



FROM THE SPIRE



News & updates from our Shrine Churches for our community in Preston, Lancashire, England.



Presbytery Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday and Saturday
9:30-12 and 2-5

The Saint Benedict Academy

saintbenedicts@icksp.org.uk
www.saintbenedictspreston.com

Donations:

Institute of Christ the King/St Walburge
Charity number: 1144783
Donations via Bank Transfer:
Name: ICKSP; Sort Code: 40-10-22;
Account Number: 52347733
Gift Aid forms and offertory envelopes
can be obtained at the Presbytery.

CONTACT US

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THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD CHRISTMAS

Dearly beloved faithful,

“When the goodness and kindness of God our Saviour appeared: Not by the works of justice, which we have done, but according to His mercy, He saved us” (Titus 3:4-5). Let us gather around the baby Jesus and marvel at His love for us this Christmas--a love which overcomes our unworthiness and the many evils that surround us.

Many things could keep us from fully appreciating the beauty of this mystery. The devil throws us banana peels to put us off balance. The Catholic faithful have been greatly disturbed by the latest assaults on morality and the family, coming precisely from those charged to defend them. But do not be afraid! The Infant King shows us infinite power under the form of apparent weakness, even helplessness. He is Immanuel--God with us, “If God is with us, who can stand against us?” asks the great Apostle of the Gentiles.

The priests, seminarians and sisters of our community wish you a most blessed Christmas and a holy beginning to the new year. May our churches be a refuge in which you experience the saving power and grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

With every blessing,
Your Canons

TRANSLATION OF THE EPISTLE AND GOSPEL

24 December: Vigil of Christmas

Lesson from the letter of St. Paul the Apostle to the Romans

Rom 1:1-6

Paul, the servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an Apostle, set apart for the Gospel of God, which He had promised before-hand through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Who was born to Him according to the flesh of the offspring of David; Who was foreordained Son of God by an act of power in keeping with the holiness of His spirit, by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through Whom we have received the grace of apostleship to bring about obedience to faith among all the nations for His name's sake; among whom are you also called to be Jesus Christ's, our Lord.

Continuation ✕ of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Matt 1:18-21

When Mary, the Mother of Jesus, has been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. But Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wishing to expose her to reproach, was minded to put her away privately. But while he thought on these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Do not be afraid, Joseph, son of David, to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she shall bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus; for He shall save His people from their sins.

25 December: Midnight Mass

Continuation + of the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Luke 2:1-14

At that time, there went forth a decree from Caesar Augustus that a census of the whole world should be taken. This first census took place while Cyrinus was governor of Syria. And all were going, each to his own town, to register. And Joseph also went from Galilee out of the town of Nazareth into Judea to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem - because he was of the house and family of David - to register, together with Mary his espoused wife, who was with child. And it came to pass while they were there, that the days for her to be delivered were fulfilled. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds in the same district living in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood by them and the glory of God shone round about them, and they feared exceedingly. And the angel said to them, Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all the people; for today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you, Who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign to you: you will find an Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men of good will.

25 December: Mass of Dawn

Continuation + of the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Luke 2:15-20

At that time, the shepherds were saying to one another, Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us. So they went with haste, and they found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in the manger. And when they had seen, they understood what had been told them concerning this Child. And all who heard marveled at the things told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept in mind all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, even as it was spoken to them.

The Gospel of the Mass of Christmas Day (3rd Mass) is the same as the Last Gospel "In the beginning was the Word..." (see Saint John 1:1-14)

