

**WEEKDAY MASSES FOR THIS WEEK, FROM MONDAY 28th December to FRIDAY 1st January, will be at 10.00 am..**

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND THANKS:**

“The people that walked in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow  
a light has shone.  
You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.....

For there is a child born for us,  
a son given to us  
and dominion is laid on his shoulders;  
and this is the name they give him:  
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,  
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.  
Wide is his dominion  
in a peace that has no end,  
for the throne of David  
and for his royal power,  
which he establishes and makes secure  
in justice and integrity.

From this time onwards and for ever,  
the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this. (Isaiah 9: 1— 7)

As we rejoice at the Dawn of Salvation, in the presence of The Christ Child, I would like to wish you all the joy’s of blessings of this Christmas Season, and for the secular New Year, which is on the horizon. Thanks to all who helped prepare in a particular way for our liturgical celebration, and will assist during the liturgy, and for all those who do so much work, usually quietly behind the scenes, for the benefit of us all, all the year around. Thanks too for your cards and gifts, and to those who have offered me particular support during challenging times for me personally. (Especially Jean, steadfast even after I accidentally smashed her plate and dish!) May God truly bless you all.  
Fr Michael

**ST AUGUSTINE WEBSTER, BARTON & SAINT MARY’S, BRIGG  
THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY YEAR B (WKD) YEAR 1 PSALTER WK 1**

Day	Date	Parish	Time	Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Masses for Sunday 27th Dec 2020	First Mass of Sunday	<b>Brigg</b>	Saturday 6.00 pm	The Feast of The Holy Family	Paddy O’Callaghan RIP
	Sunday	<b>Barton Brigg</b>	9.00 am 11.00 am		People of the Parish Nora Joyce RIP
Monday	28th Dec	<b>Brigg</b>	10.00 am	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)	For people suffering from addictions.
Tuesday	29th Dec	<b>Barton</b>	10.00 a.m.	St Thomas Becket (Feast)	
Wednesday	30th Dec	<b>Brigg</b>	10.00 a.m.	Octave of Christmas	Ints Elizabeth Norton
Thursday	31st Dec	<b>Brigg</b>	10.00am	Octave of Christmas	Lewis and Thampy Families
Friday	1st Jan	<b>Brigg</b>	10.00 a.m.	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	
Saturday	2nd Jan				
Masses for Sunday 3rd Jan 2020	First Mass of Sunday Sunday	<b>Brigg Barton Brigg</b>	Saturday 6.00 pm 9.00 am 11.00am	Second Sunday After Christmas	Holy Souls People of The Parish Alice and Joseph Abuo RIP

**PRIVATE PRAYER: MONDAY (BARTON) 12 -12.30 pm. THURSDAY (Barton ) 12.00 –12.30 pm. As usual  
There are no communal prayer/services at these times.**

**Parish Priest :** FATHER MICHAEL GILLIGAN 01652 652221 07704058187 Stmarysbrigg@gmail.com

St. Mary’s: 12 Barnard Ave, Brigg, North Lincs. DN20 8AS

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stmarysbrigg](http://www.facebook.com/stmarysbrigg)

St. Augustine Webster: Whitecross Street, Barton on Humber, DN18 5DF

[facebook.com/taugustinewebsterbarton](http://facebook.com/taugustinewebsterbarton)

Joint Parish Website [www.bartonandbriggcatholicchurches.org](http://www.bartonandbriggcatholicchurches.org)

Bank Details: BRIGG RC PARISH/ST. MARY’S or ST AUGUSTINE WEBSTER RC P

For Donations go to the Nottingham Diocesan Web Site: [www.http://dioceseofnottingham.uk/](http://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/)  
website where a one off donation or standing order can be set up.

FOR SUNDAY 3rd JANUARY, ONLY, BOOKINGS FOR HOLY MASS: **ST AUGUSTINE WEBSTER CHURCH** will be by pre-booking by phoning(07753925651) between 6.30 p.m.—7.30 p.m. Tuesday, and Wednesday 11am - 12 noon. Please do not leave a text message or voicemail.

**ST MARY'S CHURCH**, Brigg HOLY MASS (The First of Sunday) ON SATURDAY 6.00pm, SUNDAY 11am will be by pre booking only. You can do this by telephoning 07597 034908 on Wednesday between 5.30pm and 7.30pm and Thursday between 11.00am and 12.00 noon. Please do not leave a text message or voicemail. When booking please advise us if anyone has mobility issues so that we can allocate the best/most practical seat to facilitate easier Reception of Holy Communion.

