



READINGS FOR THE HOLY FAMILY:

O see within a creature's hand the vast Creator deigns to be...

Is it really so unrealistic for the Church to hold up the Holy Family as a model for our own families? Not because every household looks the same, but because family life, at its heart, remains love gathered around a child. In that sense, the Holy Family is profoundly realistic, rooted in the everyday work of care, sacrifice, and faith. Like Joseph, parents are called to protect their families from what would harm them. Herod no longer sends soldiers, but other forces still threaten — addiction, distorted priorities, and materialism that slowly erode the soul. Protection today is shared: both parents standing together with courage and care. Like Mary, parents nurture not only bodies, but hearts. Children learn to recognise God less through instruction than through what they see lived each day — choices for goodness, generosity, and compassion. Family life revolves around children for a time, and then they are sent out into the world. Often it is through loving them that parents themselves are changed, making God's love visible and real.

... Reposing infant-like, as though on Joseph's arm, or Mary's knee!

MASSES WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 28th DECEMBER 2025

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| Sun 28 th | THE HOLY FAMILY 10.00 am: Chris & Caroline (Silver Wedding blessings) 12.00 noon: People of the parish <u>at Sedbergh</u> 6.00 pm: Joan Baines RIP |
| Mon 29 th | St Thomas Beckett 10.00 am: |
| Tues 30 th | Sixth Day of Christmas Octave 12.00 noon: |
| Wed 31 st | Seventh Day of Christmas Octave 12.00 noon: John Selby RIP (Birthday memories) |
| Thurs 1 st Jan | Mary Mother of God (New Years Day) 12.00 noon: Dennis O'Donnell RIP |
| Fri 2 nd | St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen 12.00 noon: Jock Zonfrillo RIP & family |
| Sat 3 rd | Saturday of Christmas Season 9.30 am: Confessions 10 – 11am and Adoration |
| Sun 4 th | SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY 10.00 am: Thomas Hackett RIP 12.00 noon: People of the parish <u>at Sedbergh</u> 6.00 pm: |

HOLY TRINITY & ST GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH, KENDAL DOUBLE BULLETIN FOR 21st and 28th DECEMBER 2025



READINGS FOR FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

...a virgin shall conceive and bear a son...

St Elizabeth stands at the very heart of Israel's Temple tradition. By marriage and by faith she belongs to the best of the ancient people of God, formed by generations who knew both God's nearness and God's mystery. The Temple had always been a sign rather than a cage — a place of meeting, not a boundary. Israel resisted the pagan habit of building shrines everywhere, knowing that the living God could never be confined by walls, stone, or ritual. And yet they longed for a place where heaven might brush the earth, where the Holy One could be honoured and encountered. In Elizabeth, that longing takes flesh. Her own body becomes the living Temple, carrying within it the child who would prepare the way for the Lord. John stirs and leaps in her womb at the presence of Christ hidden within Mary. The joy of the prophets, the hope of Israel, and the promise of the Temple all converge in that moment. John—the final voice of the old covenant—becomes the first witness of the new, already pointing beyond himself to the Lamb of God. What the Temple once signified, Christ now fulfils. God is no longer approached only in sacred spaces but comes among us in flesh and blood. Jesus is Emmanuel — God-with-us — and through Him, we too are made living temples, called to bear His presence into the world.

...and they shall call Him, Emmanuel, which means, God-is-with-us!



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF Richard & Kathleen Bell, Kelly & Cashell family & friends, Noblett & Lomax families, Mr Leslie Cook, Jack & Marie Brookes, Ciaran Holmes, Mary Ng Leng Choo, Watton family, John Hallac, Graham & Stephenson families, Thomas & Mary Alice Flanagan, Ann McDermott, Michael Diver, Ellen Faughnan, Alan Sadler, John Peters & Carlisle family, Stanley & Hannah Herbert, Herbert & Dover families, Hubert & Rachel Croasdell, Croasdell & D'Souza families, Roger Bidwell, Stanley Thomas Herbert, Joan Baines, Philip Andrew & Colin Baines, Sue Dollimore, Arthur & May O'Flaherty.

Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year!



