

Saint Thomas the Apostle

The parish church of Longford & Hawkesbury

www.stthomaslongford.co.uk

Seeking to maintain, practice and hand on the traditional faith of the Church.

Sunday 1st January 2012

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



Welcome to the Parish Mass

A particularly warm welcome to those who are worshipping with us for the first time today

It is our custom at S. Thomas' to observe a period of silent prayer to prepare ourselves for worship.

For those who have hearing difficulties, please select the "T" switch on your hearing aid.

During the entrance hymn our children normally gather in front of the altar to begin their Liturgy of the Word. We hope to resume this in the near future

Smaller children are welcome to use the children's corner during the service under the supervision of an adult.

Please join us in the parish hall for refreshments after Mass

Mass times this week

- Mon 2nd **Ss Basil and Gregory**
Mass at St Luke's 9.30am
- Tues 3rd **The Most Holy Name of Jesus**
Mass at St Luke's 8.30am
- Wed 4th Feria of Epiphany
Mass at St Luke's 7.00pm
- Thurs 5th Feria of Epiphany
9.30am Mass at St Thomas's followed by refreshments
- Fri 6th **Feast of the Epiphany**
No Mass
- Sat 7th Feria of Epiphany
Mass at St Luke's 9.30am
Coffee Morning in Church Centre 10.30am

NEXT SUNDAY 8th January 2012

The Epiphany of the Lord

10am Parish Mass

Please note that for the time being, the only Masses celebrated in the parish will be the Sunday Parish Mass at 10am and Mass on Thursday at 9.30am

PARISH PRIEST

Vacant

Parish Mass Rota – The current rota is available at the back of Church

On duty next week...

Servers:

Reader: Joy

Prayers: Linda B

Eucharistic Minister: June

Welcomers: Vanessa/Fiona

Coffee: Joyce/Bethany

Please do remember that if you are unable to carry out any of your responsibilities on the rota you should find a replacement

THE WORD THIS WEEK

In one sense we cram a lot of things together in today's solemnity: whether we succeed or not is open to debate! Today is New Year's Day, a time to pray for the year to come and hope for God's blessing. It is the Octave Day of Christmas, when we continue to reflect on the meaning of the child in the manger. It is the day of Jesus' circumcision, according to the Law of Moses, and the day on which he was given the name that the angel had announced to Mary. And the name of this day tells us that it is given to Mary, mother of Jesus, God-made-man – not in any other aspect of her life (such as the Annunciation, the Assumption or the Immaculate Conception), but celebrated simply as Mother of the Redeemer. Perhaps it is the person of Mary the Mother who can unite all these "themes": she who trusted in God's promises received blessings from the Lord; as mother she invites us to look over her shoulder with the shepherds and recognise her child, not just as a wonderful new life, but as the one who (in fulfilment of the Scriptures) is proclaimed as "Jesus" – a name which means "God saves."

Please include in your prayers...

The sick: Elda Cunningham, Connie Jefferies, Hannah Murray, Jane Cartmell, Penny Blight, Barbra Manley, Connie Jackson, Olive Coffel, Freda Hibberd, Paul Newton, Chris Wright, Brian Hopley, Elizabeth Shaw, Mont Cleaver, John Todd, Rebecca Mistry, John Clarke, Rosemary Parslow, Lynn Howe, Josephine Riley, Maudie Snow, Charles Dell, Serena, Yvette, Callum, Cheryl, Mike Wilson, Mike Stanley, Baby Nievee, Jontelle Thorneycroft, Joan Richards, Alexis Wallington, Joan Bull, Margaret Inglis

The recently departed: Karen Mattocks

Anniversaries of death: Evripides Evripidou, Annie O'Sullivan, Eleanor Perry, Elsie Corden, Hubert Farmer, Harriet Brooks, Laura Ashfield, Stuart John Wood, Rose Pollard, Christalla Evripidou, Paul Murray, Fred Faulconbridge, Dianne Evans, Daniel O'Hara, Kate Crane, Barry Horton

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available by appointment. Please contact Fr Kit on 024 76688604

The **Sacrament of Anointing** is available for the sick or prior to an operation. Please ask Fr Kit

Please contact Fr Kit if you require **Holy Communion at home** due to sickness or incapacity.

The Saint Thomas lamp
burns this week for

**The Parish of St Thomas,
Longford and Hawkesbury**

Saint Thomas, pray for us

**Please take this news sheet home for
your use.**

Notice Board

Parish Office

For enquiries about Baptism, Marriage, and Hall bookings come along to the Church Centre on Saturdays 10.00am -12.00 noon, ask for Joy

Today we welcome Fr Michael

Happy Birthday to Fr Kit, it's a secret, but he is 60 today. Fr Kit has been a tower of strength to us these past few months for which we are very grateful.

At the back of Church is a card to sign and a plate for donations towards a birthday present. Please sign the card before you leave

Diaries – There will be Church diaries for 2012, but we were a little late arranging these. Every effort is being made to have them here before Christmas but it may be just into the new year.

Envelopes – The new envelopes for 2012 are available at the back of Church. If you are a UK tax payer and use one of these gift aid envelopes St Thomas's can claim back an extra 25% from the tax man, £1.25 for every £5.00 donated. If you would like to donate in this way please see Rosemary.

For those of you who have already collected your envelopes **please note that the envelope for today is missing.** Please see Rosemary and she will give you a envelope which will bring you up to date

Dates for your Diary

Confirmation – this will be on 14th February 2012
Brean Children's Festival – 9th June 2012

Once again thanks go out to all those who worked so hard to ensure that the Christmas services went smoothly

We thank especially Fr Darren and Fr Barry at Midnight Mass, Fr Darren on Christmas morning and Chris Mellors for a wonderful Crib Service on Christmas Eve