardship. Meet at Finsbury Park Station (main entrance) at 9.30 am that day if you would like to go and travel with other people.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 3rd to 7th August 2020

The Society of Mary are organizing this pilgrimage which includes return flights, full board accommodation, a full pilgrimage programme of devotions and some excursions. The cost is £720 per person (for a shared room) with a single room supplement of £160 if desired. There are also some subsidized places for people aged 18 and under. Please speak to Fr. Patrick for more information.

Fr. Patrick, Irena and the parish pastoral team would like to thank people for their cards, gifts and good wishes over the Christmas period. A Happy New Year to all.