

FINANCES

**Cathos Collection £ 319.71 Church Repairs £30.69
SAB £48.05**

**Thank you, in addition, for the offertory collection at the
Masses for Christmas: £662.90.**

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**Holy Hour of Blessed Sacrament @ Convent THIS Wednesday,
2.30pm, 8 Cherryfield Drive. All Welcome.**
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Next Weekend

*1st Paula Hines Barbara Lye
2nd Anthony Ely Teresa Taylor
Int Luke Bennet Kay O'Meara*

*HL Joe Bennett Stan Cruces
CL Tony Bennett Pat Fleming
CL Claire Tyrell Sr Eva*

*HR Jane Hines Ellen Richards
CR Chris Davies Magdaline Green
CR Gerald Riley Ann Conning*

Year 4 children and their families: - Special Invitation

Our parish community will be giving extra support to our Catholic children in Year 4 and their families, so that together we will all deepen our faith and understanding about the Church in the coming months. This will focus on the gift of God's forgiveness in Reconciliation/Confession and on God's gift of Jesus in Holy Communion- His Body & Blood seen at the altar, in the Tabernacle and at Holy Communion time during Mass. As part of family-preparation for receiving these gifts for the first time ALL Year 4 families, living in the parish, are especially invited to attend WEEKLY Saturday night/Sunday Masses, every week: at the start of a New Year and the Nativity feasts, Masses and prayers prepare us all for the year ahead and beyond. Families NEED to be coming regularly to Mass if they are to be ready to receive the gifts, for the first time, so as to then LIVE-the-faith in daily life.

If they are not ready in 2018, they will celebrate later in their Year 5, during 2019. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.

ST JOSEPH AND ST LAURENCE'S PARISH

Bewley Drive, Southdene, Kirkby, Merseyside L32 7PZ

Parish Priest: Fr Sean Kirwin

Parish Secretary: Maria Byrne.

Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9.00am – 4.00pm

Tel: 0151 546 3674 Fax: 0151 546 9857

St Joseph & St Laurence's Parish Centre

Manager: Elaine Churchill Tel: 0151 548 4540

St Joseph the Worker RC Primary School:

Headteacher Mrs Jude Ryan. Tel: 0151 477 8173

St Laurence's RC Primary School:

Headteacher Miss Sarah Jane Carroll Tel: 0151 546 4733

All Saints Catholic High School:

Headteacher: Mr Tony McGuinness. Tel: 0151 477 8740

This Saturday's Feast of the Epiphany, 6th January, celebrating the twelfth night of the Nativity, the birth of Jesus, was actually Friday night /Saturday morning, but in England and Wales at least it has been transferred this year to the Sunday Masses, to ensure more parishioners celebrate the Feast together in Church, rather than for it to pass most of us by as a simple weekday Mass, or even to be completely forgotten in the busyness of Saturday shopping.

The Feast marks the arrival of the pilgrims from the East. They had travelled under the heavenly traverse of the stars above, to find the presence of God and King on this earth below. The three statues representing those who carried the three gifts of offerings to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (then still in Bethlehem, just outside Jerusalem, in a cave), they have now arrived in our crib scene in Church. Remember, KEEP your cribs up at home, school and work too, until the 2nd February, the Feast of the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple- Why? - remember to have your answer ready to the puzzled looks and comments of other people- because that date marks the forty days of the Christ-Mass season; more time is still needed rather than jumping to the next focus for the shops and adverts, for Valentine's day romantic cards, Ash Wednesday Pancakes, or even Easter Eggs!! No, for the moment it is still about a little baby in the stable and these gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh, brought from the East from where the SUN rises, to where the SON will Rise, just outside Jerusalem, in a cave.

.....and all those who are bereaved or sad, the sick, lonely or