



# Ordinariate and Parish Church 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

27th December 2020



**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 Mass** will be at 9.30am & 11am. The 11am Mass will be on-line. Take part fully.

**Sunday Mass** attendance requires registration to ensure no-one is turned away if we reach capacity. Register on the website.

**Daily Mass** this Christmas week is at 10am, not 12.05.

**Mass with a Congregation** has all the nor familiar requirements: hands, face, space. They are not for you, but for others. Face coverings should include mouth *and* nose!

**Mass Stewards** needed. All by self-sign-up. Open the App/select 'Menu'/My rotas/choose rota (NOT 'all rotas')/See dates (drop down menu)/ Change from 'my dates' to 'all dates'/ use + sign to 'sign up'. If you get really *really* stuck, speak to Michael.

**Singing at Mass** is still suspended, so those taking part via the live-stream have a big advantage over us in Church.

**A very big thank you** to everyone who made, and is making, our Christmas celebration so special, even in this challenging situation. If you did anything: *Thank you!*

**The Archbishop** has sent a letter to be read as the homily today. It will also be available on the website later.

**Christmas Octave.** It's impossible to fit Christmas into one day, so each day this week is as important. If you couldn't get into Mass on 25th, come during the eight days.

**Mary, the Mother of God** is celebrated on Friday this week the octave (eighth) day of Christmas; it's a Solemnity, and the oldest title of Mary. Mass at 11am

**New Year's Day** is Friday this week. Resolutions are soon forgotten, so how about renewing your commitment to God and the Catholic Church: make a *holy* resolution this year.

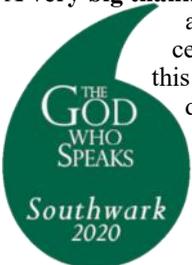
**Christmas Decorations** – we've waited so long to put them up, don't be too hasty taking them down. Christmastide ends on 10th Jan. If you really want, they can remain till Candlemas, 2nd Feb.

**Poinsettias** - thank you to those who brought them to the Christmas Crib. There's room for more. They are a traditional gift to bring to the Child Jesus at Christmas.

**The Crib Offering** for the *Catholic Children's Society* can be made on-line.

**FrC thanks** all those who were kind enough to send gifts and cards for Christmas. It is very much appreciated.

**Christmas Offerings** Thank you to all those who have been so generous. If you were away, there's still the chance... you guessed... on-line.





One Person. Not only was that teaching under an assault then, it is under an assault now, and failing to "get it right" has extraordinary implications. The reason that the early Church Council pronounced this doctrine was "Christological", meaning that it had to do with Jesus Christ. One of the threats was from an interpretation of the teachings of a Bishop of Constantinople named Nestorius. Some of his followers insisted on calling Mary only the "Mother of 'the Christ'". The Council insisted on the use of the title (in the Greek) "*Theotokos*," ("Mother of God" or "God-bearer") to reaffirm the central truth of what occurred in the Incarnation of Jesus Christ.

Rejection of the truth revealed in this beautiful title of Mary has led to a diminution in the understanding and role of Mary, impeding some Christians from grasping a deeper truth concerning the meaning of Mary's life - her *Fiat*, her "Yes" to God's Will. It is a privation, leading to a reduced understanding of the call to every Christian to live our lives for God as Mary did. It has undermined our mission to bring the world to the new world, recreated in her Son, the Church which is His Body on earth and a seed of the Kingdom which is to come. The Church, of which we are members through baptism, continues His redemptive mission until he returns.

When we fail to receive the gift of Mary as Mother we can also miss the call of every Christian to bear Jesus for the world as she did. It is time to re-examine the deeper implications of the treasure that is found in the life example and message of the little Virgin of Nazareth. This wonderful title, Mary, the Mother of God, "*Theotokos*", reveals a profound truth not only about Mary, but about each one of us. We are now invited into the very relationship that she had with her Son. We can become "God-bearers" and bring Him to all those whom we encounter in our few short days under the sun.

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death.*

Solemn Mass on Friday 1st January at 11.00

### Why do we call Mary 'Mother of God' ?

From earliest times, Mary has been called "*Theotokos*", or "God-Bearer" (Mother of God). The word in Greek is "*Theotokos*". The term was used as part of the popular piety of the early first millennium Church. It is used throughout the Eastern Church's Liturgy, both Orthodox and Catholic. It lies at the heart of the Latin Rite's deep Marian piety and devotion. This title was a response to early threats to 'orthodoxy', the preservation of authentic Christian teaching. A pronouncement of an early Church Council, The Council of Ephesus in 431 AD, said "If anyone does not confess that God is truly Emmanuel, and that on this account the holy virgin is the "*Theotokos*" (for according to the flesh she gave birth to the word of God become flesh by birth) let him be anathema." (The Council of Ephesus)

The Council's insistence on the use of the title reflected an effort to preserve the teaching of the Church that Jesus was both Divine and human, that the two natures were united in His

