



Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Tomasz Margol
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 Diocesan website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9am - 3pm Wednesday: Closed
 SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
 Monday - Saturday: Before or After 10am Mass or By Appointment

1st December First Sunday of Advent (page 82 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR C

The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described. Most scholars believe that Luke's Gospel was written after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. At the time, many Christians interpreted this event as an indication that Jesus' second coming was near.

Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; Jesus' disciples are not to fear, but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances.



FOUND!

A gold coloured ring was recently found in the church car park. Please contact the parish office if you think it may be yours!

Mass Intentions This Week

30 November: Saturday SAINT ANDREW

10:00 Thanksgiving for the Lim Family

**** Followed by Adoration ****

18:00 The Welfare of Coloma
& All Catholic Education

1 December: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08:30 Fr John McKenna's Intentions RIP

10:00 UCM: All Victims of War

11:30 Harry, Michael & Harold Sweeney RIP

2 December: Monday

10:00 Mary Fernandes & Deceased Family Members RIP

3 December: Tuesday

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

10:00 Shirley Gaunt RIP 4th Anniversary

4 December: Wednesday

10:00 Kanayo Okeke's Birthday Intentions

5 December: Thursday

10:00 Helene Bambi RIP

19:30 Francis Devadass RIP

6 December: Friday FUNERAL MASS

10:00 Joan Motts RIP

7 December: Saturday SAINT AMBROSE

10:00 Pat Gatland RIP 1st Anniversary

18:00 Deceased Members of the Heskin
& Sweeney Families RIP

8 December:

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08:30 All Parishioners

10:00 Michael Cafferkey RIP

11:30 Christine Brooks RIP

MEETINGS

Finance Committee: Monday 2nd at 8pm (PRC)

SVP: Tuesday 3rd at 8pm (PRC)

Bible Study with Fr Tomasz: Wednesday 4th at 11.30am (Large hall)

UCM: Wednesday 4th at 8pm (Large hall)

Padre Pio Group: Friday 6th at 9.30am (Church)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm

In The Sacred Heart Chapel

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes £ 506.30

Loose cash £ 555.50

S/Os (Approx) £ 1340.00

Total £ 2401.80

*** DEFIBRILLATORS ***

There is a defibrillator located on the right hand side of the porch as you enter the church, and another on the wall outside the large hall entrance.

COLLECTIONS

Last week's Diocesan collection for **Youth Sunday** amounted to £706.71. Many thanks.

This weekend we have our annual **Toy Collection**. Next week there will be an ACC Second collection for **Mary's Meals**.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Phyllis Donnelly, Fr David Peck, Ethan Patel, Jonathan Leiper, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Marie Griffin, Ursula & Anthony Kennedy, Arthur Hughes, Peggy Wall, Canon Peter Stodart, Joseph Anand & all others

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Arthur Halliday, Gertrude Chandler, Eric Hope Smith, John William Davis, Betty Cox, William Conroy, Tom Clarke, Terri (Annie) Knight, Wladyslaw (John) Langowski, Shirley Gaunt, Helen Linehan, Patrick Casey, Margaret Lord, Teresa Cleary, Mary Brown, Joseph Morais, Mary Patterson, Joseph Leaman, Beatrice Michael, Molly Wynne, Darrell Williamson, Maria Hernandez, Ernest La Rue, George Horsley, Maria Tagliarini, David Mahoney, Candida "Peggy" Corner, Baby Martin Moss, Salvatore Parise, Bridget Coughlan, Jim Clancy

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

1st December: Theresa Rodgers

8th December: Glen Flynn

15th December: Frank Nelson

22nd December: Pat Jordan

29th December: Kieran White

5th January: Theresa Rodgers

12th January: Frank Nelson

19th January: Shane & Mervyn Owens

- The winners of the **200 Club Across Draw** for November 2024 are:

£100: Mary Carr

£50: Caroline Doherty £50: Hannah Conlan

Cheques have now been sent to all of the winners. If you would like to join the 200 Club, please go to the attachment below.

- The **Pyjama Appeal** in partnership with St Mildred's Church was very successful; we collected **180 pairs** in total for young people in Hospitals, Hospices and Women's Refuge Centres. Many thanks!

- The **Bee Gees & Barbra Streisand Tribute Evening** featuring all of their hits over the last 40+ years takes place on Friday, 6th December commencing at 7:30pm. All proceeds from this event will be given to **Anerley ACROSS: A Charity which takes a party of disabled people on a pilgrimage to Lourdes in June**.

Tickets at £15.00 each can be reserved by calling **Ben Cahill on 07958 903410**.

- There will be a **Jiving Session** in the Church Hall from 5:00pm on Sunday, 8th December; the evening will conclude with **Glen Flynn** on stage from 8:00pm.

- The Social Club will start the New Year with a **Tea Dance on Wednesday, 1st January** from 2pm - 6pm. To reserve a Ticket (Members: £5 & Guests: £6), call **Ben Cahill on 07958 903410**.