*For both churches you will be asked to give your name and telephone number, these will be kept and given to the stewards to confirm your place before you can access the church. You will be required to wear a face covering and sanitise your hands before you enter. A steward will show you to your seat, and assist you when you leave. Your details will be kept for track and trace for 21 days prior to destruction.*

**WEEKDAY HOLY MASS** You do not need to book, but you will be required to give your name and contact details to the steward, wear a face covering and sanitise your hands before you enter. Attendance will be on a strictly first come first served basis and you may be refused entry when capacity is reached.

**Cycle of Prayer:** during Advent and Christmas Time we pray for these intentions: Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers:

**WEEKDAY MASSES FOR THIS WEEK, FROM MONDAY 28th December to FRIDAY 1st January, will be at 10.00 am..**

**FRIDAY 1st January: World Day of Prayer for Peace. Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

**THIS IS THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH (8th Dec 20 –8th Dec 21)** As declared by Pope Francis. **Why did the Pope declare a year of St. Joseph?** In making his declaration, Pope Francis noted that this year marks the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX on Dec. 8, 1870. Pope Francis said the coronavirus pandemic has heightened his desire to reflect on St. Joseph, as so many people during the pandemic have made hidden sacrifices to protect others, just as St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus. "Each of us can discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence -- an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble," the pope wrote. He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph's role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, "Our world today needs fathers." (There is further information on the respective Facebook pages for each Parish. )

\*\*\*\*\*

"Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."  
Luke:2 - 9

### **THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, and THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS:**

Most of us are used to the fact that retailers, online and in-store, have anticipated, and promoted "Christmas" for weeks, and even months, and on facebook certainly, and possibly on other online apps, people are posting pictures of the Christmas decorations which already adorn their houses. One woman I worked with some years ago who describes herself as "a good Catholic girl" published hers last week, and boasts she takes down her decorations on "Boxing Day" as she doesn't like "dragging Christmas out"! (You can't make these things up. Truth is often stranger than fiction. When I was a child decorations didn't go up until Christmas Eve, and came down on the Feast of The Epiphany.) However, for Catholics, and many, but not all, Christians, there is a recognised Christmas Season, and that begins on Christmas Day, and lasts until the Feast of the Baptism of The Lord, and, in the Church of England, until February 2nd, The Feast of Candlemas (as was once the case in the Catholic Church). However, within the Christmas Season there is "**The Octave of Christmas**" – in effect, eight days of Christmas Day. Prior to that, of course, we have a period of preparation for Christmas.

As we have to work to maintain a Covid Secure Church it was necessary to limit numbers at Christmas Day Masses, and people had to pre-book for all of them. However, wish to highlight the fact we have a Christmas Season, and do not just celebrate on one day, but more specifically to highlight **The Octave of Christmas**. That is, for eight days we celebrate Christmas Day, as we do with Easter Sunday.

Our Bishop, Patrick McKinney, The Bishop of Nottingham writes: "Like Easter, the Nativity of the Lord is one of the two solemnities in the Ordinary Form of the Church's liturgical calendar which has its own Octave. **As you know, the Church regards each day in an Octave as if it were the solemnity itself.** So, for example, the prayers for Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours during the Christmas Octave refer to each day as if it were still Christmas Day. Despite having days within the Octave that are feasts, St Stephen, St John the Evangelist, the Holy Innocents, the Holy Family, and the concluding Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, each of these days is, as the Roman Missal states, a '**day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord.**' This means that, liturgically, **each of the days from 25th December to the 1st January is 'Christmas Day'**.....It would be good to remind people that they can come and celebrate the mystery of Christmas at any of the Masses during the Octave days. This would allow them, this year, to **plan for a day within the Octave** when they would like to come to church to celebrate their Christmas Mass."

We believe it will not be necessary to book for the weekdays from December 28th to 1st January (Monday to Friday). However, we do ask that if you cannot get to Mass on December 24th or 25th you come on one of the other days of the Octave, and every day of the Octave is a proper celebration of Christmas Day. (As with Sunday the "obligation" to attend Mass specifically on Christmas Day is currently suspended, as the Bishop also notes in his letter to the clergy.)

\*\*\*\*\*

"This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being an upright man and wanting to spare her disgrace, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when suddenly the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.'" Matthew 1: 18 -21