



**Belle Vue Road
Ashbourne
DE6 1AT**

Catholic Parishes of:

All Saints, Ashbourne
and
**Our Lady & St Thérèse of Lisièux
Wirksworth**



**Gorse Bank
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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)
13 DECEMBER 2020**

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 13 December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	8.45am Wirksworth 10.30am Ashbourne	Intentions for the effectiveness of the coronavirus vaccine People of the Parish
Monday 14 December - St John of the Cross		No Mass
Tuesday 15 December		No Mass
Wednesday 16 December		No Mass
Thursday 17 December		No Mass
Friday 18 December		No Mass
Saturday 19 December		No Mass
Sunday 20 December FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	8.45am Wirksworth 10.30am Ashbourne	Ints: peaceful resolution of the problems besetting the people of Hong Kong John Murphy RIP

*To book your place at Mass, please telephone
or send a text message, to your Parish Representative:*

For Wirksworth Masses - text only: 07826020874, or email Anne: anne@oldak.net

For Ashbourne Masses - 'phone or text: 07761139288 (Thursday to Saturday 6pm only)

Please leave your name and the number of people coming with you. If you attend Mass at Wirksworth, you can make a regular booking to save having to book every week.



Christmas Vigil	24 December	5.00pm	Christmas Family Mass at Wirksworth
		7.00pm	Vigil Mass at Ashbourne
Christmas Day	25 December	8.45am	Christmas Day Mass at Wirksworth
		10.30am	Christmas Day Mass at Ashbourne

WIRKSWORTH	13 December	20 December	24 December
E Ministers / Sacristans	Krystina	Thuy	Caroline
Readers	Jenny and Ken	Peter and Caroline	Paul
Stewards	Janine and Paul	Anne and Mike	Paul and Krystina
Counters	Paul and Peter	Caroline and Martin	
Flowers (by Sat before)	Krystina	Krystina	
Cleaners (by Sat before)	Janine and Paul	Claire and TBA	Caroline and Martin
ASHBOURNE	13 December	20 December	24 December
Stewards	Phil and Ann	Chris and Claire	Kevin and Shirley

*May the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace in believing,
so that by the Power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in Hope.*

Romans 15:13

CHRISTMAS MASSES: All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to book early the Mass of their choice. Family bubbles are allowed to sit together per bench and face masks must be worn at all times. So why not invite your family visitors to come with you to celebrate the birth of Christ in the church?

ST THÉRÈSE'S PARISHIONERS: We're looking forward to being able to celebrate the Birth of Jesus with two Masses this year. We would like to encourage families and younger children to come to the early Christmas Eve Mass, at 5.00pm. Even though we won't be able to have our usual carol singing it will be a happy occasion. Please text the booking phone number early to be sure of a bench for whichever of the two Masses you'd like to attend.

CHRISTMAS TREE WANTED FOR WIRKSWORTH CHURCH!!

If anyone has a spare Christmas tree or lights/decorations, we would like to put one up in Wirksworth church for Christmas tide. Contact: anne@oldak.net and possibly bring any items to church this Sunday.

DIOCESAN CAROL SERVICE: There will be a short online Carol Service on Bishop Patrick's YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/BishopPatrickMckinney>), on **Friday 18 December**, at **6.00pm**, with readings, music, prayers and reflections. Please join us as a family and invite others to join us too. After the service grab a mince pie, something warm to drink, and join us on Zoom for our family Christmas Quiz (6.45pm-7.15pm). The link and access code will be given out during the service.

THE BOOK OF LUKE: There are 24 chapters in the Book of Luke. Why not read a couple of chapters per night and by Christmas Day you will have read the whole account of Jesus' life and wake up on Christmas morning knowing why we celebrate Christmas.

COVID-19 VACCINATION: In September 2020, the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales issued a statement entitled 'COVID-19 and Vaccination' (24 September 2020). In light of the recent breakthrough in vaccine development, they have now issued a follow-up statement (3 December 2020) which can be found on the CBCEW website along with the original September statement. To read these statements, visit: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/update-on-covid-19-and-vaccination/>.

MAGNIFICAT: Correction to last week's notice: Magnificat is a monthly booklet which has every day's Mass readings and meditations/reflections just like the Missal. It also has morning prayers and evening prayers so is very useful with explanations of saints' days and reflections on religious art. It is used instead of the weekly/Sunday missal. The English edition of the Magnificat booklet is now available on reduced annual subscription of £47 (a saving of £13) for 13 issues a year (1 per month plus a special issue for Holy Week). Details can be obtained by phoning 020 7448 3607 or 020 7448 3618. The method of payment for the UK is a cheque payable to MAGNIFICAT or visit www.magnificat.co.uk.

Shortly after tying the knot, a young married couple started arguing over who should make the coffee.

Being a good Christian woman, the wife went to the Scriptures for her answer.

She said that the Bible specifically stated that men should be the ones to make the coffee.

Puzzled, the husband asked her where in the Bible it said that.

Very confidently, the wife opened up her Bible and said: "It's right here - HEBREWS!"



NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure any contributions for the newsletter are sent by Thursdays to:

Sue Howell: 01335 419021 / susiehowell@tiscali.co.uk (Ashbourne Representative)

Peter West: 01629 825940 / petendaf@talktalk.net (Wirksworth Representative)

Anyone wishing to start, or stop, receiving the newsletter by email, please contact the above.



THE HISTORY

BEHIND THE CHRISTMAS SONG:

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The song, 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' is an English Christmas carol. From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics.

It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of the Church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember. To fit the number scheme, when you reach number 9, representing the Fruits of the Holy Ghost, the originator combined 6 to make 3, taking the 6 fruits that were similar; the fruit in each parenthesis was not named separately. There are actually Twelve Fruits of the Holy Ghost.

The 'True Love' one hears in the song is not a smitten boy or girl but Jesus Christ, because truly Love was born on Christmas Day.

The partridge in the pear tree also represents Him because the bird is willing to sacrifice its life, if necessary, to protect its young by feigning injury to draw away predators.

Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.

Four calling birds were the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Five golden rings represented the first five books of the Old Testament, which describe man's fall into sin and the great love of God in sending a Saviour.

Six geese-a-laying stood for the six days of Creation.

Seven swans-a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit - Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.

Eight maids-a-milking were the eight beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit - Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience, Goodness, Mildness, Fidelity, Modesty and Chastity.

Ten lords-a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.

Eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful Apostles.

Twelve drummers drumming symbolised the twelve points of belief in The Apostles' Creed.