JOAN MOTTS' FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

For those attending Joan's funeral on Friday, please note that the family have kindly requested **no flowers please**. Instead they would appreciate a donation to the RSPB. Many thanks.

OUR LADY'S CENTENARY CALENDARS

Calendars will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. Please see notices in the church porch. If you'd like to reserve any copies, please contact **Marie Tross** on **07774 643159** or email **tross.marie@gmail.com**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024 -2025

Last Sunday, you may have noticed some children wearing white sashes with crosses on them. These are the children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion next year. Until then, they will be wearing them every Sunday. We are asking that you support them and their families with your prayers in the coming year. Last Saturday, they took part in a very successful activity morning as a starter to their programme. They dedicated themselves to a prayerful and successful year learning about the full meaning of the Eucharist. *The FHC Catechists*

BEREAVEMENT COUNSELLING TRAINING www.thelisteningear.org.uk

Do you have a listening ear? Do you have a desire to help others? Do you have some spare time? Then why not consider joining our 50 hour Bereavement Training Course commencing 13th January 2025.

For an information pack, please email **wbs@thelisteningear.org.uk**

HOUSEBOUND & WANTING COMMUNION?

Do you know of any parishioners who are housebound and unable to come to Mass? Would they like to receive Communion at home? If so, please contact the parish office with their details, and home visits can be arranged for those in need.

For Collection:

Rotas: Eucharistic Ministers (Dec) Readers (November/December)

Baptism Certs: Should be collected from the parish office

PRIMARY SCHOOL REFERENCES FOR 2025 ENTRY

Priest's reference application forms are now available to download from our website. Please return the completed form to the parish office before ringing to arrange an appointment with Fr Keith.

Appointments will **ONLY** run until **Friday 6th December**.

REPOSITORY SHOP: Advent Calendars, Advent candles, Christmas cards and more, now available in the Repository. Post your cards early for Christmas!

WELDERLIES FESTIVE CHEER

Our Welderlies Festive Cheer is on **Wednesday 18th December in the large hall, from 1 - 5pm**. Book for a 3 course sit down meal, meat/veggie option, assorted warm welcome drinks plus Christmas themed entertainment at a subsidised fee of **£10**.

Text Sylvia **07375 824615** to book & for menu by 11th Dec. *Thanks!*

SHIRLEY CHURCHES TOGETHER ADVENT QUIET DAY 7th December

From 9.45am to 4pm at St John's Church, Shirley Church Road
Leader Gillian Fenner. Poetry, music, art, and sacred texts – with time for quiet reflection. A great opportunity to tune in to Advent and Christmas. Please bring your own lunch. Drinks provided. There is no charge, but **please book!**

Contact Brian McGinnis: dunaigh2@btinternet.com
or Liz Bebington: **020 8777 4840**

YOU'RE INVITED: EVERYONE'S NATIVITY SERVICE Sunday 15th December 2 - 3.30pm

Join us in the church for an interactive and family friendly reading of the Nativity Story. Dress as a Nativity character to help bring this special story to life. Costumes can be as simple or as elaborate as you like. We don't mind how many Marys, Josephs, donkeys, innkeepers, stars, shepherds, wise men, angels or kings - the more the merrier!

After the service, which will last for around 30 minutes, there will be arts & crafts activities and refreshments in the large hall.

Any questions please contact Sophia: slinehanbiggs@gmail.com

DIVERSITY SUPPORT GROUP

We met last Sunday, thanks to all who attended plus Fathers Keith and Tomasz for their inspiration. Plans were finalised for our Christmas event on Saturday 14th, in the large hall from 1-5pm. Bring and share your favourite Christmas themed meal/snack mindful of allergies and drinks. Exchange gifts costing £5-7, labelled male/ female. Share memories of childhood festivities. Sing favourite carols, even a verse in your foreign language.

Make new friends, celebrate old ones and have fun. Contact Sylvia on **07870508790 / sylviaw3k@gmail.com**, thanks.

MASS IN CROYDON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

There will be **NO Mass** in the Hospital on Christmas Day (25th December) or on 1st January 2025 (Bank Holiday).

Weekly Masses as usual from Wednesday 8th January

WRAP-AROUND CARE ASSISTANT NEEDED £15 per hour

Due to increasing demand, St Thomas Becket school is looking to appoint a member of support staff to work at our popular breakfast and/or after school clubs. (candidates can express an interest in working at one or both). Breakfast club hours are 7.15am to 9am and after school club hours are 3pm – 6pm Mon - Fri. The role is term-time only. Key duties will include supporting primary school age children with play and helping to prepare meals. Full training will be provided. As the role involves working with children, an enhanced DBS certificate will be required. Please contact the school office on 0208 654 3006 or email admin@thomasbecket.croydon.sch.uk for further details.

THE PARISH RECYCLING: Of printer cartridges has made £15.75 for Cafod for the past six months. Many thanks to all!

BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS WITH FR TOMASZ

Topic: *The Faithful Love of God in the Old Testament*