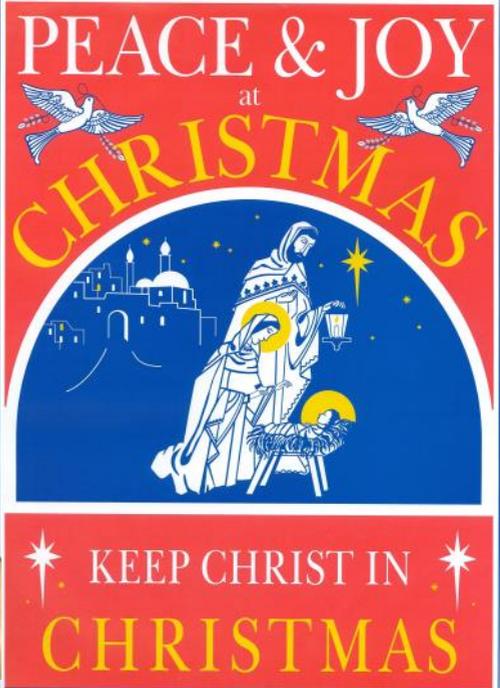
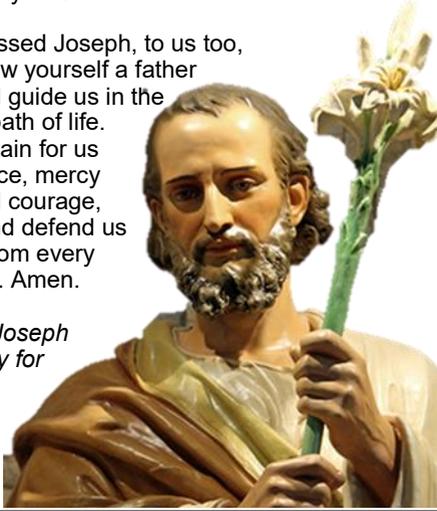
## New Year resolution, Pray to St Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the  
path of life.

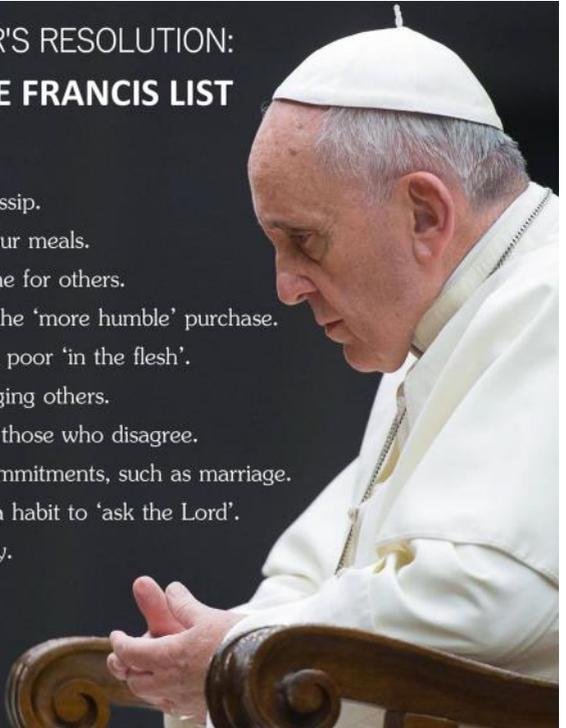
Obtain for us  
grace, mercy  
and courage,  
and defend us  
from every  
evil. Amen.

*St Joseph  
pray for  
us!*



## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: THE POPE FRANCIS LIST

1. Don't gossip.
2. Finish your meals.
3. Make time for others.
4. Choose the 'more humble' purchase.
5. Meet the poor 'in the flesh'.
6. Stop judging others.
7. Befriend those who disagree.
8. Make commitments, such as marriage.
9. Make it a habit to 'ask the Lord'.
10. Be happy.



## This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
<b>This Sunday</b> <i>O Clavis</i> <b>Holy Family</b>	09.30 11.00	Fr George Newton <i>foundation</i> Parishioners
Mon 28th <b>Holy Innocents</b>	10.00	Redvers Jack Bird ✕ <i>year's mind</i>
Tues 29th <b>St Thomas Becket</b>	10.00	The Murphy Family
Wed 30th <b>6th day of Christmas</b>	10.00	Hugh Arnold ✕ <i>recently</i>
Thur 31st <b>7th day of Christmas</b>	10.00	In thanksgiving for 2020
Fri 1st <b>MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</b>	<b>11.00</b>	A grace filled 2021
Sat 2nd <i>Sts Basil &amp; Gregory</i>	10.00	Walsingham
<b>Next Sunday</b> <b>Second Sunday of Christmas</b>	09.30 11.00	FrC's intention Parishioners

**Next Week's Readings** Eccl 24:1-2,8-12 Eph 1:3-6,15-18 John 1-1-18

**Sacrament of Confession.** Mon - Fri 12.30 - 13.00 or By appointment

**Evensong** 4.00pm, & Benediction, 1st Sunday *on-line only*  
6.00pm, Thursday *term-time on-line only*

**Last week:** £1,152.30 Standing Orders and On-line payments

**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: *Human Fraternity.*** May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all. .

### For your prayers:

*In formation:* for Ministry, Br Philip OP (Jeff Gerlomes)

*Those who are Sick:* Mary, David, Elizabeth

*See FrC is any of the sick are your friends or relatives*

And for all those with Coronavirus

*Coronavirus:* The medical profession, doctors, nurses, first responders, support-staff, research scientists, those who make big-impact decision,

*Recently Departed:* Hugh Arnold, Paddy Lynne, David Moss *deacon*, Alan Boxall *deacon*, Franck O'Sullivan *priest*, Michael Gwinnell *priest*

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

YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

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