

# Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Mary Mother of God  
1<sup>ST</sup> January 2012



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Waltham Cross  
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## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him.

### Christmas Cake Raffle

The winner was  
Yellow Ticket  
No 139  
Please collect it!

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!  
At various times in the past  
and in various different ways,  
God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;  
but in our own time, the last days,  
he has spoken to us through his Son.  
Alleluia!

**TODAY'S READINGS:** Numbers 6:22-27  
Psalm 66  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:16-21  
Mass Times

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 71  
Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6  
Matthew 2:1-12

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</b>	<b>8.30am 11.00am 12.30pm &amp; 6.30pm</b>
Monday	Basil	10.00am
Tuesday		10.00am
Wednesday		10.00am
Thursday		10.00am
Friday		10.00am
Saturday	Raymond	<b>6.30pm</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</b>	<b>8.30am 11.00am 12.30pm &amp; 6.30pm</b>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation –**  
Saturday 10.30 – 11.00am & 5.45 – 6.15pm  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the  
Church each Friday morning from 9.15 to 9.45.

**Christmas Offerings: £4,261.65**  
**plus the regular Standing Orders. Thank You!**

### ST JOSEPH MARIAN GROUP

St Joseph Marian Group meets every Tuesday at  
10.45am in the Sacristy.

## BAPTISMS THIS WEEK

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 at 1.45pm  
Alyssia Acharya  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 4.00pm  
Chukwudiebube Oguejiofor  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 1.45pm  
Nico Simon

## BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

The next Baptism Preparation Course will start on  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm in the Convent. If you  
have a baby to be baptised in the near future please  
see Fr John.

## FIRST COMMUNION MEETINGS

There will be a meeting for the First Communion  
Catechists on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January at 8.00pm.  
The First Communion Parents will meet on Thursday  
5<sup>th</sup> January at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre.  
The First Communion Children will meet on Saturday  
7<sup>th</sup> January at 10.00am in the Parish Centre.

## ST. JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB 2012

Thank you to everyone who has supported The 200  
Club in 2011. Together we raised £1162 for the Parish  
Centre Fund and £1150 was paid out in monthly draw  
prizes. The 200 Club will continue in 2012 with an  
unchanged subscription of £12 per number for the  
year. **Please collect your application forms for 2012 at  
the back of the church. Please return by 26<sup>th</sup> January  
2012 to be eligible for the monthly January draw.**

## JESUS AS MODEL OF SERVANT-LEADERSHIP IN LAY MINISTRY

Fr John Farrell OP will lead a diocesan retreat for  
parish adult faith formation leaders, volunteers and  
those who would like to get involved in parish adult  
faith formation on Saturday 4 February 2012 from  
10.30am to 3.00pm at Nazareth House (Hammersmith,  
London Road W6 8DB. For further details and  
registration pack including directions and plan for the  
day, please contact [ausrakaraliute@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ausrakaraliute@rcdow.org.uk)  
or call at 020 7931 6078. Lunch will be provided.  
Suggested donation £14.00. Please register by 20<sup>th</sup>  
January 2012.

## FOUND IN THE CHURCH AFTER ONE OF THE MASSES ON CHRISTMAS EVE

An iTunes Card. If it is yours please see Fr John or  
ask at the Parish Office.

## THANK YOU

Thank you very much for your very generous  
Christmas offerings and for your cards and gifts.

*Fr John*

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God****Sunday, January 1, 2012**

Today's Readings: Numbers 6:22–27; Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8 (2a); Galatians 4:4–7; Luke 2:16–21. Three words are touchstones in today's Gospel: *amazed*, *treasured*, *returned*. Why would God choose shepherds as heralds of his Son's birth? They were generally regarded as smelly and untrustworthy. Yet, perhaps because they were so unsophisticated and earthy, they could look beyond a scene which others might see as squalid (birth in a stable? a newborn in a feeding trough?). They had the grace to be amazed. Somehow, they saw the divine in the human, teaching us who follow to look for grace in unexpected circumstances.

Mary didn't seem surprised by what happened in Bethlehem; the angel's promise had prepared her for an unusual son. But she *treasured* and reflected on what was happening. She models how we too should respond to the varied happenings of our days. Activity can easily become a blur unless we, like Mary, take time for quiet meditation. What is God showing me through these events, people, or places?

When the shepherds *returned*, it could have been as anti-climactic as the end of the holiday. After what was probably the greatest event of their lives, they went back to the routine of tending sheep. Instead of being disappointed, they praised and glorified God. They were different people. They carried within their hearts the rich truth: God dwells among us as one of us.

