

CHRISTMAS PEACE THOUGHTS

'Blessed is the 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 Thebarge, No Justice, No Christmas?

TV WITH A CONSCIENCE

Follow Aljazeera English online for challenging and insightful world news.

SUN/MON/TUES 7.00pm BBC4: IS THERE LIFE BEYOND EARTH?

Be amazed as Dame Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock delivers this year's Royal Institution Christmas Lectures, which air over three nights. She explores what we know about the birth of the first galaxies; what scientific breakthroughs have rewired our understanding of the universe and whether there could be life beyond earth.

THURSDAY 6.30pm BBC1: WILD LONDON

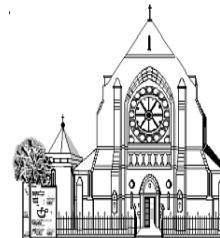
David Attenborough guides us through suburban spectacles as he uncovers the wildlife found around the city of London.

FRIDAY 11.35am BBC2: A MAN FOR ALL SEASON

Historical drama telling the story of St. Thomas More.

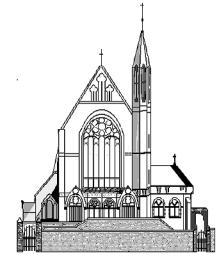
FRIDAY 7.30pm C4: THE YEAR FROM SPACE 2025

Spectacular footage that reveals the biggest stories of the year through the millions of images taken every day by satellites circuiting the earth.



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



27th & 28th December '25 Feast of The Holy Family P91.

MASS TIMES

Monday 9.00am Sacred Heart

Tuesday 9.30am St Michael's

Saturday 6.30pm Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.30am St Michael's

GOSPEL THOUGHTS: Luke 2 & John 1



us to take care of the plan.

God is with us, Emmanuel, because Mary and Joseph gave their bodies and whole life to cooperate with God. Baby Jesus is God's way of arriving in our moment of history. We are to do a 'Mary' or 'Joseph' in our time of darkness. Our smallest glow or bigger flash will enable God's plan to brighten up 2026. We must be the light in our dark time.

The smallest flicker of light in a dark place draws our attention. A small spark in the gloom is a chance of hope when looking for the way. Arriving as a tiny baby, a human being that needs help, God comes inviting

REMEMBERED...during Mass

Michael Brien Alfred Ellison, Margaret Meaney,
John Cox, Margaret Cushion, Ella Bettelly,
Please keep these families in your prayers.

LIVERPOOL PEACE MARCH

The weekly march through town for peace with justice and for an end to the occupation of Palestine is on Sunday, 4th January at 2.00pm starting at the RC Cathedral and ending with speakers at Derby Square. All are welcome.

SVP

The SVP is an important part of parish outreach. The collection is the first weekend of each month. You are very generous. Thank you.

Christmas is a time when we want to be generous. With school support we have been able to distribute twenty £50 food vouchers to local families. Well done, through the SVP.

ARCHDIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT GROUP

After the Christmas break, the group will reconvene, beginning with a Young Adult Mass on Tuesday 6th January '26 18:30-20:00 at the Pauline Book Centre (Church Street, L1 3AY) in the city centre. Anyone, aged 18-35, is most welcome. No registration required. For more info. contact Moses at m.mui@rcaol.org.uk

ARCHBISHOP SHERRINGTON FOR CBCEW

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales has released a statement on the dignity and protection of human life as Parliament moves to legalise assisted suicide and decriminalise abortion up to birth in some cases.

Read that statement and watch an interview with Archbishop Sherrington at: www.cbcew.org.uk/assisted-suicide-and-abortion-life-issues-statement

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Do you want to give something meaningful as a Christmas or New year gift. Why not give a CAFOD World Gift. Each gift is more than a present - it is a way to stand in solidarity with our global neighbours. Every gift is ethical, sustainable and personal and includes helping children starting school, protecting the planet and supporting farmers facing the climate crisis. World Gift Catalogues are available at the back of church. Do take one!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

5.00pm Tuesday 6th January Faith in Action, St Michael's
5.30pm 13th Tuesday, January WYA, Session 3, The Irish Centre

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wishing a happy and peaceful New Year to you and your families around the world. Emmanuel, God is with us!

Our joy will be complete when every person is loved and is loving. Rejoice then, as you go out and love one another! This is our chance to inject some of Jesus' practices into history. Our family plans and ambitions, influenced by our reading about Jesus, can help to build a better world. Let's grab the opportunity.

KNITTING / CROCHETING FOR THOSE IN NEED.

Thank you to all those who have used their skills to contributed with knitted / crocheted squares, blankets and wool. In 2025 we have sent over 150 blankets to Armenia, Africa and Gaza. A fantastic achievement.

FAITH/JUSTICE IN ACTION GROUP MEETING

TUESDAY 6TH JANUARY '26, 5.00PM IN ST. MICHAEL'S

We are a small group that meets to explore ways to faithfully respond to local and international issues through prayer, reflection and putting our faith into action. Want to find out more? Then join us to make plans for the coming year! You are very welcome!

CUPPA AFTER MASS

Please join us after mass in the Parish Room on Sunday mornings for a cuppa, a biscuit and a chat. All are welcome.

COMPANIONS FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Safeguarding regulations insist that Eucharistic Ministers do not visit people alone. We are therefore asking for people who are not Eucharistic Ministers but who have some time to give to this work each month to consider this role. Accompanying our Eucharistic Ministers will be a way of serving those in our community who are unable to attend church but wish to receive the sacrament. Please let Father know if you can be part of this.