MASSES WEEK COMMENCING SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER 2025

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| Sun 21 st | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10.00 am: John & Elsa Whenray RIP 12.00 noon: People of the parish <u>at Sedbergh</u> 6.00 pm: Sammy Schmidt RIP (wedding anniversary memories) |
| Mon 22 nd | Monday of Advent week 4 10.00 am: Mathew (Victor) & Maria Ross RIP |
| Tues 23 rd | Tuesday of Advent week 4 12.00 noon: Andrew Noblett RIP |
| Wed 24 th | Wednesday of Advent week 4 10.00 am: 2.00 pm: Syro-Malabar Mass Christmas Eve (Vigil Mass) 6.00 pm: Frank McAvoy RIP 6.30 pm: At Sedbergh |
| Thurs 25 th | Christmas Day 10.00 am: Franco Petruso, Kathleen Winter, Rosa Salamone & Domenico Petruso |
| Fri 26 th | St Stephen 12.00 noon: Joe Hardacre |
| Sat 27 th | St John 9.30 am with confessions 10 – 11am and Adoration |

KIRKBY LONSDALE: Mass on Saturday 20th December at 5.30pm will be offered for Thomas and Anne Ruddy.
Christmas Day Mass is at 9.00am and the Weekend Vigil Mass on Saturday 27th December at 5.30pm. Confessions available on request.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

LATELY DEAD: Ian Muir.

THE SICK; AND THE ANNIVERSARIES OF: Catherine Judd, Gary Fitzsimons, Patricia Butcher, Trevor Alderson, Christopher MacLaughlan, Catherine Teresa Marney, James Cullen, Anne Kitching, George Morris, Bridie Kitching, Desmond Scanlan, Ian Holloway, Gina Waddington, Ged Hillon, Maureen Robinson, Raymond Crawford, Ann Haslett, Frank McAvoy, Marek Duc, Thomas O'Malley, Francis Rocks, Tom Carlton, Anne Gunby, Vincent Hall, Norman Almond, Ethelreda Fisher, Doris Konczynski, Marie Briggs, Jackie Lee, Edith Goodall, Trevor Thomas, Albert Woof, Margaret McCartney, Alan Gibson, Marian Vadas, Maria Tatt, John Dawson, Ada Hutton, Honora Tobin, Maureen Stackhouse, Winifred Duckworth, Mary Cragg, John Watson, Eileen O'Callaghan, Albert Caine, Pat Delaney, Maureen Wilding, Edna Rocks, Baby Kyle Wilkinson, Leslie Garnett, Bernadette Line, Maureen Moffatt, Lesley Hannant, Frank Rymell, Susan Jennings, Philomena McEwen, Ernest Mitchell, Barry Oldfield, Derek Line, Joyce Pilkington, Jim Winder, Agnes Wilson, Luciano Michelini.

ROTAS:

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| CLEANERS: | Margaret Delaney & Eileen Angus (w/c 22 nd) Marie & Ken Nugent, Rita Sweeney (w/c 29 th) |
| COFFEE: | Big Friends (Sun 28 th) Social Group (Sun 4 th Jan) |
| COUNTERS: | Stephen & Barbara Shaw (w/c 28 th) Faith Billington & Deborah Carey (w/c 4 th Jan) |

NO Prayer Meeting (back on 7th January) & **NO** Children's Liturgy (back on 11th January)



YOUTH PRESENCE POP UP - MONDAY 22ND & TUESDAY 23RD DECEMBER: Youth Presence is holding a Christmas Family Fun Pop Up at Elephant Yard, Kendal. Come along for games, crafts and activities. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Donations welcome towards Youth Presence.

WRAP AROUND CARE PLAY ASSISTANT wanted to supervise and engage with children in the **Dean Gibson School After-School Club**, for ages 3 to 11 years. 19 hours per week. Closing date 9th January 2026. Please see notice board for details or contact the school on 01539 723363.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS PARISH MAGAZINES OUT NOW! Plenty of paper copies in church – please take one and thank you for all your contributions.

FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026: These sacraments reveal to us, very powerfully, God's love for each of us, and so they mark a very significant stage in your child's development. If you have a child in Year 3 and you consider him or her ready to be prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion there are registration forms in church. *Fr Hugh*

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: Christmas Eve (Vigil) - Kendal 6pm, Sedbergh 6.30pm, Milnthorpe 6.30pm. Christmas Day - Grange 9am, Kirkby Lonsdale 9am, Kendal 10am, Arnside 11am. There will be NO Midnight Masses (Christmas Eve).

PARISH PRIESTS: Canon Hugh Pollock VG and Fr Simon Marley.
DEACON: Reverend George Bissett
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