**Monday, January 2****Memorial of Saint Basil the Great and Saint Gregory Nazianzen**

In today's Gospel passage, John the Baptist clarifies his role and relationship to Christ. The challenge to identify who Jesus is continued into the fourth century, when the saints we honor today—two friends—wrestled with heresy and wrote orations that were crucial to theological development in the early Church. Today's Readings: 1 John 2:22–28; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4 (3cd); John 1:19–28.

**Tuesday, January 3****Most Holy Name of Jesus**

Imagine the delight of John the Baptist when he finally saw Jesus coming, this man he had so eagerly awaited. He calls Jesus the "Lamb of God," a name we pray in the Mass. Most commentators agree that John was referring to the servant in Isaiah 53:7–12, who was compared to a lamb. What names for Jesus are most meaningful for you? Here's a start: Bread of Life, Prince of Peace, Light of the World, Savior, Friend, Divine Redeemer, Brother . . . complete the list. Children can make a paper chain, writing one name for Jesus on each link. Today's Readings: 1 John 2:29–3:6; Psalm 98:1, 3cd–4, 5–6 (3cd); John 1:29–34.

**Wednesday, January 4****Memorial of Elizabeth Ann Seton**

Through her life, Saint Elizabeth (1774–1821) responded to Jesus' invitation in today's Gospel: "Come and see." She experienced widowhood at age 29; conversion to Catholicism, which alienated her Episcopal relatives; the death of two teenage daughters; and the difficulties involved in founding two boarding schools—where she sometimes shoveled the snow off the beds in the morning! Her faith grew and sustained her through every trial, and she retained her sense of humor and devotion to her three living children. Today's Readings: 1 John 3:7–10; Psalm 98:1, 7–8, 9 (3cd); John 1:35–42.

**Thursday, January 5****Memorial of Saint John Neumann**

The interesting sequence in today's Gospel fits Saint John Neumann: Jesus finds Philip, who finds Nathanael, and we know the list continues. Unable to be ordained in his native Bohemia, John traveled to New York for ordination and service to the people there. Wanting community (like Philip and Nathanael), he joined the Redemptorists. As Bishop of Philadelphia, he was the first to organize a Catholic school system in the United States. Today's Readings: 1 John 3:11–21; Psalm 100:1b–2, 3, 4, 5 (2a); John 1:43–51.

**Friday, January 6****Memorial of Saint André Bessette**

It's refreshing to discover saints who didn't do gargantuan deeds but who had ordinary jobs like most of us. Saint André (1845–1937) was a Canadian brother of the Holy Cross who worked as a college doorkeeper for 40 years because he was illiterate and in poor health. His humility and kindness attracted many who asked for advice and healing. To those who wanted miracles, he replied, "I am only a man, just like you." Today's Readings: 1 John 5:5–13; Psalm 147:12–13, 14–15, 19–20 (12a); Mark 1:7–11.

**Saturday, January 7****Jesus Revealing Himself**

Today's Gospel is one in a trio of Jesus revealing himself: to the Magi at Epiphany, through his baptism by John, and by changing water into wine at Cana. In the Cana story, Mary is the ideal parent of a young adult. She simply states the need and doesn't nag or repeat. Today's Readings: 1 John 5:14–21; Psalm 149:1–2, 3–4, 5, 6a, 9b (see 4a); John 2:1–11.

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<p><b>Sunday</b></p> <p><b>(Saturday 6.30pm)</b> William Hynes 10.00pm People of the Parish</p> <p>8.30am Joe Ryder RIP</p> <p>9.30am Polish Mass</p> <p>11.00am Ted and Thea Sewell RIP</p> <p>12.30pm Rosario DelliColli &amp; Vittoria Colizza RIP</p> <p>3.00pm Ukrainian Mass</p> <p>5.00pm Italian Mass</p> <p>6.30pm Jean Brady RIP</p>	<p><b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b> <b>Basil and Gregory</b></p> <p>10.00am Mary Harrington RIP</p>
	<p><b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b> <b>Most Holy Name of Jesus</b></p> <p>10.00am John O'Leary RIP</p>
	<p><b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p>10.00am Pat Fielder RIP</p> <p>11.00am <i>Polish Mass</i></p>
	<p><b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p>10.00am Thanksgiving</p>
<p>Confessions : Saturday: 10.30 - 11.00am</p>	<p><b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b></p> <p>10.00am Dina Archer</p>
	<p><b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Raymond</b></p> <p>6.30pm Angela and Maria Commisso RIP</p>