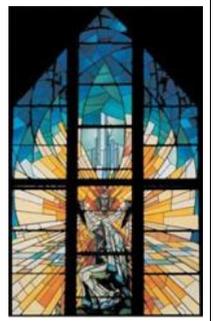




# Our Lady of the Annunciation



**Parish Priest:** Fr. Keith Sylvia      **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Jackson Sebastian  
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 Diocesan website: [www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://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

## 5th September 2021 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time YEAR B

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I hope you have had had a good summer, and thank you to all those who have extended their good wishes to me on my return. We ask God's blessing on all those returning to school this week, both teachers and pupils.

I thought I would take this opportunity to talk about a few issues that have come up over that period we call summer despite the lack of any real sun or heat. Firstly to do with the liturgy and other aspects of church life post Covid: many people have sourced their own electronic or hard copies of the Order of Mass and of the readings during the past seventeen months. At the same time many have accessed the newsletter digitally. This is to be commended and I encourage all those who have done so to date to continue this practice in the future as it drastically reduces the need for the parish to provide these things in great number moving forward. This is good stewardship. However, for those who are not able to do this we need to consider alternatives. I am looking into the **possibility** of producing a new weekly sheet with essential responses for the Mass, readings and hymns, and a news letter similar to what went before. I believe that, at this time, this is more prudent than the reintroduction of shared books.

We have been allowed to reopen the hall, and many of the regular bookings have made their return. However, to date we have not been accepting bookings for one off parties for a number of reasons. Principally, there has been limited contact with the volunteers who previously opened and closed the hall for these events. This is perfectly understandable as there are still many parishioners who have not been to worship since the start of the first lockdown. Secondly, the policy has always been to let only to those worshipping at Our Lady's. Yet increasingly we are finding that parishioners are acting as guarantors for a friend of a friend, and are not at the event themselves. This makes it awkward when the letting conditions are broken and our member of staff has to broach this with the parties concerned. Thirdly, on conducting a brief financial review of the hall and its revenue stream, these events are not as essential as the regular weekly events which we hope we can expand. Ultimately this decision is temporary and will be considered by the Pastoral Committee once it is reformed.

As will any future regulation of the car park. Three or four people have expressed concern over restricting access to the car park to enforce the three CHURCH BUSINESS ONLY notices that have been **up for years**, but universally ignored. I am impartial, and raise the matter because I was approached. Your money paid for the surfacing of the area, and your money will renew it when necessary despite the fact that a significant fraction of the vehicles who use it are trespassing. When a neighbour or contractor pulls into what seems to be a sparsely used car park and then disappears, they have no knowledge of what might be taking place in our buildings just a few minutes later, Mass, Funeral, Blood Donations etc all times when the car park can get quite busy, remember there are only 24 regular spaces. For these reasons I have defended your car park and am being increasingly insulted and abused. The choice for the committee will be simple, to regulate or allow unfettered access and take down the worn signage. I cannot think of a middle way. Either way, once the decision is made, I can stop worrying about it.

## Mass Intentions This Week

### 4 September: Saturday

10:00 Nadia Ghawi RIP

18:00 All Parishioners

### 5 September: TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY

08:30 Intentions of Mary, Ann & Eileen Walsh  
And Families

10:00 Ivy O'Connor RIP

11:30 Mary & Michael Thornton RIP

### 6 September: Monday

10:00 Cordelia Darnley & Family RIP

### 7 September: Tuesday

10:00 Stephen Padden RIP

### 8 September: Wednesday THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10:00 Hannah Beston RIP

### 9 September: Thursday

10:00 Kevin Hamilton RIP 3rd Anniversary

19:30 Eileen Scanlon RIP

### 10 September: Friday FUNERAL MASS

10:00 Anthony Schembri RIP

### 11 September: Saturday

10:00 Peggy & Donal Kelleher RIP 1st Ann.

18:00 Thanksgiving for Callum & Aaron

### 12 September:

### TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY

08:30 All Parishioners

10:00 Margaret O'Sullivan RIP

11:30 Francis Queally RIP

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

Next week there will be second collection for the *Catholic Education Service*. We have recently installed *2nd collection boxes* on the walls of the Church, please use these for your donations.

*Many thanks.*



*Our 10am Mass each Sunday is LIVE STREAMED through our Facebook page and on the 'Live Masses' page o the parish website.*

## CHURCH CLEANING

**9th SEPTEMBER - TEAM D**

## LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 386.50
Loose cash	£ 458.50
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1055.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 1900.00</b>

*We pray for the sick in our Parish: Geoffrey Bird, Phyllis Donnelly, Elizabeth Casey, Florence Okugbe, Ethan Patel, Fr Alan Sharpe, Karen Pearson, Jonathan Leiper, