



Our Lady of the Annunciation

Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Jackson Sebastian
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Diocesan website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9am - 3pm Wednesday: Closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
 Weekdays after 10am Mass Every Saturday at 5pm Or by appointment

1st March 2020 First Sunday of Lent (page 151 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

Two written traditions of the Creation story were combined in the Genesis scriptures. Today's first reading is the older of these original traditions, and pictures God as a skilled artisan with an intimate relationship in the nurturing of humanity. Today's gospel follows immediately from the baptism of Jesus, and speaks to us of these very real and human temptations that Jesus suffered as Satan disputed the claim that he was the Son of God. The original Adam of Creation is replaced by Jesus, who loves God above all things. He does not repeat the mistakes of the first Adam – his love of God transcends all things, even the temptations of the master of temptations. Jesus makes his choice firm as he rejects Satan, using the Scriptures as his authority in response. Matthew depicts Jesus as the new Moses – the forty days in the desert recalls the forty days Moses spent on the mountain and the forty years the Israelites spent in the wilderness.

Together the readings for the first Sunday of Lent set the scene for the next six weeks of Sabbath 'time out'. Lent lavishes on us the grace and the space for 'time out' - time to reflect on the treasure that is our faith, time to reflect on our lives, to be still and to pray. In the gospel account for the first Sunday of Lent, we find Jesus having some 'time out' of his own in the desert to pray. What happens to Him there? The desert or wilderness was seen as a place of trial, a place of aloneness, a place in which all is revealed, for there is simply nowhere to hide! It is the place in which Jesus in his humanity comes face to face with himself and his identity. During the season of Lent we asked to reflect on our identity as sons and daughters of God, men and women made in God's image, brothers and sisters, called to die to self and become alive in Christ.



*** CORONAVIRUS ***

We are currently following all Diocesan guidelines with regards to Coronavirus. Please use the sanitiser hand gels located near the entrances. Many thanks for your co-operation.

MEETINGS

Ascent Group: Tuesday 3rd at 10.30am (Large Hall)
SVP: Tuesday 3rd at 8.30pm (PRC)
New Altar Servers Parents' Meeting: Tuesday 3rd at 7pm (Church)
J & P Group: Tuesday 3rd at 8pm (Small Hall)
RCIA: Wednesday 4th at 8pm (Church) *The Stations of the Cross*

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Friday 10.30am - 8pm
In The Sacred Heart Chapel

CHURCH CLEANING: Team A

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Loose cash	£ 640.00
Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 626.38
S/Os	£ 975.00
Total	£ 2241.38

Mass Intentions This Week

29 February: Saturday

10:00 John Boswood RIP
 18:00 Bridget Mary Watts RIP +

1 March: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

08:30 All Parishioners
 10:00 UCM: The People Of Zimbabwe +
 12:00 Kevin O'Carroll RIP & Family Ints

2 March: Monday

10:00 Personal Intention

3 March: Tuesday

10:00 B J Okeke RIP

Followed by Lenten Bible Study

4 March: Wednesday

10:00 Thanksgiving Julie & Sean Coyne's Fam
 15:45 *The Stations of the Cross*

5 March: Thursday

10:00 Intentions & Wellbeing of Maduka
 & Angelo Okeke
 19:30 Private Intention

6 March: Friday

10:00 Rose Lucas RIP
 19:00 *World Day of Prayer Service*

7 March: Saturday

10:00 All Dec. Staff of St Thomas Becket Sch.
Followed By Devotion
 18:00 Kerstin Thomas RIP +

8 March: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

08:30 All Parishioners *
 10:00 Deo, Ann & Jane Lumala RIP *
 12:00 Mona Foley Pat, Maura O'Donnell RIP +
 14:00 Igbo Community Mass

+ *With Baptism* * *With Children's Liturgy*

LENT AT OUR LADY'S

Tuesdays after Mass - Lenten Bible Study
Wednesdays at 3.45pm - Stations of the Cross
Reconciliation Service - Date to be advised

COLLECTIONS

Last week's collection for *Poor Parishes* amounted to £768.40. Many thanks. Next week there will be a second collection for *CAFOD Family Fast Day*. Please use the envelopes in the porch and see note overleaf.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Geoffrey Bird, Margarete Collins, Phyllis Donnelly, Elizabeth Casey, Jack Burke, Florence Okugbe, Ethan Patel, Rosa Lobo, June Cully

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Mary Hoey, Daniel Chambers, Sarah Burnett, May Pick, Thomas Byrne, Philomena Clark, John Izzie, James Dalrymple-Alford, Patrick Coffey, William Hills, Winifred Chandler, Juan Garcia, Kathleen Lacy, Theresa Young, Bill Kendall, Marion Bolechala, Baby Lillian Harris, Mary Warner, Ida De Souza, Mary Anne Byrne, Carlton Quieros, Joseph Pinder, Mena Hicks, Ashley Shafton, John Lennon, Kathleen White, Josephine La Rue, Horace Barrett, Anne Kelleher

SOCIAL CLUB
Sunday Evening Entertainment.

1st March: Eugene Doonan

8th March: Finbar & Paul

15th March: *St Patrick's Celebration* with Frank Nelson

22nd March: *Mother's Day Celebration* with The Duets

29th March: Pete Brazil

5th April: Theresa Rodgers

12th April: Kieran White

19th April: Mary Rose & Her Band

The *Mick Flavin Evening* takes place on Friday, 13th March commencing at 7.30pm. All proceeds from this event will be given to the *Croydon University Hospital: Lily Pad Appeal (Children with Cancer)*. Tickets at £15 each are now available in the Church Hall or from Pat Winston on 07734 250375. You can also support this event by donating an item for the Raffle or the Auction.

