

Christmas celebrations at Holy Cross will be slightly different this year.

- Christmas Lunches: Due to the current situation, we will not be able to have a large staff gathering for the Christmas meal in the usual way. Instead we will be offering the above festive menus in the dining room free of charge for the five days from Monday 21st December to Christmas Day (please see attachments). If you are in work on any, or all, of those days you can have the menu for that day. There will also be a choice of paid-for meals if you prefer.
- Christmas Visiting by relatives: You will have already received a separate email about visiting arrangements between Saturday 19th December and Sunday 3rd January. These will be pre-booked through the Reception Team (as we did during the summer), socially distanced, and in non-ward areas. More details to follow. The dining room will be out of bounds to visitors although they may bring in food and drink for their own consumption.
- Chocolates, Cakes, Mince Pies: If any member of staff brings in something for communal consumption then can you please ensure that each item is individually wrapped (as an example, Quality Street is fine (as each chocolate is in a wrapper), whereas Maltesers wouldn't be). Individual shop bought cakes/mince pies still in their packets are fine, but a larger shop bought cake (for dividing up) or home-made cakes, should not be brought in.
- Buffets / Bring and Share: No buffet or bring and share meals/snacks are to be arranged this year. We will also be asking relatives not to bring treats in this year (as I know they have done in the past for the ward teams). However we will undertake to organise some treats (individually wrapped, etc.) as we approach Christmas.
- Firm favourites 'Has Holy Cross Got Talent?', and our high profile public event 'The Boxing Day Run' will not be taking place in 2020.
- Unfortunately we won't be able to hold a Carol Service on Christmas eve, but there will be Mass in the Activities Room on Boxing Day at 11.30am, conducted by Fr. David.
- Adam has organised the following: A Christmas Decoration Contest, a Christmas Sock Contest and an interdepartmental Christmas Song choice contest (details of each of these are displayed on the frames as you enter the Day Activities Room)
- Music in Hospitals – Between 2pm and 3pm on Friday 18th December and Thursday 31st December Music in Hospitals will be laying on a concert in the Activities Room (one will be for patients and staff from St Anthony's ward and the other will be for those from St Mary's – max 15 people at each concert (patients and staff combined)).

Thank you for your understanding.

Best wishes