

CATHOLIC PARISH OF WESTBOURNE NEWSLETTER



2nd January 2022

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Light and life

On this Sunday, the Gospel invites us to reflect on the mystery of the coming of Jesus Christ into our world. In the Jewish scriptures, God created by word, by speaking, as in the first chapter of Genesis. But God also operated in the world through the female figure of Wisdom in creating and in communicating with human beings. The evangelist refers to this figure by using the masculine term *logos* (or Word): the “*he*” who was with God in the beginning looks back to the Word and forward to the person of Jesus.

This deep passage, which we should read as poetry, expresses an advanced understanding of the person of Jesus. It gives the outline of the coming of the Word into the world and the way in which people responded. It holds out to us today the same offer of light, life and becoming children of God. This is a free gift (grace): it is not something that we can earn, we have only to accept it and live by it.

As we approach the end of Christmastide, we might take time to reflect on the past few weeks and what the Christmas story means to us personally. In the thought of the evangelist John, it is all about God reaching out to us in God’s Word: the term “*word*” suggests communicating, which is what we do when we



speak or write to other people. In Jesus, God is inviting us into an intimate relationship: perhaps we might use this reflection to deepen our relationship with God, because that is what faith is all about, in the end.

Visit our website: www.catholicwestbourne.org

MASS TIMES

Sunday 2nd January, SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

9.00am - *Noone family*
11.00am - *Doris Carroll RIP*

Tuesday 4th January, LITURGY OF THE DAY

10.00am

Wednesday 5th January, LITURGY OF THE DAY

10.00am - *Doris Carroll RIP*

Thursday 6th January, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

10.00am - *Michael Filby RIP*
7.00pm

Friday 7th January, LITURGY OF THE DAY

6.00pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7.00pm - *Doris Carroll RIP*

CONFESSIONS: After Mass or by appointment.

OUR PARISH

OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHURCH
SEAMOOD ROAD, WESTBOURNE,
BOURNEMOUTH, BH4 9AE

Parish Priest: Fr Leslie Adams

Telephone: 01202 764027

Email: ladams@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

*(Baptism, Marriages, Sick Visits,
Funerals and Confessions)*

Parish Office

General enquires and hall bookings

Telephone: 01202 760640

Email: oliadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer: Matthew French

Email: mail@matthewfrench.net

SUNDAY READINGS

Entrance Antiphon - Wis 18: 14-15

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

Gospel Acclamation - cf.1 Tim3:16

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans. Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon - Cf. Jn 1: 12

To all who would accept him, he gave the power to become children of God.

PARISH NEWS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Father Leslie would like to meet with those parents whose children will be preparing for their First Holy Communion. There will be an initial meeting on Saturday, 8 January, 2022 at 10.30am. Please bring your diaries.

REFRESHMENTS: Tea, coffee and soft drinks are provided in the hall after the 9.00am Mass on Sunday and 10.00am Mass on Wednesday. Please do join us if you can.

SUNDAY OBLIGATION: As the Sunday Obligation to attend Mass remains suspended, please continue to attend Mass when you feel confident to do so. The Sunday Obligation remains 'stretched' across the weekdays so if you find Sunday Mass too daunting at this stage then consider attending a weekday Mass when there are fewer people present.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER LESLIE: Thank you for your generous gifts to me at Christmas. I am deeply touched by your kindness and support. God bless you all.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE: Our Carol Service on Wednesday 15th December raised £300, which will be donated to the local charity Julia's House. Thank you to all those who attended. www.juliashouse.org



THANK YOU: I would also like to express my thanks to everyone who supported the parish behind the scenes to ensure our Christmas celebrations were a success.

VOLUNTEERS: I would be very grateful if one or two volunteers were able to undertake some sacristy duties. This would involve opening and closing the church and helping me to prepare for Mass.

PRAYER OF BLESSING: If you're not a Catholic, please feel free to join the procession for Holy Communion to receive a blessing. Slightly bow your head and place your hand on your chest, so the minister/celebrant will know. All are welcome.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

You can donate directly into the bank account:

**PRCDTR Bournemouth
Our Lady Immaculate**

Sort code: 309304 Account: 00875075

Thank you for your continued support.

PRAYERS PLEASE

Please remember all the sick and housebound of our parish especially:

Marianne Copp, Patricia Kowalewska,
Win Sheridan, Kathleen Wood,
Phillip Rockford, Germain McAulay,
Geoffrey Dixon, Joe Bonnici,
Marjorie Lee

The word was made flesh

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God
and the Word was God.
He was with God in the beginning.
Through him all things came to be,
not one thing had its being but through him.
All that came to be had life in him
and that life was the light of men,
a light that shines in the dark,
a light that darkness could not overpower.
A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.
The Word was the true light
that enlightens all men;
and he was coming into the world.
He was in the world
that had its being through him,
and the world did not know him.
He came to his own domain
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,

He came to his own domain
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God,
to all who believe in the name of him
who was born not out of human stock
or urge of the flesh
or will of man
but of God himself.
The Word was made flesh,
he lived among us,
and we saw his glory,
the glory that is his as the only Son of the
Father,
full of grace and truth.
John appears as his witness. He proclaims:
'This is the one of whom I said:
He who comes after me ranks before me
because he existed before me.'
Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us,
received –
yes, grace in return for grace,
since, though the Law was given through Moses,
grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.
No one has ever seen God;
it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's
heart, who has made him known.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

**May you and your
family have a happy
and holy 2022. God
bless you all.
Fr Leslie**