



Fourth Sunday of Advent & Nativity of Our Lord

Ps Week 4

21st December 2025

Year A(II)

Sat 20

5-5.45pm: Confessions (church)

6pm: Tan Kow Woon RIP

Sun 21:

8.30am: Brian Mulcahy RIP

10.30am: Pro Populo (ints)

6.00pm: Pinto & D'Souza Families RIP

Mon 22

9.30am Morning prayer

6.00pm: Lydia D'Souza (thanksgiving)

6.30pm-8.30pm Confessions

Tues 23: Commemoration of St John of Kety

9.30am Morning prayer

10am: All retired nurses RIP

10.30am Rosary in Church

Wed 24: Christmas Eve

4.30pm: Bill & Margaret Tinsley RIP

6.30pm: Maura & Alan Howells RIP

11.30pm: Consolata Fathers (ints)

Thu 25: Nativity of the Lord

9.00am: Pro Populo (ints)

11.00am: Hunt Family RIP

6.00pm: Nick & Marie (ints)

Fri 26: Saint Stephen

9.30am Morning prayer

10am: Altar Servers (ints) followed by renewal of promises

Sat 27: St John, Apostle

5-5.45pm: Confessions (church)

6pm: Sheena Louise Mitchell RIP

Sun 28: The Holy Family

Normal Mass times:

8.30am, 10.30am and 6.00pm

The Mystery of Bethlehem

St. Joseph Allamano, founder of the Consolata Missionaries—whose centenary jubilee we celebrate this year alongside the 175th anniversary of our parish—insisted on contemplating the mystery of the Nativity. We are called not only to contemplate it, but to embrace its simplicity and humility.

Our Lord chose to become a Child. The crib reveals the humility of God himself. If he made himself so small, should we not do the same? As St. Bernard teaches, Jesus became small in order to be lovable; and St. Augustine says the Redeemer was born a Child so that he might be loved. St. Francis of Assisi echoed this joyfully: "Let us love the Child of Bethlehem!"

This feast must be celebrated not only with the mind, but with the whole heart. Anyone who does not feel this love should ask Jesus for it, through the intercession of Our Lady Consolata, who burned with love as she gazed upon her Child. The mystery of Bethlehem is essential. Contemplating the Passion is vital, but so too is contemplating Christmas. The Holy Infant teaches us how to overcome pleasure, riches, and honour, and shows us the path to true freedom.

Simplicity is necessary for missionaries and for happiness wherever life leads us. Our Lord humbled himself as a Child and later unto death on the cross. When you look at Jesus in the tabernacle and then at the Child in the crib, say to him, "I want all your virtues."

Let us love the Holy Child for himself. He became incarnate for us—for each of us—and for our salvation. Let us meditate on this excess of his love and pray with St. Augustine: "Lord, make me love you!"

I will be away for a few weeks starting 27 December 2025 to visit my natural family in Tanzania. During my absence, Fr Enrique Rituerto, whom you already know, will replace me and be available at the presbytery. Please contact him when necessary; for emergencies, he can be reached at 07440 265073. Fr Godfrey

"I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2026".

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has today, 19 December, appointed the Right Reverend Richard Moth as Archbishop of Westminster. Archbishop-elect Moth will become the 12th Archbishop of Westminster, succeeding Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

He will be installed on Saturday 14 February 2026.

Parish Priest: Fr Godfrey Msumange IMC

Email: godfreymsumange@rcdow.org.uk Mobile: 07947 371234 - only in an emergency
Telephone: 020 8449 3338 82 Union Street, Barnet, EN5 4HZ Website: barnetcatholic.com

NOTICES

We welcome Nicole Zwick, who is joining the Parish office team as part time administrator. She joins Georgina Awan (our book-keeper) and our two volunteers Bridie Murphy and Pansy William. Welcome Nicole to our parish community.

Christmas Flowers: the flower team are preparing our church for Christmas. If you would like to contribute towards the flowers, please place your donation in an envelope marked flowers and post it through the presbytery. Thank you.

Our Jubilee Year: We Invite Proposals for:

A) A Jubilee slogan and logo highlighting the renewal and growth of faith and our call to mission. This Jubilee marks **175 years of faith** and **100 years of a figure dedicated to evangelisation**.

B) Share your ideas for Jubilee Year initiatives. Please email: **barnet@rcdow.org.uk** or via the QR code by **15 Jan 2026**.



Finchley Catholic High School: are looking to appoint examination invigilators. Details are on their website: www.finchleycatholic.org.uk under **Work with Us/ vacancies**. Closing date: 5th January 2026.

A huge thanks to all who supported our recent cakes, bread and decoration sale. You helped us raise £615 which will go towards sending Kaitlyn and her mother to Lourdes by Jumbulance next year.

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Adults

Monday 22nd December 6.30pm-8.30pm

Christmas Eve - 24th December

4.30pm Vigil Mass

(includes the Nativity Story)

6.30pm Vigil Mass

11.30pm Christmas Vigil & Midnight Mass

Christmas Day - 25th December

Masses: 9.00am, 11.00am and 6.00pm

St Stephen's Day - 26th December

10.00am Mass

All Altar Servers to attend this Mass for renewal of promises

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on two dates:

1st Group: 3rd May 2026 at 10.30am. **2nd Group:** 10th May 2026 at 10.30am.

Confirmation Mass will be taking place on Sunday 24th May 2026 at 1.00pm, on the Feast of Pentecost. Please pray for our young people as they continue to prepare for the sacrament in the spring.

Calling all Angels & Shepherds: During the 4.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve, children in the parish will be taking part in a reenactment of the Nativity story. If your son/daughter wishes to join our angels and shepherds, they are more than welcome to arrive in their outfits and we will include them in the crib service.

MUSIC LITURGY 10.30 MASS:

Gathering: Awake, awake, for the Lord is coming. Awake, awake, there's no time to sleep. Awake, awake, for the Lord is coming, the King is coming in glory. All over the world, people are waiting, Waiting for peace, and the promise of new life. © Mike Stanley CJM Music 1999

Following the lighting of Advent wreath: All Sing: Share the light of Jesus, share the light that shows the way. Share the light of Jesus, share God's spirit today, share God's spirit today. ©1999, Bernadette Farrell. Pub by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

Psalm: R/ Let the LORD enter; he is the king of glory.

Gospel Acc: Vs: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel – which means, God with us.

Offertory: see separate leaflet at the back of the church.

Communion: 111: For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in you. Marty Haugen ©1982 GIA Publications Inc. All rights reserved.

Going Forth: 112: O come, o come Emmanuel



Please remember in your prayers the sick, their families and all who care for them: David Kelly, Shawn Kelly, Rosemary Chester, Lorraine Norrie, Catherine Evans, Janine Kelly, Louie Sheehy, Stephen Mealy, Bernadette Mealy, Martin Harrison, Victor Annan, Mary Spearman, Alice Power, Carlotta Brunelli, Nula Mole.

Contact Information: Parish Office: barnet@rcdow.org.uk Telephone: 020 8449 3338

OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY: 10.30am-12 noon AND 4.00pm-5.30pm

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & WEEKENDS: CLOSED

SAFEGUARDING: Carmel Zanre: barnetsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk OR Karen Fernandes barnetsg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk