

Parish of St. Boniface, Okehampton
& Holy Family, Chagford

www.stbonifacechurch.co.uk

Plymouth R.C. Diocese

Reg. Charity No. 213227

17th December 2023

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

Year B

Fr. Anil Kumar Gundabathina

Tel: 01837 52229

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Times of Masses & Services

Sat	16 th December	06.00 pm	Okehampton	For the People of the Parish
Sun	17 th December	09.00 am	Chagford	Philomena Emery (RIP)
		11.00 am	Okehampton	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - GAUDETE SUNDAY
Tue	19 th December	07.00 pm	Okehampton	
Wed	20 th December	10.00 am	Okehampton	
		6.30 pm	Okehampton	Advent Penitential service with Exposition
Fri	22 nd December	09.40 am	Divine Mercy Rosary	
		10.00 am	Okehampton	
Sat	23 rd December	06.00 pm	Okehampton	For the People of the Parish
Sun	24 th December	09.00 am	Chagford	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		11.00 am	Okehampton	For Jaqueline Roberts
		5.00 pm	Okehampton	Family/Youth Christmas Mass
		10.30 pm	Okehampton	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
Mon	25 th December	9.00 am	Chagford	CHRISTMAS DAY
		11.00 am	Okehampton	CHRISTMAS DAY

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 5.15 p.m. to 5.45 p.m. or by arrangement.

Good news: We now have a new Bishop. **Canon Christopher Whitehead** from Clifton Diocese has been announced as the **Bishop - elect of our Diocese of Plymouth**. We warmly welcome and wish him all God's blessings.

The Pope's Intention for December: For persons with disabilities: We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Facebook Link: Parish Website: www.stbonifaceokehampton.com

Parish Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StBonifaceOkehampton/>

Congratulations: to Fr. Anil on passing his driving test. Fr. Anil would like to thank, Pam Pemberton, Justine Frain, Jon and Marian Jarvis, Peter Stutt, Margaret Church, Alister Sequeria and Angie Scullion who has helped with lifts. A special thanks to Patrick Morris for driving lessons.

If you haven't yet written your Christmas cards to fellow parishioners: please consider writing a festive message on the card pinned on the notice board and putting the cost of a pack of cards into the bag. All money is raised for the local food bank. Thank you and Happy Christmas!

Christmas flowers: There are baskets at both entrances for donations towards the flowers for display at Christmas.

Christmas Hamper: Thank you very much for your generous donations for the Christmas Hampers. We have two lovely hampers and the winners of each will be drawn **on Sunday 17th December - one draw after 9 am Mass in Holy Family and the other after 11 am Mass in St Boniface**. Each entry is £5 in an envelope with your name on the top of the sealed envelope. Entries should be placed in the basket in each church or given to Father Anil.

Well-being: I am pleased to publicly announce the appointment of Marie Mills, as a chartered psychologist in charge of the well-being of parishioners, and the priest should this be necessary. She offers free help to parishioners who for some reason are struggling with life. You can find out more about Marie by looking at her webpage:

<https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.mariemills.com&c=E,1,Ytm4RQY7k->

[uN3mucnOKzYoHNGNkDszcseHTafF1Bd2KfsLovmilcludRzgA2GPSGp08fBRtYqJgSltuLcYzR1Pg6cK5yEyHalKhFk7YHOTHzuPv-770,&typo=1](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.mariemills.com&c=E,1,Ytm4RQY7k-uN3mucnOKzYoHNGNkDszcseHTafF1Bd2KfsLovmilcludRzgA2GPSGp08fBRtYqJgSltuLcYzR1Pg6cK5yEyHalKhFk7YHOTHzuPv-770,&typo=1) Any help received is entirely confidential. In the first instance do contact her by email at drmariemills@btinternet.com

Homelessness – What can we do? – 17 January 2024 6-7 pm Online

According to the charity Crisis, on a given night around 1 in 100 households in England are experiencing the worst forms of homelessness. Forecasts show homelessness rising significantly in the immediate future, with inflation squeezing real incomes and increasing poverty and destitution, alongside rising private rents and evictions. Many people in our Diocese will be affected by this housing crisis but it can be difficult to know how to help. Why not join Caritas Diocese of Plymouth on Zoom on Wednesday 17th January from 6.00 pm-7.00 pm to pray and reflect on this important issue and to hear from charities across our Diocese about what they are doing and how we can respond? St Petros Cornwall and Routes to Roots based in Poole will be sharing their work and insights. Please register to receive the Zoom details <https://forms.office.com/e/VVp5t5qU7F>

Future Events: Dates for your diary:

Advent Penitential service: This will take place on Wednesday at **6.30 pm at St Boniface on 20th December**. If this time doesn't suit your needs, please email Father Anil to set a date and time convenient to both.

Sacrament of Confirmation: Soon to schedule a Preparatory Course for the children & adults. Please get in touch with Patrick & Angie.

Prayers: Please pray for: Peter Moy, Patricia Almond, Cecilia Brunton, Eve Harris, Jorn Buhl Nielson, Hugh Wallace, Jenny Kennedy, Mary Frain, Jan, Margaret Snell, Mary Sheridan, Jen Cleverdon, Claire Brown, Helen, Ann Durden-Higgins, Doreen Hughes, Derek & Ruth, Pat, Michele Collier, Paul & Diana Selwood Wielink, Alex Joyce, John Keating, Tilly Rhodes, Anne Brooks, Sheila Rogers, Bob Bell, Molly Rogers, Jean Wood, Janet Vickers, Maureen Frances, Elizabeth Gregory, David Jennings, Kevin Power, Rosemary Hopkins, Reta DeLarge, Justin Aldred, Jamie Shott, Alan Pook and David Rhodes.