

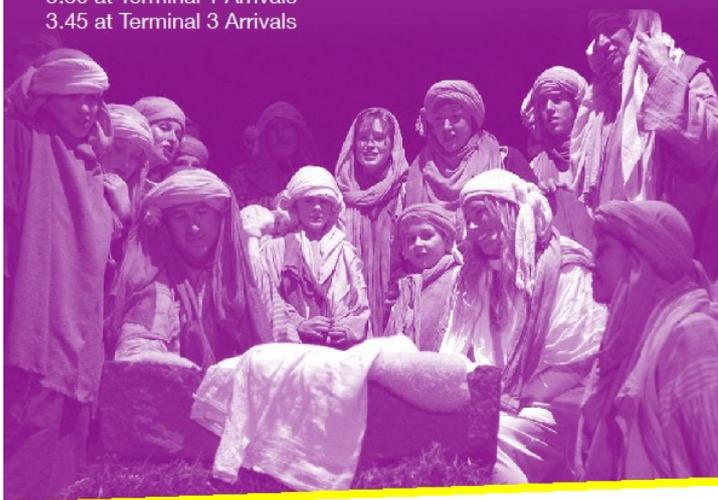
The Journey

A Christmas Nativity through Manchester Airport

with Sacred Heart RC Primary School, Baguley and Manchester Airport Choir and you!

Friday 13 December 2013

2.30 at Terminal 2 Departures
3.00 at The Station, Upper Concourse
3.30 at Terminal 1 Arrivals
3.45 at Terminal 3 Arrivals



This event is open to all staff colleagues, passengers and visitors. For more information, call 0161 489 2838



Sometimes I worry that we get God and Father Christmas mixed-up: especially when we get to that age when we think we're too old to believe in a kindly white-haired old man using his naughty or nice list to cajole us into being good.

Nicholas of Myra (in Turkey) is a historical figure from the fourth century, whose influence is still felt in the church today. Even if only 10% of the stories about him are true, he was a man who is still important for our own age and priorities.

December 6 is his Feast Day - a bigger deal than Christmas for many children in Europe when the kind old bishop Sinter Klaas delivers his gifts accompanied by his very un-*pc* assistant Zwarte Piet (Black Peter).

(H)agios Nikolaos, (in Greek) was a deeply practical saint whose gift-giving was almost always anonymous and life-changing. Elaborate variations of the most well-known story about Saint Nicholas' gift-giving involve stockings and chimneys, but the story could

Behind the Christmas tinsel is the story of a Christian leader whose care for others was rooted in his belief in a God who is also on the side of the poor and the powerless.

Last Week, Pope Francis was branded a 'socialist' for critiquing the **"unjust international system in which 'King Money' is at the centre... a throwaway culture that discards young [and old].**" "A people that cares neither for its youth nor for its older people has no future." he says.

In an environment like Manchester Airport, you would expect King Money to be at the centre of Christmas, but there are many wonderful examples (*Child Flight* and *Make a Wish* being just two) individual and corporate of Nicholas-like acts of life-changing generosity - and thankfully, all year round, not just during the Christmas festivities. However much we spend on our Christmas presents, it's these kinds of gifts that are always so much **more** precious.

George Lane
Co-ordinating Chaplain

Join us on a Christmas Journey

Friday 13 December Afternoon (in 15 minute episodes)

Carol Singing and Children's Nativity Play around the Airport with Manchester Airport Choir and the children of Sacred Heart Primary School, Baguley.

CHOOSE GENEROSITY
"SOMETIMES WHEN WE ARE GENEROUS IN SMALL, BARELY DETECTABLE WAYS IT CAN CHANGE SOMEONE ELSE'S LIFE FOREVER."
-MARGARET CHO

be told today: when three daughters were about to be sold into prostitution because their father couldn't afford a dowry, it was bishop Nicholas who quietly donated the money the family needed.

REAL generosity is doing something **nice** for someone who will **NEVER** find out.

Frank A Clark

Prayer Diary

December (week 49)

We call to mind those affected by grief and loss (particularly in the recent helicopter crash in Glasgow) and we pray for:

- those involved in Child Flight
- Medicare
- GM Police, Fire and Rescue Service & NWS Paramedics
- All airport staff and airline crew working through the Christmas holiday period, and their families

Daily Prayers

(Christian) take place every day at 8.30am in Terminal 1 Prayer Room (and at many other times and places too)

Friday Jumma Prayers

(Islamic) are held in T3 Prayer Room 1300 GMT (Winter)

Since 1980 the Chaplaincy at Manchester Airport has provided pastoral, spiritual and practical help, support and guidance to all who work at the airport as well as those who travel through it. The main Chaplaincy office is based by Ground Floor Check-In, Terminal 1. There is always a member of the team on-call.

Contact us on: 0161 489 2838 or thechaplaincy@manairport.co.uk



The Chaplaincy Manchester Airport is a registered charitable company. (Company No 3664008 Charity No 1074781)

