



Our Lady of the Annunciation

Parish Priest: Fr. Joe O'Connor

Assistant Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia

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Diocesan website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Every Saturday 9.30am and 5.00pm.

2nd April 2017 Fifth Sunday of Lent (page 170 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

I am the Resurrection and the life.....

Today's gospel shows the desolation that the death of Lazarus caused to his sisters, Mary & Martha. Martha suggests that Jesus, their great friend, could have prevented his death — 'if you had been here.....' Jesus then challenged her to believe that he could still save him. Jesus did restore Lazarus to them, but the raising of Lazarus is more than a once off wonder performed for the benefit of one person. Jesus came on earth to give the life that cannot be touched by death. Those who believe in him and who follow him enter into a relationship with God that death cannot end. That's what today's story is about. He didn't come just to add a few years to our earthly existence.

The story shows Jesus as a faithful friend. It shows that even in death we are not beyond the reach of his help.

Also I would just like to thank you all for your kind comments last Sunday on hearing that I'm retiring as Parish Priest of Our Lady's. Change always brings a little uncertainty - life will be different for me and for you, but I'm very happy that it is Fr. Keith who has been appointed to replace me. He knows you and how things have been running in the parish for the past three /four years and he'll carry things forward in his own way, using his particular skills and experience. I have every confidence that the life of this wonderful community will be greatly enriched by his ministry.

Fr. Joe

Mass Intentions This Week

1 April: Saturday

10:00 Bernard Ray RIP

18:00 Paddy & Nora Walsh RIP

2 April: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

08:30 Michael Semeta RIP

10:00 UCM: All Parishioners

12:00 Ryskard Siepka RIP

15:00 - 15:30 Lent Service

3 April: Monday

10:00 Mary White RIP

4 April: Tuesday

10:00 Aggies Sweeney RIP 1st Anniversary

5 April: Wednesday

10:00 Rosemary Simons RIP

15:45 Stations of the Cross

6 April: Thursday

10:00 Mr B J Okeke RIP

7 April: Friday

10:00 Anthony Simons RIP

19:30 Reconciliation Service

8 April: Saturday

10:00 Michael & Mary Scanlon RIP

18:00 Elizabeth McCorry RIP

9 April: PALM SUNDAY

OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

08:30 All Parishioners

10:00 Danny & Anne Farrell RIP

12:00 Tony Solle RIP

15:00 Stations of the Cross

WEEKLY DRAW

£5 - James Smith
c/o Mrs Senn

CHURCH CLEANING

TEAM A - Mrs Grant

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Loose cash	£651.64
Gift Aid Envelopes	£702.94
S/Os	£975.00
Total	£2329.58

COLLECTIONS

Last week's collection for the **Barnabus Fund** amounted to £305. Many thanks. Next week there will be the monthly ACA collection with proceeds going to Maryhill.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: *Geoffrey Bird, John Boswood, Ted Curry, Margarett Collins, Lauren Horwood, Phyllis Donnelly, Christy Jordan, Fr Patrick Ryan, Laila Tambini.*

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: *Bill Cox, Patrick Reddington, Alvaro Pinto, Mary Fitzgerald, Basil Hymas, Paul Franklin, Michael O'Donnell, Bernard Bennett, Michael Semeta, Mark Carter, Sarah Scanlan, Violet Fahey, Dorothy Morrison.*

SOCIAL CLUB

Sunday Evening Entertainment

Sunday, 2nd April: Tom Healy
Sunday, 9th April: Mary & the New County
Sunday, 16th April: **Easter Sunday special** with Eugene Doonan
Sunday, 23rd April: Kevin Keys
Sunday, 30th April: **Bank Holiday special** with Telstar

The next fundraising event will be a **Ceili & Social Dancing** on Friday, 21st April. All proceeds from this event will be given to the **Anerley ACROSS**, a charity which will be taking a party of disabled children to Lourdes in June. Tickets are now available in the Church Hall. We also need items for the Raffle & Auction. If you can assist in any way, please call Ben Cahill on 07958 903410.

Coming soon.....

A Tribute to the Blues Brothers on Friday, 19th May - Tickets go on sale Sunday 23rd April

Declan Nerney on Friday, 17th November

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS: The funeral of Fr Barry Angus will take place on 10th April at 12 noon at the St Thomas of Canterbury Church in Canterbury.

PARISH MUSIC GROUP: The Music Group will be hosting the coffee morning in the hall after the 10am Mass this weekend. Do join us for coffee, tea and home-made cakes and find out more about us, what we do, and how you can help us in assisting the congregation's worship twice a month.

