



READING PASTORAL AREA

# St John Bosco



## CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

**St. John Bosco Church**  
56 Western Avenue,  
Woodley, Reading RG5 3BH  
Tel: 0118 969 3423

**Priest:**

Fr Bonaventure Ndong

**Email:**

stjohnbosco

@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Website:**

stjohnbosco.co.uk

**Part of the PORTSMOUTH  
DIOCESAN TRUST**  
**Registered Charity Number  
246871**

Administrator: Catherine Ledgard

**Church Office is closed**  
**Tue 23.12.14 — 06.01.15**

The Christmas story we hear each year is the same but we our different. Our world is different. Joy and sorrow, laughter and tears, sickness and health, life and death have all wrought changes, for better or for worse in our lives. But no matter what changes we have undergone, what losses we have mourned, what gains we have celebrated, the Christmas story speaks to us again of new birth and the possibility of our own rebirth. Praise be, it tells us that things can be different; it gives substance to our hope that life is possible because God was prepared to reduce Himself to the dimensions of a new-born child 2000 years ago. With the birth of this child a new adventure in faith begins. A new approach to God is opened up for us, a new way of relating to each other is asked of us. It may be an old story, but it is one that is always full of new hope. That is why we make the journey back to Bethlehem each year: to rediscover our own roots in the gift of God, wrapped in swaddling clothes. For us, it is a journey home



**Father Bon wishes all our parishioners  
a blessed, peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year !**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

The 10am Mass on Fri 27.12.14, is the feast of St Stephen, Patron Saint of Altar Servers. Please can **ALL** of our Servers attend this Mass for their rededication.



**THANK YOU**

As we come to the end of the Year, I sincerely thank everybody in the parish for all the cooperation and collaboration; in public and in private; seen and secret; in groups or individually, for the good and growth of this parish. Thank you to those who became members of this church this year, those who took on new roles, those whose numerous other commitments have limited their ability to give more of their time and talents to the church - we appreciate all and thank you sincerely. I am thinking of our catechists, (for Baptism, FHC, RCIA & Confirmation), sacristans, leaders and members of different groups; choir, livesimply, readers, flower arrangers, Catenians, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Finance Committee, Pastoral Council, etc... May God richly bless you all. Fr Bon

**CRIB COLLECTION**

For: Christmastide for Christian Communities in the Holy Land (via the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre). Please see the collection basket beside the Crib from 24.12.13 - 06.01.14 ~ thank you.

**Psalm Response: Year B**

**21st Dec:** I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

**Midnight Mass:** Today a saviour has been born to us; he is Christ the Lord.

**25th Dec 8.30am and 10.30am:**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**28th Dec:** O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways !

**4th Jan:** All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

**Confession :**

Following the Pastoral Area Advent Penitential Services there will be no further confession until 5.30-6pm on Sat 10th Jan 2015.

**A reminder that the collections at the Christmas Masses traditionally go to the Parish Priest. This is to thank Fr Bon for his ministry & the hard work that he has carried out on our behalf and for our parish.**

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE 5PM MASS**

Calling all Mary and Joseph's ! Anyone wishing to dress up as Mary or Joseph at our Children's Christmas Eve Mass at 5pm would be most welcome, no donkeys though !



**ROMANIA LINK**

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to the success of our fund raising stall at the Extravaganza. Thank you to those who contributed ingredients, baked or sold our 'goodies' on the day. The final total is £926 08, and this will be taken to Romania when we visit next year, to help the orphanage and families living in poverty. Thank you for your unfailing support.

**Epiphany of the Lord**

Is celebrated on Sunday 4th Jan and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:**

Our First Holy Communion children still need Prayer Partners ~ Please sign up on the volunteer form by the hymn books. The next meeting is on Sat 10.01.15 at 1.30pm. The children would like to invite all their Prayer Partners to 10am Mass on Sunday 11.01.15 with tea and coffee afterwards in the parish centre.

**DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR**

The next Divine Mercy Holy Hour is **Sunday 11th January at Our Lady of Peace** 2.30 - 3.30pm



**PARISH SECRETARY REQUIRED** from March 2015 for the parish of St James & St William of York, Reading. The position is full time, the role is to provide a full confidential and administrative support to the parish priest and the parish. For application forms or further details please telephone 0118 957 4171.

**NEWSLETTER:** Please note that this newsletter covers 3 weekends - **keep a copy!** The next newsletter will be issued for 11th Jan. 2015

**Emergency numbers for the Sacramental Ministry of a priest:**

Fr Bon 969 3423

Fr. Pat 931 4469

Fr. Emmanuel 966 3711

Cannon Michael 957 2149

Fr George 957 2149

Fr John O 957 4171

*Please call your own priest first.*

**READING CHURCHES**

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES:**

**CHRIST THE KING**

Sat 6.30pm & Sun 10am

**ENGLISH MARTYRS**

Sat 6.30pm, Sun 9.30am, 11.30am & 5pm

**OUR LADY OF PEACE**

Sun 9am, 11am & 5pm

**ST JAMES**

Sat 6pm, Sun 11am

**ST JOHN BOSCO**

Sat 6.30pm & Sun 10am

**ST WILLIAM OF YORK**

Sun 9am, 11am & 6pm

**FR EMMANUEL NUH (MHM)**

Please give a warm welcome to Fr Emmanuel, from Bamenda, who will be concelebrating Masses over the Christmas period while he stays with us.