The *Neil Diamond Tribute Evening* takes place on Friday, 27th March commencing at 7.30pm. All proceeds from this event will be given to the South London U14 Gaelic Football Team to support their Tour to Ireland in June. Tickets at £10 each are now available in the Church Hall or from Ben Cahill on 07958 903410. You can also support this event by donating an item for the Raffle or the Auction.

Coming soon:

- *Blues Brothers Tribute Evening* on Friday, 8th May

A DAY WITH MARY - HERE AT OUR LADY'S CHURCH
Saturday 14th March from 9.15am see poster for full details

UCM

There is **NO UCM** meeting on **Wednesday 4th March** as we are off to the theatre. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st April.

NEW ALTAR SERVER'S TRAINING

Training of new servers will begin in March. If you would like your child to participate then please attend the parents' meeting on **Tuesday 3rd March at 7pm** in the church. Training will then begin on Saturday the 7th of March.

THE NEXT UNITY PRAYERS: With our fellow Christians in Shirley, will be for half-an-hour starting at **7.30pm** on **Tuesday 3rd March** at Shirley Methodist Church, Eldon Avenue. Prayers will be followed by a brief discussion about plans for summer 2020.

DIVERSITY ARTS AND CRAFTS GROUP

Will be meeting on **Monday 9th March at 7.30pm** in the **small hall**. Please join us to learn new skills (knitting, crochet, sewing etc) or perhaps brush up on rusty ones. We are a friendly bunch, meeting once a month, and we try to have new projects throughout the year.

Call **Dulcie** on: **020 8406 4783** or **07305 779202**

TOY SALE FOR DEMELZA CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

15th March after 10am Mass - Large Hall

Toys from 50p - £10 will be on sale. All proceeds go to *Children's Hospice Kent / Demelza Hospice Care for Children*.

THE JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP: Will be offering Fairtrade Easter Eggs for sale after Mass on 15th & 22nd March - don't buy elsewhere, please support disadvantaged farmers abroad and secure what 12-year-old Daniel said was the best chocolate he'd ever tasted!

OUR LADY'S SAFEGUARDING OFFICER - Ann Marie Christian. Contact email - addiscombesg1@safeguardraos.org.uk

Items for collection: Cadar, I Hedger, Sr Celia, S Turner

Baptism certificates: V Conkova, L Taggart, Adams-Grace, A Barragan, G Stevens, A Lawrence, F Rattigan, L Kidd, H Carney Garcia, Pires x2

Rotas: Servers (March) Eucharistic Ministers (March) Readers (March / April)

LENTEN MASSES - CROYDON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
EVERY MONDAY during LENT at 12 noon, in the Hospital Chapel (Near Woodcroft Road). **ALL ARE MOST WELCOME.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

Friday 6th March at 7pm - LAST CALL!

Many thanks to all those who have offered to take roles in this service - there are a few small parts still available, so *offers are still welcome!*

Participants - Please get to the Church by 6.30pm so that we can run through your parts.

As usual there will be light refreshments at the end.

anne.barcellos@btinternet.com

GAELIC FOOTBALL TASTER SESSIONS

Gaelic Football Taster Sessions for Boys born after 1st January 2006 continue on Tuesday evenings at St Mary's RC High School (enter via Tavistock Road) from 6pm and concluding at 7.30pm. The sessions focus on the key skills of the game. Participants require a full sports kit including, top, shorts, socks & trainers. For more information, please call **Danny O'Donovan** on **07796 934748**.

BAPTISMS IN 2019

If your child was baptised in 2019 and you haven't picked up your Baptism certificate, please can you contact Rachel in the parish office (*Mondays and Tuesday only*). Thank you.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - Friday 6th March

Your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day go to highly trained, highly skilled local experts around the world, who save and support the health of the world's poorest families. We urgently need your help to fund more local experts to reach out to even more people who need treatment care & love. *On Friday 6th March will you eat a simple meal in solidarity & give what you save to help the people helping the health of the world's poorest?* Please collect your Family Fast Day envelope (in the porch) and give whatever you can!

28th CROYDON SCOUT FAMILY BINGO EVENING

Saturday 28th March 2020 - 7 for 7.30pm start in the Large Hall

Entry prices: Adults £1 Children 50p (under 5's free)

Reserve your place by calling **Andrea** on **07952 664224**.

SHIRLEY METHODIST'S 14th GREAT BOOK SALE

Saturday 7th March 10am - 4pm

In addition to 20,000+ books there are hundreds of DVDs, CDs and records on sale! Please come along and support us.

VERY URGENT

Croydon Council have recently notified that Addiscombe Recreation Ground (**Bingham Park**) does not meet the criteria to be protected as a "Local Green Space" unless further evidence can be produced that it is "*demonstrably special*" & of "*particular significance & importance to the local community*". Therefore, to ensure that this much used & well-loved oasis can be preserved, please write ASAP to:

Jamie van Iersel, Place Department - Croydon Council, Planning & Strategic Transport, Spatial Planning Service, 6th Floor, Zone B, Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon, CR0 1EA

Tel: 8726 6000 (Ext: 62192) Email: Jamie.VanIersel@croydon.gov.uk