

THE 4TH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

20TH DECEMBER
2020



THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH

The Sacred Heart, Southwold and St Edmund, King & Martyr, Halesworth

Priest: Rev Richard Ireson

The Presbytery, The Common, Southwold IP18 6AH

TELEPHONE: (01502) 723207

Website:- www.southwoldhalesworthrc.org.uk

IN AN EMERGENCY IF FR RICHARD IRESON IS NOT AVAILABLE, PLEASE
TELEPHONE THE PRESBYTERY AT:

BECCLES (01502) 713179, BUNGAY (01986) 893355,

LOWESTOFT (01502) 572453 OR PORINGLAND (01508) 492202

MASS TIMES IN THE PARISH FOR THE COMING WEEK

SOUTHWOLD	DATE	TIME	
Sunday	20 th December	11.00	4 th Sunday of Advent
Monday	21 st December	10.00	Advent Feria
Tuesday	22 nd December	10.00	Advent Feria
Thursday	24 th December	7.00 pm	Christmas Eve
Friday	25 th December	11.00	CHRISTMAS DAY
Saturday	26 th December	10.00	St Stephen – Feast
HALESWORTH			
Sunday	20 th December	9.00	3 rd Sunday of Advent
Wednesday	23 rd December	10.00	Advent Feria
Thursday	24 th December	6.00 pm	Christmas Eve
Friday	25 th December	9.00	CHRISTMAS DAY

MESSAGE FROM FR RICHARD

The Gospel of this Sunday (Advent 4) gives us the account of the Annunciation (Luke 1: 26-38), the mystery which we return to every day in reciting the Angelus. This beautiful prayer makes us relive the decisive moment at which God knocked at Mary's heart and having received her "yes", began to take flesh, in her and from her.

With only a few days until the Feast of Christmas will you, with me try to say the Angelus prayerfully each day as we fix our gaze on the ineffable mystery that Mary treasured for nine months in her virginal womb: the mystery of God who is made man?

Our time of preparation draws to a close. As the Solemnity of the Nativity nears, there is always much to do and many demands on our time. In the midst of the busyness, stay true to the call of Advent. The scriptures invite us to remember God's fulfilment of promises made long ago by the prophets.

Set aside time to read and reflect on chapters 1 and 2 of Luke's account of the Gospel. Ponder the work of the Holy Spirit in the story of Jesus' birth: Mary's openness to the Annunciation, the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, the humble birth, the adoration of the shepherds, the presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple and much more.

Like Mary, ponder these miraculous events deeply in your heart.
And God will bless you.

A very happy Christmas and a safe and peaceful New Year to you all,
Your friend and Parish Priest,
Fr Richard

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Fr Michael Stokes has kindly offered to help Fr Richard with the Christmas Masses.

PLACE	DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT
Halesworth	Thursday, 24 th December – Christmas Eve (Family/Children’s Mass)	6.00 pm	Fr Michael Stokes
Southwold	Thursday, 24 th December – (First Mass of the Nativity of the Lord)	7.00 pm	Fr Richard Ireson
Halesworth	Friday, 25 th December, Christmas Day	9.00 am	Fr Richard Ireson
Southwold	Friday, 25 th December	11.00 am	Fr Michael Stokes

BOOKING FOR MASS

Due to COVID regulations seats in our churches will be limited and, in Southwold particularly, there are likely to be a number of visitors. Consequently we would ask that you let us know which Mass you wish to attend and how many will be in your party. Please book online, see or email Pat Hollingsworth at patricia9@aol.com for Southwold. Anne Fleming is taking bookings for the Halesworth Masses and you can phone her on 01986 872103.

ACCESS TO OUR CHURCHES

Wonderfully we are once again able to attend public Masses again. Both churches will continue to remain open for private prayer (all day, every day in Southwold and for 2 hours after Mass on Wednesdays and Fridays in Halesworth) so that, if you feel unable to attend Mass, you can pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

As always, our Christmas collection will be for Fr Richard. This year we are going to be able to collect the Gift Aid on your offerings so, if you give via envelopes, please be kind enough to put your Gift Aid number on the Christmas Offering one. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS FOR THE SACRED HEART CHURCH

There is a basket at the back of the church for your donations towards our Christmas flowers. Do please give generously !

LOWESTOFT FOODBANK

The Reydon coordinators of the Foodbank say that inevitably demand for help is high and will no doubt increase in the coming months. If you are not able to shop easily for extra items to donate you can give money. If you would like to make a donation please make cheques payable to The Lowestoft Foodbank and send to Lowestoft Community Church, 8 Haddenham Road, South Lowestoft Industrial Estate, Lowestoft NR33 7NF. Thank you

CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS – NEW WAY OF GIVING TO SUPPORT THE PARISH

Contactless payment terminals for collections and donations are available in both churches. A terminal is also now set up in Halesworth. You can also contribute to parish funds via the ‘Givingq’ page on the website at www.southwoldhalesworthrc.org.uk/about-us/giving/ to enable contributions to be made to specific funds such as a second collection. Also included is the facility to donate a fixed sum chosen from a menu. We hope this will help to make it easier to support the Parish funds both at this difficult time and in the future.

100 CLUB

The Big Christmas Draw will take place after the 9.00 am Mass on 20th December – prizes will be doubled. Please join the 100 Club as money it raises helps towards costs in the Parish. Monthly cash prizes of £50, £25 or £15, for a small monthly cost of £3, payable yearly, half yearly or quarterly. Standing order forms are available for those who wish to pay by that method. Forms are available from Anne Fleming (01986 872103) or Eric and Stella Dobson (01986 875748)

RECOLLECTIONS OF A SOUTHWOLD GP

'Recollections of a Southwold GP', a memoir by Christopher Hopkins has been on sale in both Southwold and Halesworth churches. Copies are now sold out but more should be available soon. Sounds a most interesting read which includes stories and experiences of life at a monastic school and the difficulties faced by a Catholic doctor. Price £20, with £5 from each copy sold in the parish going into our church funds.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING WHO ARE SICK OR IN HOSPITAL

Michael Carroll, Paul Carroll (Michael's son), Brian Chapman, Trevor Croucher (John Holt's brother-in-law), Denise Denning, Janet Dent, Chloe Drew-Batty (Dorothy's granddaughter), Dorothy Drew, Judith Etherton, Susan Goldsmith, Ken Goody, Olly Grantham (Caroline's son), Brian Hayward, Mick Heil, Peter Henderson, Margaret Holt, Rosemary Jones, Juliet Lightfoot, Romilda Lobling, Elizabeth Martin, Eugene McEvoy (Tony's brother), Ita Miller, Paul Munson, Maureen Murphy, Caroline Pryke, Stephen Percival, Mary O'Rawe, Alan Redmond, Pearl Reeves, Alva Semple, Stewart Semple, Sr Rosaleen Shaw OP (Laurette's sister), Olivia Thorby, Gregory Walker (son of Lucy), Maureen White, Oliver Williams (Janet Dent's grandson), David Wright and Frank Wright. May they be comforted by our prayers and awareness of our love for them.

If you know of any changes or additions to the Sick List, could you please let Fr Richard know. Thank you

ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

SOUTHWOLD: Please contact Fr Richard or Laurette Burton on [07966 541747](tel:07966541747) or email at lauretteburton147@gmail.com

HALESWORTH: Please contact Colette Haward on 01986 875013 or email colclive@onetel.com