**NEXT MEETING DATES:**

**Traidcraft Stall**

Sat 20th & Sun 21st Dec

**Over 60's Club**

2.00pm Thu 8th Jan

**RCIA (Journey in Faith)**

11am Sat 10th Jan at Christ the King hall.

**First Holy Communion**

1.30pm Sat 10th Jan  
9.45am Sun 11th Jan Mass

**SJB Prayer Group**

8.00pm Mon 12th Jan




**Confirmation**

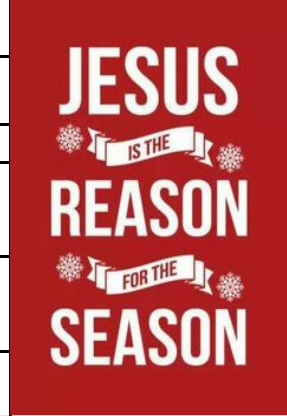
2.30pm Sat 17th January leading into 6.30pm Vigil Mass

**"LIGHT" YOUR LOVE FOR JESUS IN THE SANCTUARY LAMP.**

In this Year of Faith in Action, we encourage members of our parish to mark special periods in their lives by requesting to "light" the sanctuary lamp. This is an opportunity to draw close to the Lord in the Eucharist, to express your love for Him, and to let his light shine in your life. **Please fill in the lilac form from the porch and return it to the church office asap.**

**MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS**

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Diary
Sat 20th	11.00am 6.30pm	Penitential Svc at English Martyrs Vigil Mass	Tony & Lourdes Leitao int. (F & L Collaco)	
Sun 21st 4th Sunday in Advent	10.00am 3.00pm	Sunday Mass Penitential Svc at St Annes	Basil & Ruby Gomez + (M Gomez)	
Mon 22nd	10.00am 7.30pm	Mass: Liturgy of the Day Penitential Svc at St James		
Tue 23rd	10.00am	Mass: Liturgy of the Day	Patrick Walsh + (Mrs Craddock)	
Wed 24th Christmas Eve	5.00pm 11.30pm	Children's Christmas Eve Mass Carol Concert and Midnight Mass	All children Richard Gurney + (Jo-Ann)	
Thu 25th Christmas Day	8.30am 10.30am	Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass 	Pat Whalley + (Mary Smyth) St John Bosco parishioners	
Fri 26th	10.00am	Mass of St Stephen with re-dedication of Altar Servers	St John Bosco Altar Servers	
Sat 27th	10.00am 6.30pm	Mass: St John Vigil Mass	Lisa Clements + (Maddy Askham & family)	
Sun 28th The Holy Family	10.00am	Sunday Mass	Cliff Nutley + (Wife & family)	
Mon 29th	10.00am	Mass: St Thomas of Canterbury	Eleanor-Rose & Maisie thanksgiving (Helen Mole)	
Tue 30th	10.00am	Mass: Liturgy of the Day	Romanian friends (Barry & Eileen)	
Wed 31st	10.00am 7.30pm	Mass: Liturgy of the Day Adoration & Thanksgiving 	Charles & Joyce + (Marian & Bill)	
Thu 1st	10.00am 7.00pm	Mass, Mary Mother of God Mass, Mary Mother of God 		
Fri 2nd	10.00am	Mass: Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen	Ella Louise Ormiston + (Tom)	
Sat 3rd	6.30pm	Vigil Mass 	Alan Patton + (P Patton)	
Sun 4th Epiphany	10.00am	Sunday Mass 	Elvira Monopoli + (Maria Itta)	
Mon 5th	10.00am	Service of Word & Communion		
Tue 6th	7.00pm	Mass: Liturgy of the Day		
Wed 7th	9.15am	Mass: Liturgy of the Day		
Thu 8th	9.15am	Mass: Liturgy of the Day		2.00pm ~ Over 60's Club
Fri 9th	9.00am 9.30am	Adoration Mass: Liturgy of the Day		
Sat 10th	6.30pm	Vigil Mass	Alphonsus + (A Newman)	1.30pm ~ First Holy Communion
Sun 11th The Baptism of The Lord	10.00am	Sunday Mass	Jessie Ayres + (Danillells family)	



**FAST FOR THE CLIMATE**  
Stand with thousands of others fasting for action on climate change. Show your strength of commitment by going without food once a month to call for world leaders to do more to solve the climate crisis. Please take a leaflet on the weekend 27th & 28th December, it contains imaginative ways in which each of us can help make the world a better place. Actual fasting is the first of each month through 2015.

**THE SANCTUARY LAMPS FOR WEEK:**

**21st - 28th December dedicated to:**

**Main Church: Tony & Lourdes Leitao +  
Lady Chapel: Sr Joseph's intentions (S Vosser)**

**ST JOHN BOSCO BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

**Please keep in your prayers all those with December anniversaries:**

**Ruby Gomez+ Robert Ashe+ Eamonn Burke+ Raymond Cook+  
Peggy Pounds+ Aguida Ortiz+ Sarah Keenan+ Guillermo Laran+  
Sheila Halse+ Connie Hayes+ Sarah Irving+ Arthur Jacobs+  
Ralph Gomez+ Jessie Ayres+ Richard Gurney+ Sister Mary Agatha+**

**Please keep in your prayers all those with January anniversaries:**

**The Drinal Family+ Victoria Silvester+ Ella Ormiston+ Gwen Siveter+  
Ellen Colfer+ Elvira Monopoli+ Czeslaw Lukomski+ Helena Bridgeman+  
Paul Hicks+ Marjorie Bryant+ Jim Worthe+ Alfred Caruana+**