



# The Parish of the MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

*a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark  
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham*



**THE HOLY FAMILY**

**29th December 2019**

## **Welcome** to Mass today!

If you are new to the area or this church, please make yourself known to one of the priests after Mass. There is tea and coffee available after the Solemn Mass in the Rectory, we hope you'll come through.

**In the gospel reading today**, we hear that Christ is in the human family. God sets before us the human Holy Family of Nazareth as the model for all families. The family unit is the basic structure

on which human society is built. A good Christian family life is a most powerful witness to our world of God's love for us revealed in Christ.



**Sunday School** is on holidays now, until the new term. Children are invited to sit with their parents, near the front, so they can see what's going on.

**Catholic History Walk**, Mon 6th Jan, 6pm from MPB. Candle-lit walk across London Bridge to the City to historical places ending at St John Henry's birthplace.

**Poinsettias** are still need for the Christmas Crib - it's not too late.

**The Archbishop** has sent a pastoral letter to be read this Sunday. There are some copies at the back.

**Thank you** to all those made and continue to make our Christmas celebrations so good. To those who cleaned, served, sang, arranged, opened, read, and did any part, however small or large, thank you!

**Fr Christopher** thanks all those who sent cards and gifts. Your generosity is very much appreciated. Thank you!

**New Year's Day Mass** is at 11am, all other days Mass this week is at 10am. What's your New Year's resolution for the Lord?

**Bible Alive** for Jan is at the back.

**Mass times** remain altered this week. Check the schedule or the website (which is always up to date).

**Epiphany of the Lord** is next week when we celebrate the arrival of the Magi - the wise men). They revealed to the world just who Jesus is: the Christ who was to come.

**Candle intentions** can be made from next week for the year 2020 for those candles which burn regularly here at MPB.

**Christmas Decorations** – don't be too hasty taking them down. Christmastide ends when we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord.

**Did you go to Mass Christmas Day?** A day when all Catholics should have been at Mass, unless prevented by a good cause (cooking the dinner or entertaining the family isn't one of them!). Did you get the newsheet or the mass-sheet of the parish you were visiting?

**Founded: 1891**

**Constructed: 1892**

**Consecrated: 1st July 2019**



Mary, Mother of God is celebrated on Wednesday this week. Fundamentalists are sometimes horrified when the Virgin Mary is referred to as the Mother of God. However, their reaction often rests upon a misapprehension not only of what this particular title of Mary signifies but also of who Jesus was—and of what their own theological forebears, the Protestant Reformers, had to say regarding this doctrine.

A woman is a man's mother either if she carried him in her womb or if she was the woman contributing half of his genetic matter or both. Mary was the mother of Jesus in both of these senses, because she not only carried Jesus in her womb but also supplied all of the genetic matter for his human body, since it was through her—not Joseph—that Jesus “was descended from David according to the flesh” (Rom. 1:3).

Since Mary is Jesus' mother, it must be concluded that she is also the Mother of God: If Mary is the mother of Jesus, and if Jesus is God, then Mary is the Mother of God. There is no way out of this logical syllogism.

Although Mary is the Mother of God, she is not his mother in the sense that she is older than God or the source of her Son's divinity, for she is neither. Rather, we say that she is the Mother of God in the sense that she carried in her womb a divine person—Jesus Christ, God “in the flesh” (2 John 7, cf. John 1:14)—and in the sense that she contributed the genetic matter to the human form God took in Jesus Christ. To avoid this conclusion, Fundamentalists often

assert that Mary did not carry God in her womb, but only carried Christ's *human* nature. This assertion reinvents a heresy from the fifth century known as Nestorianism, which runs aground on the fact that a mother does not merely carry the human *nature* of her child in her womb. Rather, she carries the *person* of her child. Women do not give birth to human natures; they give birth to *persons*. Mary thus carried and gave birth to the *person* of Jesus Christ, and the *person* she gave birth to was *God*.

The Nestorian claim that Mary did not give birth to the unified *person* of Jesus Christ attempts to separate Christ's human nature from his divine nature, creating two *separate and distinct* persons—one divine and one human—united in a loose affiliation. It is therefore a Christological heresy, which even the Protestant Reformers recognized. Both Martin Luther and John Calvin insisted on Mary's divine maternity. In fact, it even appears that Nestorius himself may not have believed the heresy named after him. Further, the “Nestorian” church has now signed a joint declaration on Christology with the Catholic Church and recognizes Mary's divine maternity, just as other Christians do.

Since denying that Mary is God's mother implies doubt about Jesus' divinity, it is clear why Christians (until recent times) have been unanimous in proclaiming Mary as Mother of God.

**Walsingham Association Mass** 10am on Saturday this week. Have you joined the Association? Would you like to join the Association? See Lesley today, or on Saturday for a form.

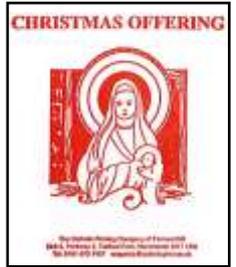


“The consequence of love is incarnation the consequence of incarnation is crucifixion”  
GK Chesterton

**PEACE & JOY**  
at  
**CHRISTMAS**

**KEEP CHRIST IN**  
**CHRISTMAS**

**Christmas Offerings for the Clergy** can be made using these envelopes. Thank you for your generosity



## This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
<b>Today</b> <i>Holy Family</i>	8.30am <b>11.00am</b>	Tim & Julie Kelly ✕ Parishioners
Mon 30th <i>Sixth day of Christmas</i>	10.00am	Kate & John Rigby ✕
Tues 31st <i>Seventh day of Christmas</i>	10.00am	Pope & Fallon families ✕
Wed 1st <b>MARY MOTHER OF GOD</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	2020
Thurs 2nd <i>Ss Basil &amp; Gregory</i>	10.00am	David Ward ✕ <i>recently</i>
Fri 3rd <i>(Holy Name of Jesus)</i>	10.00am	Baby Louison ✕ <i>recently</i>
Sat 4th <i>of OLW</i>	10.00am	Ordinariate of OLW
<b>Next Sunday</b> <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i>	8.30am <b>11.00am</b>	A private intention Parishioners

**Next Week's Readings** Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3a5-6 Matthew 2:1-12

**Sacrament of Confession.** Sunday 10.30-10.50; Mon-Fri 12.30-12.55

**Evensong** 6pm Thursday during term time.

**Last week:** £1,488.37 inc Standing Orders and Cashless Card payments  
£242.00 Christmas flowers

**Safeguarding.** The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Officers: Kate Pope, Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 0800 0935063

**Holy Father's Intention for January** *Evangelisation* - Promotion of World Peace  
We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

### For your prayers:

*Those in formation* for Ministry, Br Philip novOP (Jeff Gerlomes)

*The Sick & Housebound:* Dora, Mary, Ada, Fr John, Geoffrey, Mark, Christopher

*Recently Departed:* Kenneth Berry *priest*, David Pierson, Mila Espinoza, Baby Louison

**Find us on:** Facebook: "preciousbloodSE1" Twitter: @preciousblood1

**Fr Christopher Pearson** OLW Parish Priest

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