

ST. ANSELM

Proclaiming Christ in Hayes

The Holy Family,

a model of love.

A new year means turning over a new leaf.

When I was younger I remember thinking that we had to go out and find a leaf to turn over. I was irritated because I couldn't write on the leaf and physically turn it over. So I made my own leaf and wrote on it all the things I was going to do that year.

I was going to be better behaved. I was going to stop 'answering back'. I was going to be a better son.

In many ways my behaviour in those years was born out of the fact my family

was broken through divorce. I lived out the reality of hurt and pain that for years coloured my understanding of what a family was supposed to be.

When people talked about the perfect family I would laugh at them, "there's no such thing". Even though I went to chapel every week nobody ever told me we had the perfect model of family before us all the time – The Holy Family.

A model of motherly love, of fatherly sacrifice, of a family who held together in the darkness and for whom God (quite literally!) was a the centre of all things.

Our families are all different. They are broken in many ways, they are big and small, over the top, quiet, difficult, fun. Loud, noisy, difficult, quiet. The Holy Family experienced all



of these things and endured them.

Sometimes that is what we must do as well. Endure. Be obedient and open to what God is calling us to do in our families and make sure above all things God is right in the heart of them.

It doesn't matter that we don't always get it right, what matters is that God is there in the middle of it all.

Then, when things do go wrong, there's a chance that something beautiful may come out of it.

Fr. Matthew

Get in touch:

Father Matthew Cashmore
father@stanselm.co.uk
020 3882 0553

Father Josiah Myles Abadoo
fr.josiah@stanselm.co.uk
020 4570 8543

Susan Chick, Lay Minister
susan@stanselm.co.uk
020 4570 7618

Churchwardens:

Julie Estep **Nicholas Karra**
020 8148 9906 020 8132 7849

Please let us know of illness or other need as soon as possible.

Prayer focus

For all those who will find Christmas difficult, through bereavement, through financial worries, through families worries. That through it all they will feel the love of Christ.

Worship focus

Crib and Carol service at 3pm on Christmas Eve is always a wonderful time that fills your heart with love for those around you and focuses you on Jesus.

This Sunday

Sunday 24th December

4th Sunday of Advent ●

10am - Parish Mass

3pm - Crib & Carol Service

11:30pm - Midnight Mass

Divine Office Psalter Week 4, Year B(II)

Keep in Touch



twitter.com/anselmhayes



facebook.com/stanselmhayes



07537 410120 (WhatsApp & Text)

Notices

Services for the next two weeks and for Christmas Day are listed on the pew sheet and on the website. Do try to come to the carols and crib service at 3pm on Christmas Eve. It's a lovely service that will warm your heart ahead of the big day.

Midnight mass will be as usual at 11:30pm on Christmas Eve - a powerful service to welcome and celebrate the incarnation of Jesus Christ!

All of us at St. Anselm wish you a very merry Christmas and a prosperous and blessed New Year.

There will be a special announcement at Mass on the 7th January.

Please support the church generously this Advent through your giving. www.stanselm.co.uk/giving

Pray This Week For

Wayne Campbell, Mavis & Daniel Sibley, June Boughton, Verity, Laura & her twins, Deborah Annabelle Potts, Susannah Mansa, Omeeta Dunrad, Elijah, Julie, Oliver Joseph, Khuan, Linda and Carmen Artrey.

The week ahead

Monday 25th December

Christmas Day - Solemnity ●

10am - Christmas Day Mass

Prayer focus: Children in any sort of need

Thursday 28th December

The Holy Innocents ●

9:45am - MP | 10am - Mass

Prayer focus: All families in need

Sunday 31st December

The Holy Family ●

10am - Parish Mass

Divine Office Psalter Week 1, Year B(II)

Thursday 4th January

4th January ●

9:45am - MP | 10am - Mass

Prayer focus: Those returning to work after the Christmas break.

Sunday 7th January

The Epiphany of the Lord - Feast ●

10am - Parish Mass

Divine Office Psalter Week 1, Year B(II)

Years Mind

24th - Bernard Harper, Christopher Brown, Dorothy Edna Borrowdale

25th - Florence Upshon, Reg Bacon, Annie Gull, Nellie Duckitt, Irene Bullock, Hazel Smith, Norma O'Brien, Christine Lewis-Hall, Patricia Fox

29th - Beatrice Barnes

31st - Frederick Bedford, Joan Nicola

JANUARY

1st - Fr Robert Willaim Burnie , Anthony Gregory

2nd - Vera Kate Bonnett

6th - Les Woolf , Gladys Watkins