

Church of the Holy Name
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Parish Priest - Fr Sebastian Paul
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Newsletter 2nd January, 2026

Second Sunday of Christmas

Dear Parishioners

So 2025 is over: an unusual year for our churches in Esher and Thames Ditton. We started the year as a Parish and we ended it as two churches a part of the new Parish of Weybridge. We started the year with Bishop Richard but now there is no Bishop as he has been promoted; but the overwhelming event of last year was Father Sebastian's weeks in hospital. It is good news that he is now back in the presbytery with his family and some of us have seen and talked to him. He is still frail and has a high risk of infection, but his spirit is strong.

2026 has many uncertainties for our churches; what 2025 has shown is that the nearly 500 regular Catholic mass attenders in our Esher and Thames Ditton area can rise to the challenge. Some things at Christmas we had to do our way under the circumstances! Have a great 2026 and please keep praying for Father Sebastian and his family.

Chris Bourne

Mass Times : Saturday 3rd to Sunday 11th January 2026

Day/Feast Day	Time	Church	Intention
Saturday 3 rd	5.00pm 5.30pm	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes - Reconciliation</i> <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	
Sunday 4 th <i>Second Sunday of Christmas</i>	9.00am 11.00am 5.30pm 6.00pm	Holy Name <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> <i>Holy Name – Reconciliation</i> Holy Name	Sharon Mary Patefield, RIP
Monday 5 th	9.30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	
Tuesday 6 th <i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	9.30am 7.00pm Note changes	Our Lady of Lourdes – School Mass Y4-6 Holy Name Please note the change of venues/time	Mary Jacinta, RIP
Wednesday 7 th	9.30am	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> – Adoration & Rosary	
Thursday 8 th	9.30am	Holy Name	
Friday 9 th	9.30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	
Saturday 10 th	5.00pm 5.30pm	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes - Reconciliation</i> <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	
Sunday 11 th January <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>	9.00am 11.00am 5.30pm 6.00pm	Holy Name <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> <i>Holy Name - Reconciliation</i> Holy Name	Ricky Coehlo, RIP People of the Parish

EPIPHANY – Tuesday 6th January

Please note that this is a Holy Day of Obligation celebrated on 6th rather than the nearest Sunday. Fr Stephen has kindly agreed to say the Masses. Please note the change in usual place/times.

9.30am at OLOL - St Paul's School (years 4-6) but this is open to any parishioners also

7pm at Holy Name

ALTAR SERVERS PANTOMIME OUTING – Sunday 4th January

Will all those going to see Cinderella at Windsor on Sunday 4th January make sure they are at OLOL by 2.45pm. The coach will leave at 3pm - Don't forget your consent form.

KICK OFF MEETINGS FOR FHC AND CONFIRMATION THIS WEEK

All meetings begin this week for parents for these two sacraments. You will have received an email if you registered and received a place for your child but as a reminder:

Confirmation parent and child – Tuesday 6th at 7.30pm at OLOL

FHC Holy Name Group parents – Wednesday 7th at 8pm at Holy Name

FHC OLOL Group parents – Thursday 8th at 8pm at OLOL

NEXT BEREAVEMENT MEETING – Tuesday 6th January 10am at Holy Name

Our next meeting is **TUESDAY 6th Jan 10am at Holy Name** with an opportunity to light a candle and say a prayer for your deceased loved one. This is followed by the chance to join our meeting afterwards, considering *The celebration of Christmas - how was Christmas for you? Did you do anything in particular to honour the memory of your loved one?* All are very welcome to attend for tea and a chat. The next meeting will be at OLOL on Thursday 5th February at 7pm

TAIZE SERVICE – Thursday January 8th 7pm at Holy Name

A short service of meditative and reflective prayer, combining periods of silence, readings from Scripture, and Taizé music based on Psalm.

SOCIAL

WINE TASTING EVENING – Saturday 7th February 7pm at Holy Name

Come and join us as we try to blow away the post-Christmas blues with a warming Winter Spanish Showcase of some excellent examples of the wines the country offers. Hugh Rawlinson will be bringing some of his knowledge from Waitrose to host a tailored tasting through both well known and lesser known examples of Spanish wine, along with a few anecdotes around the history of wine in the area. Light complimentary snacks and nibbles will be provided. The event is being generously supported by Esher Catenians and monies raised from the evening will be donated to CAFOD in support of their critical work supporting aid and development around the world. Tickets are £25 and can be secured through the Parish office at Esher, but do please also feel free to get in touch with Hugh (hughrawlinson@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

100 CLUB 2026

Subscriptions for the 100 Club for 2026 must be renewed by mid January. If you have an existing number, we will keep that number for you unless you instruct us otherwise. The annual fee for one number is £24 – please check if this automatically comes out of your account on your instruction and if not please make payment to us to support your number. If you are not a 100 Club member and would like to join next year you can find the form here <https://holyfamilyelmbridge.church/app/uploads/2024/12/100-Club-NEW-Membership-Form-2025.pdf> and in the narthex (please ignore the 2024 date!)

THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

Please see below the link to Universalis which has current weekend readings. This can always be found on the front page of our website too <https://www.universalis.com/Europe.England.Arundel/mass.htm>

REGULAR EVENTS at Holy Name and Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL)		
Divine Mercy Chaplet: All welcome to pray the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy, which Our Lord encouraged St. Faustina to say.	Weekly - Sundays after 9am Mass in the Lady Chapel	Holy Name
TakeTime Meditations: A calm, compassionate space to meet God with the opportunity to explore your faith with others. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87353668161?pwd=MmRxbHUwNW9kS0F3dTRxNldYSIJTQT09	Weekly - Mondays at 8pm on Zoom	
Playgroup and Café: A cuppa and a chance to catch up with friends every Friday. Playgroup for babies and pre-schoolers too.	Weekly – Mondays & Fridays – 9am-10.30am	OLOL
Sew 'N So's: Complete your craft projects with a warm welcome, friendly chat and suggestions about anything you are “stuck” on.	Call: Jo W 020 8224 3705	OLOL
Fun Fridays: A youth club for primary aged children and their families. Activities are geared at KS2 with crafts, games, snacks, and a prize draw. It's a great opportunity to hang out with friends after school and enjoy seasonal themed activities.	5 Fridays term time – 3:30pm – 5pm Look out in newsletter for next one	OLOL
Parish Youth Group: For students in school years 7–13 (ages 13 and above) The Parish Youth Group offers a welcoming and supportive environment for young people to grow in their faith, build friendships, and enjoy time together in a relaxed setting. Held every other Friday in the Parish Rooms with pizza, games and fellowship at Holy Name Church, Esher.	Every other Friday (see newsletter)	Holy Name
Faith In Action Awards Programme – Our Parish award programme for those in Secondary School, supporting our candidates through their faith journey this year. Please see updates in the newsletter.	4 Reflection Dates: November 1 st , January 3 rd , others TBD	OLOL
Drinks and games after Saturday and Sunday evening Masses: come along after the 6pm Mass to meet fellow parishioners	Monthly – first weekend of the month	OLOL
Rosary: All welcome, especially anyone who would like to learn the Rosary or anyone who needs a refresher in a peaceful environment.	Weekly Friday 7pm, Wednesday 9.30am Monthly: 1st Saturday 9.30am 1st Monday 7.30pm (weekly during May & October)	Holy Name OLOL Holy Name OLOL
Bereavement Coffee Morning: Anyone enduring the pain and loss of bereavement is welcome to attend this caring, supportive gathering. Please check newsletter for next dates	Monthly (alternate venues) 1 st Tuesdays at 10am 1 st Thursdays at 7pm	Holy Name OLOL
Grandparents and Elderly Group: Open to all grandparents and elderly in the parish. Come along for a chat and a cuppa.	Monthly - 3rd Tuesdays at 10.15am	OLOL
Bible reading group: Come along for coffee, prayer and discussion: Have you ever thought about what you read in the Bible? Is it true? In what ways is it true? Is it a myth? Who says so? A small group who meet regularly to read and pray the bible together. Informative, useful, and fun	Fortnightly – Wednesdays at 10am Call: John Merrigan (07949 913487).	OLOL
Parish Soups: A delicious selection of homemade soups served with bread and cheese. Come along and bring a friend!	Monthly - 2nd Wednesdays at 12pm	OLOL
Taizé Evening: A short service of meditative and reflective prayer, combining periods of silence, readings from Scripture, and Taizé music based on Psalm.	Monthly - 7pm See newsletter for dates	Holy Name
Esher Catenians: open to all practising Catholic men looking for a local, national and international social network Follow us on FB https://www.facebook.com/groups/726607333082252/	Monthly – generally 2 nd Tuesdays at 7:00pm for 7:30pm E: Andrew_burton33@aol.com	Various including Surbiton Golf Club, The Angel T D