

MASSES FROM 1st to 8th Jan 2017

Sun	1	9.00am	Thomas Clear (Anni), Tomy Griffith (Anni)
		11.30am	People of the parish
Mon	2	9.30am	Agnes Haffernan (Spl int)
Tues	3	9.30am	Con & Kay Goulding (Spl int)
Wed	4	9.30am	Bridget Clear (Anni)
Thurs	5	9.30am	Curristo family (Spl int), Angela Evans (Spl int)
Fri	6	9.30am	Fr. Jimmy's Family
Sat	7	9.30am	Sr. Anna Mana (Spl int)
Sun	8	9.00am	Edward Donnelly (Anni), Ciss & Jimmy Fitzgerald (Anni)
		11.30am	Patrick O'boyle (RIP), Maddy (Spl int)

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

Weekend 1st Jan 2017

Weekend 8th Jan 2017

9.00 am	Elena Wood, James Mapuranga (R) Barbara (E)	Joanita Pereira, Kissaneth (R) Jean Hoey (E)
11.30am	Florence E, Maame (R) Vera, Frank (E)	Patrick, Brenda (R) Serso, Marcel (E)

Anniversaries during this Week: Joe Dunleavy, Patrick Flynn, John Allen, Paul Allen, Thomas Travers, Teresa Mawn, Denis McGrath, Pat Kinsella, Mary McClean, Patrick Joseph Wright, John Ferry, Patrick McLaughlin, Margaret Moore, D. Stafford, Michael Murphy, Eddie Branfield, Myra Scott, Larry Mawn, Mary Woollett, Sammy Dowling.

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Eileen McHugh, Tony McKiernan, Mary Mulroney, Philomena Dunleavy, John Currison, Gerard Griffith, Diana Best, Jim Creen, Tess Pearkes, Sheila McElaney, Sheila Clear, Janie Patalong, Tom Duignan, Thomas Murtagh, Job Giles, Maria Drabik, Danny Diver, Michael Clear, Anne Creed, Mary O'Sullivan, Max Gorman, John Kerrigan, Nora O'Brien, Sean Harte, Eamon Finlan, Phyllis Mulvey, Kath Muldoon, Bizimana-Rene Mandevu., John Dee.

***I wish and pray that the model of the Holy Family inspire us to rediscover the meaning of family life as exemplified in Jesus, Mary and Joseph.
May this Christmas prepare us to love beyond measure, value mercy above our ego and achieve joy in our vulnerabilities.
Happy Christmas! Joyous New year!***



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

Solemnity of Mary The Mother of God - year A— 1st to 8th Jan 2017

New Year Message from the Parish priest

It is the first day of the week, the first day of the month. The first Sunday of the month, the first day of the year 2017. We celebrate our First Sunday Mass together as a people of this parish. We offer this sacrifice to God who has brought us to this day and to this New Year 2017. Everything is new we are new people too. God has a plan, he is calling us to carry out a mission together.

As your priest, I wish to say some few words from my heart. First, thanks to God for every one of us here. We are God's gift to one another, none of us can pass through life without being supported by others. Therefore our unity and collaboration in serving God will bring immense benefit to us all.

The existence of our parish, is brought about by people like you who show their faith in action. I'm touched to see how many of you devote your time, energy and money to support the parish. Try to ask yourself, what would have happened if you did not make that extra sacrifice for God and for his church? I pray that God who inspires such action may be your reward.

Our parish was blessed to be named Jubilee Shrine of Mercy. Many of us took the opportunity to renew our relationship with God and with one another. Some marriages were blessed, many of us confessed our sins, others forgave and let go. This is what reveals the holiness of a parish. As your priest I thank God for you.

Deepen your faith: we are blessed that we believe in God, that we hope in his mercy and that he has promised us eternal life. God is not an abstract idea or an invented myth. He has made himself visible in Jesus Christ, Christmas celebrates that historical fact. God has planted the seed of his life in us. If we are to stand the dangers and trials we face because we believe in Him, then we need to deepen our faith. If the martyrs and holy men and women of all time did not have deep faith in God, they would not have lived such heroic lives.

These days, the enemies of the church are within the church, people who falsify the truth about God, or who promise salvation without Jesus Christ or who use Christian religion as a means of getting rich. People who intentionally and notoriously cause scandal. I pray that we all do our best to keep our faith in Jesus and to support one another to be faithful. This makes our Sunday Mass an unmissable prayer event in our life.

