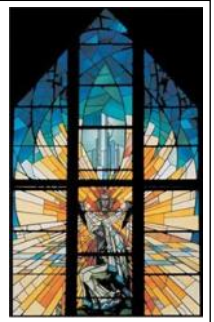




Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Tomasz Margol
 147 Bingham Road, Addiscombe, Croydon CR0 7EN. Phone 020-8654 1709
 email: addiscombe@rcaos.org.uk website: www.addiscombecatholicchurch.com
 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

4th February 2024 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (page 134 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR B

APHELOCOMA AND MIMUS

The vine maple bush had grown since last year and was now big enough for Aphelocoma, the blue, to build a nest! He did it and was pleased with himself.

While sitting on the branch he noticed something on the ground just by his nest. It was an open pack of nuts, left by someone passing through the park. He flew quickly to gather the biggest one! 'Yes food! I must collect more!!! - he thought 'The times are uncertain and I need to be prepared!' He was such a clever bird that he managed to create five caches and four of them were already full!

He prided himself on his productivity and shrewdness! 'This is how my kind is doing' - he said to himself, looking at how the other birds missed an opportunity to collect more and more food!

The one he liked least was Mimus, the polyglot, living nearby, who kept showing off by singing day and night, not allowing Aphelocoma to have a proper rest after a busy day! 'I did so much today, I gathered so much food and now I cannot sleep!' - he whispered upset.

Aphelocoma worked untiringly for a long time. The fifth cache was almost full, and he was overjoyed! 'I am prepared! I am prepared! - he shouted around!

Yet, one day when he was bringing a big beautiful berry to this last cache he found it empty! 'Who did it?' - he thought. An overwhelming fear started creeping in! He flew to all the other caches and - all were empty! Nothing left! His heart was pounding! He screamed as loud as he could! The whole park could hear his complaint. He was so devastated that he screamed and screamed 'til the evening came.

Then Mimus started his show! He was louder than usual! It seemed that Mimus was mocking poor Aphelocoma! In his great pain he whispered - 'I tired myself so much gathering all this food, while Mimus kept singing! And now I am left with nothing, but he still has a reason to sing!

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. Amen!

MEETINGS

Ascent Group: Tuesday 6th at 10.30am (Small Hall)
SVP: Tuesday 6th at 8pm (PRC)
1st Holy Communion Parents' Meeting: Tuesday 6th at 8pm (CHURCH)
Adult Catechesis: Wed 7th at 11.15am (Large Hall) & 7.45pm (Small Hall)
UCM: Wednesday 7th at 8.15pm (Large Hall)
RCIA: Wednesday 7th at 8pm (PRC) *What is Lent?*

Mass Intentions This Week

3 February: Saturday
SAINT LAURENCE OF CANTERBURY
 10:00 Jerry Foley RIP
 18:00 All Parishioners

4 February: FIFTH SUNDAY
 08:30 Josephine Seemampillai
 10:00 UCM: Intentions of All Members' Families & Friends
 11:30 Peggy Scanlon RIP

5 February: Monday SAINT AGATHA
 10:00 Angelo Okeke Birthday Intentions

6 February: Tuesday
SAINTS PAUL MIKI & COMPANIONS
 10:00 Harry, Michael & Harold Sweeney RIP

7 February: Wednesday
 10:00 Michael Nolan RIP

8 February: Thursday FUNERAL MASS
 10:00 Vera O'Neill RIP
 19:30 Doreen & Bertram Perera RIP

9 February: Friday
 10:00 Maryla & Sebastian Gomez RIP

10 February: Saturday
SAINT SCOLASTICA
 10:00 Barry Braybrook RIP
 18:00 Paddy & Nora Walsh RIP

11 February: SIXTH SUNDAY
 08:30 Christo & Nadia Ghawi RIP
 10:00 Simon Nolan RIP 1st Anniversary
 11:30 All Parishioners



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm
 In The Sacred Heart Chapel

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 547.70
Loose cash	£ 801.45
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1290.00
Total	£ 2639.15

***** DEFIBRILLATOR *****
 A defibrillator is located on the right hand side of the porch as you enter the church.

COLLECTIONS

Last week's collection for **Racial Justice Sunday** amounted to £535.50. Many thanks.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Elizabeth Damsel, Lauren Horwood, Elizabeth Casey, Brian Kearney, Jose Fernandez, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Marie Griffin, Ernie & Mary, Anna Maria Caruana, Arthur Hughes & all others

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Elizabeth O'Hara, Elizabeth Hardy, Timothy Quinn, Gordon Eastaugh, Mary Donnan, Eileen O'Callaghan, Josephine Philpot, Nell Endacott, Norah Beck, Michael Quinn, Bridget Stone, Marguerite Conn, Mary Harvey, Richard Forage, Eileen Scanlon, Harry Sweeney, David Tuckey, Eufemiano Lopes, Maureen Woodcraft, Sheila Merredew, Joan Griffiths, Charles Fowley, David Barwell, Catherine Winston, Jean Garner, Margaret Blackford, Judy Maharaj, Tony Borfiga, Kathleen Davies, Mary Ann Gomez, David Holder, Maureen Towner

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

4th February: Finbar & Paul

11th February: Shane & Mervyn Owens

18th February: Kieran White

25th February: Theresa Rodgers

3rd March: Pat Jordan

10th March: Glen Flynn

17th March: **St Patrick's Day** - Frank Nelson

24th March: Shane & Mervyn Owens

- **J & M Country Dance Classes** take place in Church Hall on Sunday afternoons from 2:00pm. Admission will be £10.00 per class. For more information, call **Michael on 07576 146431**.

