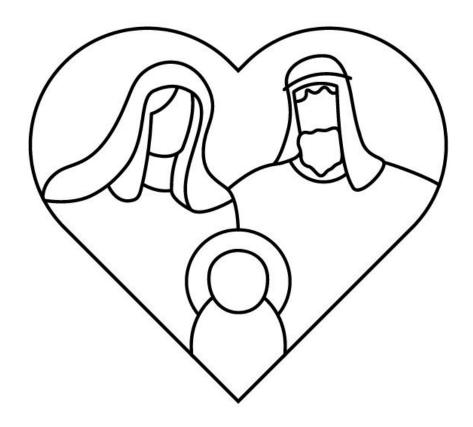
# At the heart of Christmas



**Advent & Christmas 2021** 

**Holy Cross Church** 

"My flesh and my heart fail: but the Lord is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

Psalm 72:26

There have been times over the last year where it has felt as though my heart would fail and I would not make it through the next disappointment, tragedy, or death. This Christmas we return to the heart of Christmas, the holy family, and ask that our hearts may be renewed with strength once again.

As we head into the season of Advent, of waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus once again, we ask that our hearts be touched, renewed, and restored. Advent can get lost in the busy of preparing for Christmas, and much of our celebrating is done well before Christmas day, but this year, let's keep it simple, and ask for Jesus to be at the heart of all we do.

Why not join us for compline once a week and let God speak into the quiet of our hearts, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world may find our rest in Christ.

Let these words of a 17<sup>th</sup> Century Jesuit priest resonate in our hearts too.

"Place your heart deep in the centre of our hearts and enkindle in each heart a flame of love, as strong, as great, as the sum of all reason that I have for loving you, my God."

St Claude de la Colimbiere SJ

#### Advent

## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November Advent 1

8am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Eucharist 4pm Taizé for Advent

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 7pm Compline

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December Advent 2

8am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Eucharist

4pm Christingle

5pm Turn on Christmas Tree Lights

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 7pm Compline

# Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December Advent 3

8am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Eucharist

4pm Candlelit Christmas Carol Service

Followed by Mulled wine & Raffle Draw

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 7pm Compline

## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December Advent 4

8am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Eucharist

4pm Carols on the green

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 10am Eucharist Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 7pm Compline

#### **Christmas**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve

4pm Crib Service

11pm Midnight Mass

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day

10am Family Eucharist

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December St Stephen's

10.30am Parish Eucharist (spoken)

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January Christmas 1

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January Epiphany

8am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Eucharist

12pm Please join the King family at the

Vicarage for drinks after the service.
There will be mulled wine, spiced drinks and other lovely treats as we offer you our thanks for all the gifts each of you

bring to Holy Cross.

For more information about any of these services or events please contact:

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