

ST. ANSELM

Proclaiming Christ in Hayes

Happy New Year.

Turning over a new leaf.

When I was younger I remember thinking that we had to go out and find a leaf to turn over. I was irritated because I couldn't write on the leaf and physically turn it over. So I made my own leaf and wrote on it all the things I was going to do that year.

I was going to be better behaved. I was going to stop 'answering back'. I was going to be a better son.

In many ways my behaviour in those years was born out of the fact my family was broken through divorce. I lived out the reality of hurt and pain that for years coloured my understanding of what a family was supposed to be.

When people talked about the perfect family I would laugh at them, "there's no such thing". Even though I went to chapel every week nobody ever told me we had the perfect model of family before us all the time - The Holy Family.

A model of motherly love, of fatherly sacrifice, of a family who held together in the darkness and for whom God (quite literally!) was at the centre of all things.

Our families are all different. They are broken in many ways, they are big and small, over the top, quiet, difficult, fun. Loud, noisy, difficult, quiet. The Holy Family experienced all of these things and endured them.

Sometimes that is what we must do as well. Endure.



Be obedient and open to what God is calling us to do in our families and make sure above all things God is right in the heart of them.

It doesn't matter that we don't always get it right, what matters is that God is there in the middle of it all.

Then, when things do go wrong, there's a chance that something beautiful may come out of it.

Fr. Matthew

Get in touch:

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Churchwardens:

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Please let Fr. Matthew know of illness or other need as soon as possible. He is available on the above number 24/7.

Prayer focus

Those new to our community who are opening themselves to the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

Worship focus

The Mass of Mary, Mother of God is always very special (Friday). A moment when all churches of the holy catholic church agree on something!

This Sunday

Sunday 27th December

The Holy Family

10:00am - Parish Mass

Divine Office Psalter Week 1, Year B(I)

Keep in Touch



twitter.com/anselmhayes



facebook.com/stanselmhayes



07537 410120 (WhatsApp & Text)

Notices

We are starting to run low of things in the Church Larder. We are in particular need of toothpaste and toothbrushes (individually wrapped please). We also need small packs of tea-bags and sugar and long-life milk.

Please keep hold of your stamps for the RNIB Christmas Campaign, a box will soon appear in church.

For those watching online. I'm sorry for the recent sound issues. These were caused by a glitch in the Bluetooth Receiver and the way it was processing the music. I've now fixed it and the short periods of interference that impacted Christmas Day and Boxing Day should now be resolved.

Years Mind

29th December - Beatrice Barnes

31st December - Frederick Bedford, Joan Nicola (2017)

1st January - Fr Robert Willaim Burnie (1932) [Priest], Anthony Gregory

2nd January - Vera Kate Bonnett (1990)

Pray This Week For

Yolande DeGale, Sr. Angela, Helen Holman, Beryl Higgs, Ash, Margo & her family, Margery, Annie Foo, On Yin Chang, Rene Holman, June Bougton, Verity Thompson, Daniel Sibley, Wayne Campbell, Mary.

This week at St. Anselm

Monday 28th December

Holy Innocents, Martyrs - Feast

10am - Mass

Prayer focus: The dead

Tuesday 29th December

St. Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr - Feast

10am - Mass

11am - Confessions [or by appointment]

Prayer focus: Jonathan and parishes of The Society

Wednesday 30th December

6th Day in the Octave of Christmas

Offices said privately, no public Mass.

Midday - 2pm - Foodbank

Prayer focus: Foodbank users

Thursday 31st December

7th Day in the Octave of Christmas

Offices said privately, no public Mass.

Prayer focus: Persecuted Christians

Friday 1st January

Mary, Mother of God

10am - Mass

Prayer focus: The sick

Saturday 2nd January

SS Basil and Gregory, Bishops, Doctors

Offices said privately, no public Mass.

Prayer focus: The sick

Sunday 3rd January

2nd Sunday of Christmas

10:00am - Parish Mass

Divine Office Psalter Week 2, Year B(I)