Ordo	Mass and Confession Times	Offices and Devotions	Mass Intentions
<p align="center">Sunday 24/XII Vigil of Christmas</p>	<p>9:00 Low Mass EM 10:00am Confessions 10:30 High Mass SW **No 6:30pm Mass**</p>	<p>8:00am Office of Prime 5:30pm 1st Solemn Vespers of Christmas 8:30pm Solemn Matins 11:15 Christmas Carols</p>	<p>Canon Cristofoli: Thierry Canon Post: Conversion of J Canon Ducret: Basnyet family novena</p>
<p>Monday 25/XII The Holy Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ **Christmas**</p>	<p><u>All services at SW</u> 12am Midnight Mass 8:30am Low Mass 10:30am Solemn</p>	<p>Confessions: 10:00am 5:30pm Solemn Second Vespers & Benediction</p>	<p>Canon Cristofoli: 1. ICKSP 2. Msgr Wach 3. Marie Noëlle Cristofoli Canon Post: 1. Conversion of J 2. Faithful of the Shrine 3. The Holy Father Canon Ducret: Basnyet family novena</p>
<p>Tuesday 26/XII Saint Stephen</p>	<p>8:30 Mass SW *12 noon SW* Confessions: 6:00 SW</p>	<p>Boxing Day *No evening services*</p>	<p>Canon Cristofoli: Domitille Rambures RIP Canon Post: Deceased of Hankinson family Canon Ducret: Basnyet family novena</p>
<p>Wednesday 27/XII Saint John the Apostle</p>	<p>8:30 Mass SW *12 noon SW*</p>	<p>*No evening services*</p>	<p>Canon Cristofoli: Florence Maidanatz RIP Canon Post: Joan Hankinson RIP Canon Ducret: Basnyet family novena</p>
<p>Thursday 28/XII The Holy Innocents</p>	<p>8:30 Mass SW *12:00 Mass SW* Confessions: 6:00 SW</p>	<p>*9:15-6:45pm Adoration* 5:30pm Vespers 6:45pm Benediction</p>	<p>Canon Cristofoli: Monica and Timothy Canon Post: Ronald Hankinson RIP Canon Ducret: Basnyet family novena</p>
<p>Friday 29/XII St Thomas Patron of StT&EM</p>	<p>8:30 Mass SW *12:00 Mass EM* Confessions: 6pm SW</p>	<p>5:30pm Vespers 6-7pm Adoration</p>	<p>Canon Cristofoli: Jim Pennington Canon Post: Christine Burn RIP Canon Ducret: Basnyet family novena</p>
<p>Saturday 30/XII Feria in the Octave of Christmas</p>	<p>8:30 SW 12:00 SW Confessions 9:15 SW</p>	<p>5:30pm Vespers 6-7pm Adoration</p>	<p>Canon Cristofoli: Beryl Baron RIP Canon Post: Jim Aherne RIP Canon Ducret: Basnyet family novena</p>
<p>Sunday 31/XII Sunday in the Octave of Christmas</p>	<p>9:00 Low Mass EM 10:00am Confessions 10:30 High Mass SW 6:30pm Low Mass (SW)</p>	<p>5:30pm Vespers & Benediction 11:00pm Adoration & Te Deum</p>	<p>Canon Cristofoli: Canon Tanner Canon Post: Fr Sam Ofia Canon Ducret: Thanksgiving</p>



Announcements

Saint Walburge's Guilds/Catechism Sundays: Our family Sundays will resume in January (14th and 28th).

Christmas Octave: Please consult the newsletter carefully for Mass times and location. 8:30am and noon Mass will be celebrated as usual. All Masses are at Saint Walburge's, except for Friday (12 noon), the Feast of St Thomas (EM). Tuesday and Wednesday (26-27 December) there will be no evening offices (vespers, adoration, confession). Thursday all-day adoration will be as usual. Come spend part of your holidays in prayer before Our Lord!

New Year's Eve: Next Sunday, 31 December, we will have our usual Sunday schedule, plus a holy hour of adoration starting at 11pm. Te Deum and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be at Midnight. Afterwards, there will be a small festive celebration in the upper room of the church hall.

Men's Club: Next meeting will be the 15th of January 7.30pm in Saint Walburge's Hall. See Canon Cristofoli for more details.

Winter Spire 2024--13th, 20th and 27th January (1-5pm): Climb the Spire and see Preston from a new perspective! £12 per person. <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stwalburgesshrinechurch/1082309>

Our Safeguarding Representative: Mr. Peter Dilworth--peter.dilworth@icksp.org.uk.

Last week's collections: (10.12.23) SW: £777.19; Bank transfers: £290.00; EM: £52.55
(17.22.23) SW: £575.66; Bank transfers: £265.00; EM: £79.53; Donations £216.00
Christmas Bazaar: £1,388.07



Christmas Schedule:

Sunday, 24 December (Vigil of Christmas)

--All services at Saint Walburge's--
NO 6:30pm Evening Mass.

8:30pm Matins service at Saint Walburge's.

11:15pm Traditional English Christmas Carols.

Monday, 25 December (The Holy Nativity of Our Lord):

12am Solemn Mass of Midnight (1st Mass of Christmas) .

8:30am Low Mass (2nd Mass of Christmas--Mass of the Dawn)

10:30am Solemn Mass (3rd Mass of Christmas--Mass of the Day)

5:30pm Solemn Second Vespers of the Nativity at SW.

Thank you very much to our supporters!



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