I thank the families that bring the children to Sunday Mass and share their faith with them at home through prayer. The greatest gift we can pass on to the children is the



knowledge of God and aspiration for eternal salvation. As we desire to have children in this life, let us also desire to come into the presence of God with them in heaven. Teach the children the Christian faith; teach them to see the face of God in the eyes of their neighbour. Teach them Jesus Christ the Way the Truth and the Life.

In this year there are some habits we should stop, one of them is coming late to Mass at the 11:30am Mass. Brothers/ Sisters if we truly know what we are doing when we come together for Sunday Mass, if it is God we come to worship, to praise and to thank for his goodness to us, let us avoid coming late into God's presence without sufficient reasons. There are people also who chew gum in the church and spit the stuff on the floor, there are also those who let their mobile phones go off as if the church is a place to make business deals. Those people who do these things lack the awareness of where they are and before whom they stand. It is another way of saying I don't believe!

No Parish priest can do everything without the support of others, I thank each and every one of you who apart from coming to Mass, do also some other works. I thank the Parish Sisters who so much silently, the lectors, altar servers, ushers, cleaners, counters, the choir members, Eucharistic ministers, fundraisers etc. I thank all those who organise our annual bazaar. May God bless you all.

In the past years, our parish has become sensitive to the needs of the church. We are all aware of the need for more priests in the church. The Parish has become missionary minded. Out of this awareness, some people volunteered to make sponsored walk, others baked cakes, some performed choir concert, others organised parish dances, still others put some money in our box train a missionary priest. As a result of all these activities our parish raised £10,000.00 which was sent to the Apostles of Jesus Missionaries in Uganda which has helped to put a new roof on their novitiate in Moroto diocese after it was destroyed in war. Twenty Five novices are training for priesthood.

Finally brothers and Sisters, reckoning that the sufferings of the present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to come (Rom 8:18), while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the appearing of the glory of our God and Saviour Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13) let us carefully endeavour to persevere and ever to grow in our Christian vocation for the increased holiness of the Church, for the greater glory of God. We must be deeply convinced that our Christian vocation is a privilege and a gift of God who out of love has granted us to serve Him. We are called to return love for love and to answer our Christian vocation with total dedication. Our holocaust to God will bring about immense benefits to the Church. The reward of our sacrifices will be God Himself. May Mary the Mother of God and our Mother accompany us all the way until we come into the presence of her Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

I wish you all a peaceful New Year 2017.

Matters of Importance



Below is Cardinal Vincent Nichols Christmas message for 2016 in which he expresses his wish for us all to have mercy in our hearts and show compassion to those nearest to us.

“What a wonderful time of the year, just a few days before Christmas and all of those festivities to look forward to. We have just finished the year of mercy in which I believe the church has grown greatly in its appreciation of God's mercy and of God reaching out to us that we may walk tall. Of course God's mercy literally takes flesh in the person of Jesus and in that incarnation we learn that God dwells among us, especially in the poor and in those who are most on the margins of society.

So as we come to receive again the word of God and his mercy our hearts need to be overflowing with compassion; for those nearest to us who we love, for those who will probably spend Christmas alone, for those who are suffering in mind and body, for the so many people without homes who are as keenly aware of their being virtually abandoned at this time of the year.

Let us rejoice mightily but also be generous, mightily generous so that we might in our lives reflect the great generosity of God and that others may reflect in theirs the joy that we feel.

A very Happy Christmas to you all and may God bless you.”

Thank You: all for the support you have given to the Parish throughout the year 2016. For a good number of you this support has been running for many years. No parish priest can run a parish without the support of his people. It is a blessing that all of us have done our best and this is what has kept our parish alive and strong. I'm pleased too for the messages sent to me over Christmas and New Year. May God bless you all during this time.

Altar Servers will renew their commitment to serving at the Altar on 26th December Feast of their Patron Saint, St. Stephen. After the Mass, they will have a small party with the Parish Priest. I wish to ask the parents to take this seriously and bring the children to both events.

Thanks for your generous contribution to these charities: **CAFOD (£521.22), APF (£199.66) World Mission Sunday (£284.34) and Fr. Hudson's Society £271.** Your donations have been a acknowledged by the charities concerned and appreciated. May God bless your generosity.

Thanksgiving Mass to end the year 2016 will be celebrated at St. Mary's Church on Saturday 31st December at 7:00pm. There will be a reception, music and dances to wait for the coming of the New Year in the parish hall. You are all welcome.

