



WOOLHAMPTON PARISH ONLINE BULLETIN

Served by the Benedictine monks of Douai Abbey RG7 5TQ Diocese of Portsmouth
St Mary's, Woolhampton – St Bernadette's, Pangbourne – St Luke's, Theale – Douai Abbey
Frs Peter Bowe & Benjamin Standish - Parish Office: 0118 971 5350 / parish@douaiabbey.org.uk

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD (YEAR B)

10 JANUARY 2021

Dear Parishioners,

Happy New Year to you all! We stand **at the Gate of the Year**, and it feels that we are going out again with sinking hearts into the dark, except that we have the hope of a vaccine now just in front of us, indeed we have the reassuring grip of God's hand too! But we are **now in lockdown** for some time, and regretfully we have closed our churches on the strong recommendation of medical professionals in the parish, even with the high level of safety all our stewards provide. With the huge rise in infections, the new strain of virus, the already over-burden NHS, the rather fragile monastic community, and the wide area of our parish, we decided we should not hold our Masses for now. We do have the excellent, if not perfect alternative of zooming Mass which at least enables the housebound & self-isolating to be included if they wish. I am hopeful you can be happy with this decision. On the other hand, we have a **new parish Administrator** in the person of Elsa Luxmore of St Bernadette's and so we warmly welcome her replacing our faithful Doreen Morrissey in the Office. When the restrictions end your will be able to come to meet her if you do not yet know her; may she have many years of happy service to our parish. Abundant blessings on all as we come, despite the pandemic, hopeful & confident into 2021. *Fr Peter*

DUE TO LOCKDOWN OUR CHURCHES ARE REGRETFULLY CLOSED

Sunday Mass will be only online till restriction are eased

SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 2021

ONLINE-LIVE MASS 9.30AM

Find Zoom joining code in accompanying Email or [Watch on YouTube](#) (refresh your web browser)

ROSARY EVERY SUNDAY 5PM

Zoom joining code – see accompanying Email

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: on request at Douai (phone the Office)

VIDEO this week: Fr Peter: *At the Gate of the Year* - click [parish videos](#)

BIBLE NOTES this week: *Ruth (OT29)* - attached to e-mail or on request

Please read details in the Email accompanying this bulletin

PRAY FOR OUR SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Pat Campbell, (St B's) & Kevin Gover (once St M's)
both very sick

*And housebound: Winifred Winter, David Farme
& Patricia Brennimeyer*

& PLEASE PRAY TOO FOR OUR RECENT DEAD

**John Campbell (St Bernadette's on 8 January) &
Margaret Hall (formerly Abbey congregation)**

VERSO L'ALTO - REACH THE HEIGHTS!

An Hour of Prayer and Praise

Bishop Philip invites you to join him and the Cathedral clergy online every Thursday 7.30-8.30 pm during lockdown to pray for safety, for the sick & key workers, the Diocese & an end to the pandemic:

To join click [Reach the Heights](#)

WORD OF HOPE

And I said to the man who stood
at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely
into the unknown."

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and
put your hand into the Hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light
and safer than a known way."

So I went forth,
and finding the Hand of God,
trod gladly into the night.

(Minnie Haskins 1908)

*Proposed by King George VI, Christmas 1939,
at the start of the Second World War*

Supporting The Parish

DONATE

As we have entered a third national lockdown, we wish to bring to your attention that we now have the facility for you to be able to make contributions to the parish directly from here (by clicking "Ctrl" and the button above).

This will enable those who normally use weekly gift aid envelopes or loose plate donations, to continue to support the Parish. Alternatively, you may be willing to set up a standing order payment.

If you would like any more information about any of the above, please contact the parish accountant, Tom Gallagher e-mail : douaiparishacc@gmail.com

COLLECTION MISSED AT CHRISTMAS

Please be generous

STELLA MARIS

Catholic worldwide organization for supporting seafarers. Many are stranded at Sea because of COVID-19, contracts of seafarers on ships are extended & flights cancelled; many have not seen families for a year & more, & many are in need:
Donate at : <https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/>

Parish Administrator: *Elsa Luxmore* 0118 9715350

PPC: *Sue Edwards*: susanedwards27@icloud.com

Safeguarding: *Kate Burke*: 0118 9842166

Please print off this bulletin & hand it on to anyone who does not have internet access

COLLECTION MISSED AT CHRISTMAS

Please be generous

CRIB APPEAL: Friends of the Holy Land

Due to shutdown of tourism 80% of Bethlehem residents have been without income for almost a year. Also with positive COVID cases rising to 60% of the population in Nablus there are night curfews, and no financial support from the Palestinian Authority or the Israeli Government. Please Donate: <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/>

Diocesan e-Newsletter (free in your box) at:
<http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews/>

DONATIONS TO WEST BERKS FOODBANK

Please focus now more please on basics like tinned fish, tinned puddings, shampoo & cleaning materials (less pasta or Christmas goods).

- a collecting box is just inside **Douai Reception** glass door. or
- donate at local supermarkets; or
- transfer to **Lloyds Bank**, Newbury: sort 77-95-05 a/c 72784660; or
- cheques to West Berks Foodbank, 23 Charter Road, Newbury RG14 7EW ; or
- Online click [foodbank donate](#)
More info from pmd.collins@btinternet.com.

	THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH	
Sunday 10	<i>Baptism of Lord : Online Mass 9.30</i>	<i>Rosary 5pm</i>
Monday 11	<i>Aelred</i>	
Tuesday 12	<i>Benet Biscop</i>	
Wednesday 13		<i>7.30 St Bernadette's Committee</i>
Thursday 14		
Friday 15	<i>Maurus & Placid</i>	
Saturday 16		
Sunday 17	<i>Sunday 2 year B : Online Mass 9.30</i>	<i>Rosary 5pm</i>

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

10 JANUARY 2021

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL -- FOR REFLECTION & PRAYER -- MARK 1, 7-11

In the course of his preaching John the Baptist said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.' It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you".