- **Gaelic Football Taster Sessions** for Girls & Boys aged 8yrs - 16yrs will take place at Trinity School, Shirley Park, Croydon, CR9 7AT. The sessions commence on Wednesday, 7th February from 5:45pm - 7:00pm; they will be on the astro-turf pitch focusing on the key skills of the game. Participants require a full sports kit including, top, shorts, socks & trainers (football boots with studs are not permitted). For more information, please call Danny O'Donovan on 07796 934748.

- **Sabrina Fallon & Shane Moore** will be appearing at the Social Club on Friday, 15th March from 7:30pm. All proceeds from this event will be given to the **Place to be Cafe, Purley**; a Social Club for older people living with **Dementia** and **their Carers**. Tickets at £10.00 each can be reserved by calling **Pat Winston on 07734 250375**. You can also support the event by donating an item for the Raffle/ Auction.

JOIN US FOR ADORATION!

Saturday 24th February 10am - 12pm

Mass, Confession, Worship & Prayer Ministry - all are welcome.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - CHURCH RECYCLING

Recycling in the church porch is now only for printer cartridges, bottle tops and stamps. We no longer recycle blister packs or small batteries. Small amounts of blister packs can be taken by anyone to Superdrug in Beckenham or the Whitgift Centre. Batteries are widely recycled in supermarkets.

UCM COFFEE MORNING TODAY!

Come along to the large hall after 10am for tea/coffee and cake!

CALLING ALL 'OUR LADY'S' VOLUNTEERS!

We are in the process of reviewing safeguarding at Our Lady's. ***In order to ensure that our church is a safe place, we need all volunteers to complete a 'Volunteer form' so that we have an up to date register of helpers.*** Parishioner Joanna, has taken on this task for us. If you have not already been contacted by her, or by the leader of the group you help with, and you volunteer in a specific role in the parish (cleaner, reader, florist, SVP etc) please email her on:

addiscombedbs@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS

Fr Tomasz delivers catechesis for adults **every Wednesday from 11.15am (during coffee morning) in the large hall, and at 7.45pm in the small hall.**

Topic for this week: What the church teaches about Contraception.

THE ANNUAL MARRIAGE MASS

The date is 13th July, 3pm at St George's Cathedral. Couples celebrating a special anniversary – 1, 10, 25, 40, 50 or 60 or more years – and wishing to receive a personal invitation from Abp John, should email **mflsw@rcaos.org.uk**

For Collection:

Baptism certificates: COLLECT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Rotas: Eucharistic Ministers (Feb) Readers (Jan/Feb)

**ONLY 4 WEEKS TO GO! - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2024**

This year's service has been prepared by the Christian women of Palestine with a focus on living with each other in love.

There may be nothing we feel we can do for Palestine, but come to our church at **7pm on the 1st March**, and join your prayers with the rest of the world on that day and let them know we care.

This lovely service, which lasts for an hour, includes music, reflection, bible readings and an insight into life in Palestine. There will be refreshments offered after the service.

Please contact **Anne.Barcellos@btinternet.com** for more info.

FOUND!: A small bubble wrap pouch/envelope with some items in it. If this belongs to you and you can tell us what items they are, please phone or visit the parish office to collect. *Many thanks.*

ALL LARGE HALL KITCHEN USERS.....

Please ensure that all cups/mugs etc are properly washed and dried before putting them away! On a few occasions recently dirty cups have been found in the cupboards, which is unacceptable and very unpleasant for all hall users. Following the kitchen refurbishment we have a very efficient dishwasher that you are welcome to use! Please help us to keep the kitchen and the crockery in a hygienic and usable state.

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE

Is holding a **Divine Mercy Afternoon of Reflection on Saturday 10th February from 1:30 - 4:30pm at St Georges Cathedral, London.** The Reflection will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Way of the Cross, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus.

All Welcome.

Please call Millie on **07957 594646** for more information.

YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS FELLOWSHIP

This group for ages 23 - 35, meets **fortnightly** on a **Friday evening in the PRC at 7pm**. Our next meeting is on **16th February**. Please come along and join us!

CAFOD - 'NO FAITH IN FOSSIL FUELS'

CAFOD are supporting the Lent 'No Faith in Fossil Fuels' Vigil outside Parliament from Ash Wednesday for 10 days and nights (14-24th February) including services on Ash Wednesday, Sunday 18th and Saturday 24th Feb.

"Everyone's talents and involvement are needed to redress the damage caused by human abuse of God's creation"
(Pope Francis, Live Simply #14)

For further details or to sign up to the vigil rota please visit **www.christianclimateaction.org/events/** and scroll down (about 10th event listed) or contact Gill on **07796 340193**

ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL

From 9.30am every Monday - Saturday

**OUR LADY'S ASCENT GROUP
(Members of Life Ascending)**

Is meeting every second Tuesday in the SMALL Hall after 10am Mass. Life Ascending is a Catholic Organisation for people in middle and later life. It celebrates our faith and the sharing of common experiences of life. It encourages friendship between retired people, stimulates thoughts and discussion. It helps us to reflect on the purpose of our own lives as we grow older. Please do join us.

6th February: Introduction to Lectio Divina by Liz

20th February: To be advised

5th March: Faith Journey by Bella