COLOMA SCHOOL MAY BALL IN HONOUR OF MRS MAUREEN MARTIN Saturday 6th May

After 22 years as head teacher of Coloma Convent School, Mrs Maureen Martin OBE is retiring at the end of the academic year.

The Coloma Parents' Association is holding a May Ball on 6th May in honour of Mrs Martin in recognition of her hard work, commitment to the school and the difference her leadership has made to our daughters' lives. It would be lovely if as many past and present parents and friends of Coloma attended this event.

To ensure that as many people have the opportunity to attend the May Ball it will be held at Hilton Hotel, 101 Waddon Way, Purley Way, Croydon, CR9 4HH.

Tickets are priced at £50 which includes a welcome drink, a 3 course meal, half a bottle of wine per person, live entertainment from Aloma Music. The Ball commences at 7pm and ends at 1am.

If you would like to attend the May Ball please send an email to coloma.pa@hotmail.co.uk confirming the number of tickets you require.

JUBILATE CHOIR CONCERT: The Jubilate Choir will perform John Rutter's Requiem and Mendelssohn's 'Hear My Prayer' with excellent soloist Sally Silver at **St Matthew's Church**, Chichester Road on **Saturday 8th April at 7.30pm**. Do come and support us!

Further details from **Angela** on **8654 3014** or see the music notice board.

PARISH COUNCIL AGM

The Parish AGM will take place in the Large Hall on **Wednesday 24th May at 8pm**. The purpose of the meeting is to share the many successes over the last year as well as our plans for the next year. We invite reports from all the Parish groups. Nomination forms for the parish Council and the other AGM papers, will be available nearer the time.

Items for collection: Sr Celia, M Hennessy, J Smith c/o Mrs Senn

Bapt Certs: Muchenje, Cadar, Escrader, Orphanou, Khandeparkar, Cahill, Edada

Rotas: Readers (March-April), Eucharistic Ministers (April), Servers (April)

MEETINGS

Ascent Group: Tuesday 4th ay 10.30am (Large Hall)

SVP: Tuesday 4th at 8pm (PRC)

RCIA: Wednesday 5th at 8pm (in the Church)

UCM: Wednesday 5th at 8pm (Large Hall)

LENT SERVICES

Stations of the Cross	Wednesdays at 3.45pm
Lenten Reflection & Adoration	Sundays 3pm - 3.30pm
Reconciliation Service (with visiting priests)	Friday 7th April at 7.30pm

WASHING OF THE FEET: Maundy Thursday, 13th April at 8pm. Please sign up on the table at the back of the church.

FAIRTRADE EASTER EGGS

Fairtrade Easter eggs on sale after all Masses this Sunday! Prices of the Easter eggs are £3.99, £5.50 and £8.50. Moneys raised ensure farmers in the developing world get a fair price for their crops. This sale is organised by the parish's Justice and Peace group.

HOW DIVERSE ARE WE?

It was decided at the Cultural Diversity meeting to invite all parishioners to write 'Happy Easter' in your mother tongue, (and state which language it is) on the paper provided on the table at the back of church. These will then be displayed in the church on Easter Sunday.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2017

Bishop Paul will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation here on **Saturday 2nd December at 11am**. Young people in year 8 or above who wish to join the programme this year should download an application form from the parish website, complete and return it to the presbytery by no later than **23rd April**. The first parent's meeting will be held on **16th May**. **Unfortunately late applications cannot be accepted**. If you cannot download the form then you may obtain a copy from the priests after Mass. Please note that if you wish to be confirmed, you should be attending Sunday Mass regularly.

ALUMNI OF ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

St Mary's Catholic High School in Croydon is, as a result of recent successes, establishing an association of former students.

If you would like to know more please ring 020 8688 3837 or email alumni@st-maryshigh.croydon.sch.uk.

ST THOMAS BECKET SCHOOL 50th CELEBRATIONS

St Thomas Becket School will be celebrating its **50th birthday** this summer. Our school was officially opened to children on 5th April 1967 and had a roll of 188 pupils. As part of our celebrations we'd like to invite people who were involved in the school (as staff, pupil, parent, governor etc), especially in the earlier years, **to share photos, mementos or memories with us for a celebration book**. Search through your treasure troves. Have you an old photo of staff or children, did you attend on the first ever day, have you still got a school award presented to you as a child? You can email admin@thomasbecket.croydon.sch.uk or bring in material for us to photocopy.

Bishop Paul will celebrate Mass for the whole school at Our Lady's on **Wednesday 7th June 2017 at 10.30am**. Parents and past members of our school community are invited to attend and there will be a presentation and refreshments in the hall immediately following the Mass.