

HOLY ECHO HOLY

How far is it to Bethlehem? Not very far.
 Shall we find the stable room lit by a star?
 Can we see the little child, is he within?
 If we lift the wooden latch, may we go in?

May we stroke the creatures there, ox, ass or sheep?
 May we peep like them and see Jesus asleep?
 If we touch his tiny hand, will he awake?
 Will he know we've come so far, just for his sake?

PARISH WEBSITE

Our site at www.stpeterscirencester.org exists to inform parishioners, intending visitors and newcomers to the parish. Kathy and Roger Whitton (whittonr@stpeterscirencester.org) develop the site and can be contacted if you can help in any way or have useful comments to make about improving the content. Their phone number is 01793 751863.

PASTORAL TEAM

Next meeting Monday 8 January, 7 pm in the Presbytery.

Deacon John and Doreen wish all the parishioners a very happy and holy Christmas.

FINANCE

Weekend 16/17 December 2006:
 Plate Collection £337 with an additional £297 given by Gift Aid.
 The Gift Aided sum produces a tax rebate of a further £83 = TOTAL £717.
TO ENHANCE YOUR GIVING BY 28% PLEASE CONSIDER USING GIFT AID. Contact David Groom Tel: 656725.

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE APPEAL - update

The amount collected now stands at £1747-85. – a wonderful response. £1183 of this was covered by Gift Aid Declarations, so we will be claiming an additional £333-66 tax refund. Nine families have joined the Gift Aid Scheme for the weekly collection, and ten families have increased their contributions, so we will receive an extra £76-44 per month tax refund, £917-28 in a year. A big thankyou to everyone who has contributed.

HOLY COMMUNION

All those at Mass who are not in Full Communion with the Catholic Church, and those Catholics not receiving Holy Communion, are warmly invited to come forward for a blessing. When approaching the celebrant, please fold your arms across your chest so he will know that you wish to receive a blessing.

Holy Holy Holy holy is the Lord God of power
 Holy Holy Holy holy is the Lord God of power

God of might Heav'n and earth are filled with glory
 God of might Heav'n and earth are

Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest
 filled with glory Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the

Blessed Blessed Blest is he who comes in God's name
 highest Blessed Blessed Blest is he who comes

Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the highest
 In God's Name Hosanna Hosanna Hosanna in the

highest

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
 Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.
 Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
 Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Gold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining,
 Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall:
 Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
 Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

What can we bring him? What gifts can we offer him?
 Silver and gold, precious stones by the score?
 Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
 Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
 Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.
 Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
 Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

THIS WEEK

Sun 24 Dec CHRISTMAS EVE
 8 pm First Mass of Christmas
 11.30 pm Carols
 Midnight Mass (Eve Garrett R.I.P.).

Mon 25 Dec CHRISTMAS DAY
 Mass 9.30 am
 Mass 11 am (Luke Brennan and Bernard Manning R.I.P.).

Tue 26 Dec Saint Stephen
 Mass 10 am

Wed 27 Dec Saint John
 Mass 10 am

Thur 28 Dec Holy Innocents
 Mass 10 am

Fri 29 Dec Mass 10 am

Sat 30 Dec Mass 10 am
 Confessions 10.30 – 11.00 am, 5.00 – 5.30 pm

Please pray for:

- those who are sick, including Ann Wall, Paula Manning, Marie McSherry, Sheila McKeown, Margaret Porter, Lucy Telling, Di Adams, Gwen Murphy, Tony Barry, Dorothy Godleman, Cesira Franco, Tom Tooley, Mrs Gatehouse, Clive Owlett, Mary Kinson, Bethany Mickleburgh, Anna Peake, Angela Pilkington

(Please inform Fr Michael of any changes to be made to the above list)

- those whose anniversaries occur about this time, including Mary Hill, Sandy McKeown, John Banks, Jean Baines, Hannen Kornijk

DECEMBER is the MONTH OF THE NATIVITY

During Advent and the Christmas Season, we are asked to pray for the following intentions: Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers.

PRAYER

St Peter's Book, for you to write your prayers and intercessions, can be found at the back of church. Prayer Line – call Doreen Fothergill (01451 860609) or Dee Stansall (01666 860387).



ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

7 St Peter's Road, Cirencester GL7 1RE
 [Telephone: Cirencester 01285 652 087]

Parish Priest: *Fr. Michael Davies*
 Permanent Deacon: *Rev. J Fothergill*
Happy Christmas!

Welcome to our church. If you are a visitor, we hope that you will enjoy your stay in Cirencester. If you are new to the Parish, please make yourself known to someone in the congregation.

Sunday 24 December	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Readings Year C, page 714. Psalter week 4.
1 st Mass of Sunday:	Saturday 6 pm 9.30 am (Ann Hourston and Alison Wharton R.I.P.).
Sunday Mass:	11 am
First Reading:	Micah 5/1-4. Bethlehem.
PSALM RESPONSE:	God of hosts, bring us back. Let your face shine on us, and we shall be saved.
Second Reading:	Hebrews 10/5-10. Christ, coming into the world.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:	Alleluia, alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!
GOSPEL:	Luke 1/39-44. Mary and Elizabeth.