

# The Lantern

Christmas

18<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> December 2011

# Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

82 Knox Road Wellingborough NN8 1JA

## St Edmund Campion

Henshaw Road Wellingborough NN8 2BE

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### **Fourth Sunday of Advent YEAR B**

**Psalm:** *I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.*

**Gospel:** *I am the handmaid of the Lord; let what you have said be done to me.*

|                     |         |            |                                   |
|---------------------|---------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Vigil Mass</b>   | 6.00pm  | Our Lady's | Alfred Warwick RIP                |
| <b>Sunday 18</b>    | 9.00am  | Our Lady's | John and Nora McCarthy RIP        |
|                     | 10.30am | St Edmunds | Beryl and Clive Cummins RIP       |
|                     | 12.30pm | Our Lady's | <b>Polish Mass</b>                |
|                     | 5.30pm  | St Edmunds | James McEvoy RIP (anniversary)    |
| <b>Monday 19</b>    | 7.30am  | Our Lady's | Intentions of Mary MacCallum      |
| <b>Tuesday 20</b>   | 10.30am | St Edmunds | <b>Confessions</b>                |
|                     | 12.20pm | St Edmunds | Margaret Smart                    |
|                     | 7.00pm  | St Edmunds | <b>The Three Trees</b>            |
| <b>Wednesday 21</b> | 12.30pm | Our Lady's | Frankie McMullin RIP              |
|                     | 7.00pm  | Harrowden  | <b>Carol Service</b>              |
| <b>Thursday 22</b>  | 9.15am  | St Edmunds | Evelyn Kelly RIP                  |
|                     | 7.00pm  | Our Lady's | <b>Stations of the Cross</b>      |
| <b>Friday 23</b>    | 9.15am  | St Edmunds | Richard Worthy RIP (Anniversary)  |
|                     | 1.30pm  | Dodd Road  | <b>Funeral Service</b> Baby Aleah |
| Savarimuthu RIP     |         |            |                                   |
| <b>Saturday 24</b>  | 7.30am  | Our Lady's | Adam and Eileen Richards RIP      |

**FROM FATHER EDMUNDS DESK** Mary never applied for the honour of bearing God's Son. She had her own plans - to marry her beloved Joseph and live a life of simple joys, hard work and family love. This was a good plan but God had a greater plan for her. So when the angel appeared and told her that she was highly favoured among women, she was afraid. "How can this be, since I am a virgin?". If God calls you, your response would probably be the same: "How can God work through me? I am so small; I am inadequate; I am not important. How could God possibly use me?". But Mary listened to the angel who told her she must not be afraid but must listen and understand what God is going to do through her. God is going to cause her to conceive and give birth to a son who will become that King promised long ago. And Mary says "Yes" to what God asked her. "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be done to me as you have said".

### **EVENTS OF CHRISTMAS WEEK**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** Final opportunity for **Confessions** from 10.30am to 12 noon in St Edmunds.

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** **THE TALE OF THREE TREES**, our Christmas Play, will be performed by our Youth Choir, Edzplosion, and children from our schools at St Edmunds at 7pm. Please contact Penny Bailey after the 10.30am Mass or the Junior School Office for your ticket.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>** **Carol Service** with Readings at Harrowden at 7pm.

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** **Stations of the Cross** at Our Lady's at 7pm

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>** **Town Carol Service** outside All Hallows in the Market Place at 6pm

**FINANCE NEWS** Thank you for your Offering last week of £1,111.

**Mass of Christmas Day YEAR B**

**Psalm:** *All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

**Gospel:** *A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.*

|                     |                        |                     |            |                               |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>CHRISTMAS</b>    | <b>Family Mass</b>     | 5.30pm              | St Edmunds | Michael Guiry RIP             |
|                     |                        | (Carols at 5pm)     |            |                               |
|                     | <b>Polish Mass</b>     | 10.00pm             | Our Lady's | <b>Polish Mass</b>            |
|                     | <b>Midnight Mass</b>   | 12.00pm             | Our Lady's | People of the Parish          |
|                     |                        | (Carols at 11.30pm) |            |                               |
|                     | <b>Mass of the day</b> | 9.00am              | Our Lady's | People of the Parish          |
|                     | <b>Mass of the day</b> | 10.30am             | St Edmunds | People of the Parish          |
|                     | <b>Mass of the day</b> | 11.00am             | Harrowden  | People of the Parish          |
|                     | <b>Polish Mass</b>     | 12.30pm             | Our Lady's | <b>Polish Mass</b>            |
| <b>Monday 26</b>    | <b>St Stephen</b>      | 9.15am              | Our Lady's | Bridget Batt RIP              |
| <b>Tuesday 27</b>   | <b>St John</b>         | 9.15am              | Our Lady's | Stephen Byrne RIP             |
| <b>Wednesday 28</b> | <b>Holy Innocents</b>  | 12.30pm             | Our Lady's | Decd of Rooney family         |
| <b>Thursday 29</b>  | <b>St Thomas</b>       | 9.15am              | St Edmunds | Pat Murphy RIP                |
| <b>Friday 30</b>    | <b>Holy Family</b>     | 9.15am              | St Edmunds | Rena Hall                     |
| <b>Saturday 31</b>  |                        | 10.30am             | Our Lady's | Elizabeth Phillips RIP        |
|                     |                        | 11.00am             | Our Lady's | <b>Rosary and Confessions</b> |

**NO EVENING MASS on Christmas Day.**

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING** is traditionally taken for the clergy.

**A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM FATHER EDMUND** Christmas Day will dawn just like any other day. There will be no angels to be seen or heavenly voices heard. Everything will seem as normal. But Christmas is different. The truth is there in John's Gospel. The Word has become flesh. The light shines in the darkness. Now there is more light, more hope, more warmth in the world. We get a sense of the closeness, the warmth and the goodness of God. Now we know that we are not alone, that our life has meaning and purpose, that someone is watching over us and guiding us. God's Word is a Word we can count on. It is addressed personally to each one of us. And what do we have to do to receive it? Just one thing - open our hearts. On Christmas Day a Saviour has been born to us - He is Christ the Lord.

**COME BACK FOR CHRISTMAS** The Bishops of England Wales have asked us to invite anyone we know who has drifted away from the faith to come back to Mass this Christmas. Even in Wellingborough, there are over one thousand Catholics who no longer attend Mass. They will have had many reasons for falling away but remember that God never turns anyone away. He wants the missing back among the parish family where they belong. We are all God's precious sons and daughters with a divine dignity and a glorious destiny. Our door is always open and all the missing have to do is come in. Let us welcome them home.

**THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL** would like to thank everyone for your generous donations of goods or money for our Advent Appeal. There will be an SVP member at the back of church at each Mass this weekend giving out the filled bags. Please take one if you know of anyone who would benefit from a little extra help at Christmas.

**PARISH REGISTER FOR DECEMBER**

We welcome Carmella STEVENS, Kiyra HOLLAND, Zana HOLLAND, Kayden HOLLAND, Willow LESLIE and Zitou WILLMOTT who have received the Sacrament of Baptism.

We pray for the repose of the souls of Margaret RINGSHAW and Baby Aleah SAVARIMUTHU who have died this month.

We congratulate Paul BAKER and Michelle KNIGHT who have received the Sacrament of Marriage.