

CHRISTMAS PEACE THOUGHTS

*'Blessed is this season which engages the whole world
in a conspiracy of love.'*

Hamilton Wright Mabie

Christmas is the celebration of small things, barely noticeable things.

*It is Jesus in a manger, the child who will grow into the voice
of God that is heard around the world and will change it!*

*Maybe we've never wanted to face the implications of the Christ-
Child's birth for ourselves. Maybe it has been so well masked,
that we don't realise the demands it makes on us now.*

*It's time to grow beyond fairy-tale-spirituality and
face our own part in the drama, and how, in our own time,
we are the deciders of what this birth will bring.*

*It's time to realize that Christ's birth is meant to change us all -
to make us the bringers of hope, justice and peace to others.*

Sr. Joan Chittister OSB

*'We need Christmas more than ever this year — not in spite of
injustice but because of it. We need the incarnation of Love in our
midst. We need the Prince of Peace to arrive in our world,
in our country, in our justice system and in our own hearts.'*

Sarah Theberge, No Justice, No Christmas?

WHAT'S ON?

SUN/MON/TUES 9.00pm BBC4: THE TRUTH ABOUT FOOD

This year's Royal Institution Christmas lectures, delivered by Dr. Chris van Tulleken, focus on the food we consume, how our bodies process it and how processed food presents problems as well as solutions. With audience participation, it's informative, humorous and fascinating!

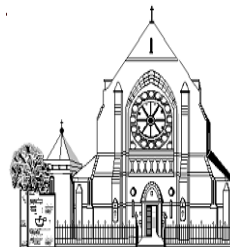
MONDAY 5.10pm C4: HIDDEN FIGURES

Film based on the true story of three African-American women working as mathematicians at NASA and how they stood up to the institutional racism and sexism they experienced.

MONDAY 7.30pm C4: 2024: THE YEAR FROM SPACE

Documentary, using spectacular images from space and expert commentary, that tell the major news stories of the year. (repeated Thursday, 7.30pm)

Registered Charity **232709**



THE PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND SACRED HEART

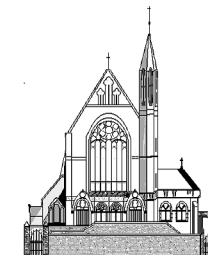
Fr. James Nugent Pastoral Area

St Michael's Church, Horne St, L6 5EH

Sacred Heart Church, Low Hill, L7 8TN

Tel: 0151 263 6578

Confessions: Saturday 12noon St Michael's



28th & 29th December Holy Family Yr.C P.41

MASS TIMES

Tuesday 9.30am St Michael

Thursday 7.00pm St Michael

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.30am St Michael

GOSPEL THOUGHTS Luke 2:41-52

Three of us stood silent and self-conscious at the bus stop. A young couple with two young children joined us and the atmosphere changed. One of the children offered us a sweet. We all looked carefully to mum and dad. They spoke to each other and nodded to the toddlers and to us. Joy had entered the shy atmosphere.

The self assurance of the children - a sign of love and confidence at home - was now spilling over into the bus station.

A good family is a holy family; each member a seed of delight and respect in the wider world. We are invited to practise the pleasure that comes from experiencing the security of a comfortable family life and friendships.

"CHANGE THE WORLD!" starting from our own house, bus stop, school - after the example of Jesus' own family.



REMEMBERED ...during Mass

Andrew Weathers, Frank Molloy, Damon Franey,
Ferdinand Pastor, Christopher Kinsella, Christine Grahame.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

HOLY FAMILY

Any group of friends or family try to be considerate, kind and compassionate. Jesus asks us to be accepting of people and the wider communities. The Holy Family demonstrates the love and thoughtfulness that we should show to one another.

DEANERY NEWS

There have been 2 meetings recently at different levels ASC and DSC (Archdiocesan Synodal Council and Deanery Synodal Council.

Four signposts were highlighted for parishes to take on board:

1. We must be immersed in the joys, hopes and griefs of each other.
2. Develop leaders to attend to the changing needs of the Church.
3. Be bold and creative in renewing our local structures.
4. Embed synodality in every aspect of Archdiocesan / parish life.

A flyer is available at the back of Church covering all the major points.

PEACE MARCH

Will you join the next march for a ceasefire and peace in the Middle East on **Sunday, 5th January at 2.00pm gathering at the RC Cathedral then marching to Derby Square where there will be speakers.** There will be no march this Sunday.

PEACE SUNDAY TALK

A mass for peace will be celebrated at the RC Cathedral by Archbishop Malcolm on **19th January at 11.00am.**

This will be followed at 1.15pm, by the annual peace talk, to be delivered by Dr. Gee Walker who will speak about the murder of her son Anthony, about forgiveness, reconciliation and justice.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

KS1 and KS2 school children are invited to be part of the Children's Liturgy of the Word.

We need you - adults and parents, to volunteer!

Please speak to one of the catechists or come in on Sunday

AND SEE WHAT WE DO!

It is very rewarding and worthwhile.

UPCOMING PARISH ACTIVITIES

Parish Forum - 8th January 2025 at 7.00pm in St. Michael's.
The Parish Forum is an occasional meeting of parishioners. Four areas of Parish are represented; Liturgy, Catechesis, Social Justice and Finance. The Parish Priest attends. The Forum is often an occasion for Parish development.

WYA Communion Preparation Session 3 on Tuesday, 14th January at 5.30pm in the Irish Centre.

WYA Meeting for Parents Only on Tuesday, 28th January, 5.30pm at the Irish Centre.

PILGRIMS OF HOPE JUBILEE

On Christmas Eve, Pope Francis declared 2025 as a Holy Year of Jubilee for the Catholic Church, an event that takes place once every 25 years and offers the faithful an opportunity to renew their relationship with God, each other, and with all of creation. Over the coming months, there will be plenty of opportunities for us to observe this special year of grace in our archdiocese and parish. More info. coming soon on how we can get involved.

PAX CHRISTI

The official peace group of the Catholic Church, Pax Christi, meets again in January in the Parish Rooms, Horne St. 2.00pm Thurs 9th Jan. Thanks to St Michael's for hosting us.

'EVERY PENNY COUNTS'

Kensington Fields Community Association are offering free advice on benefits, minimum wage, sick pay and holiday leave.

Drop-ins are on Tuesdays 10.30 - 12.30.

Contact: 0151 708 9107

SVP

The SVP is an important part of parish outreach. If you would like to offer your time to visit, with another person, the more vulnerable members of our community, then please be in touch with Fr. Fitz. There is also a monthly collection for the work of the SVP; the first Sunday of the month - this weekend.