

## ST AUGUSTINE'S, DATCHET

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### HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY – 29 DECEMBER 2024

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FR. SHYJU	WEEKEND & WEEKDAYS HOLY MASS TIMES			
Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, and we continue to reflect on the coming of Christ into the world. He was part of a human family and, even though it was a different era many centuries ago, Jesus experienced the ups and downs of family life. The feast also helps us to think of the spiritual family that we belong to in our parish. Just like any family, in the parish we use our gifts and abilities to encourage and support one another.	Datchet	Sat 28	<i>No Vigil</i>	
	Eton	Sun 29	09.30am	Holy Souls
	Datchet	Sun 29	11.00am	People of the Parish
	Datchet	Mon 30	09.30am	Holy Souls
	Datchet	Tue 31	<i>No Mass</i>	
	Datchet	Wed 01	09.30am	New Year - Holy Souls
	Datchet	Thu 02	<i>No Mass</i>	
	Datchet	Fri 03	<i>No Mass</i>	
<b>ROSARY:</b> Twenty minutes prior to Holy Mass.	<b>CONFESSION:</b> Any Weekday after the Mass / by appointment			
<b>BENEDICTION:</b> Every Thursday after 9.30am Mass	<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:</b> Weekdays before Mass from 8.30am			

**SICK OF THE PARISH:** Please pray for James Ansell, Trisha Rice, Maria Cordosa, Maggie and Peter Darbin, Fred Flaherty, Sheila Jones, Terri Nicoll, Nino Puma, Eithne Reynolds, Roger Stewart and Linda Webb & Elaine Shaw. If anyone would like to have a priest visit them or others who are sick, kindly speak to Fr. Shyju.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS:** I would like to thank everyone who helped over Christmas to decorate our Churches and serve our Parish community in different ways, enabling us to keep the festivity of Christmas. Both churches looked truly festive!. May God bless you all.

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** Fr. Shyju is leading a Conference for teenagers in North Wales next week. Therefore we will have weekday Masses only on Monday and Wednesday (New Year's day).

**PARISH JUBILEE ENDS:** 2024 has been the Centenary of our Parish. As we come to the end of this year, we thank God for all his blessings and for enabling us to participate in the jubilee year. Bishop David visited our Parish on Sunday 8 September to celebrate our Jubilee with us, which was a memorable day for all. As we step into another year, let us ask for God's abundant blessings on each one of us, as we come together as a big family to celebrate our faith. Thank you, Lord, for all your blessings to our Parish.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS:** I wish to offer my sincere thanks for the Christmas cards and greetings I have received, and for your most generous Offering on Christmas Day. The only repayment I can make is a promise to keep you all in my prayers, and that I will do... Fr. Shyju.

**VOCATIONS CALENDAR:** We have received a few copies of the Diocesan Vocation Calendar. They cost £5 each. All proceeds from their sale will be used for the promotion of priestly vocations across the Diocese.

**YEAR OF JUBILEE PRAYER BOOKS:** The Diocese has sent copies of "The Jubilee Companion Book" to the Parish. Please take a copy of the book, (which is free of charge), to support your preparations for Jubilee 2025.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE FOODBANK** Boxes for donations can be found in each Church. The items on their Shopping List are: **Food Urgent:** long life fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned tuna, tinned vegetables, long life custard, cooking sauces, coffee, tinned spaghetti, long-life milk, instant mash, soup, long-life rice pudding. **Always required:** tea, long life sponge puddings, tinned tomatoes, tinned meat. *Please note they have a 12 month supply of PASTA. It is NOT NEEDED.*  
**Toiletries & Basic Items Urgent:** washing up liquid, shampoo, deodorant, shaving foam/gel, toothpaste, child toothbrushes, nappies size 6+, 7 & 8. **Always required:** soap, toilet rolls, strong carrier bags+



**THANK YOU:** As we come to the end of this year, I would like to thank the many people who have helped in keeping our Parish alive and vibrant during the year. Our Parish Council has been a huge help in dealing with the various issues involved in running the Parish and in their suggestions for improvement. Each member has taken responsibility for a specific area of parish life – finance, administration, catechetics, hall and nursery, health and safety, parish security and maintenance. The flower committee - though small- has contributed greatly towards keeping the Churches looking at their best. The organists, too, have helped in choosing suitable

hymns and encouraging greater participation in them. Our thanks, also, to the Readers, Eucharistic Ministers and altar servers. We cannot forget those involved in producing the Newsletter each week and in managing our website, and the Parish owes a lot to those who have given their time to organizing the tea/coffee mornings on Sundays. There are others, who remain largely silent, but whose valuable service is greatly appreciated. To all, I would like to say a sincere 'thank you' for your encouragement and support. May God reward you for your service to him in strengthening the good community spirit we enjoy. Let us serve the Church and the Lord in the New Year too with more enthusiasm.



**Happy New Year. Fr. Shyju**

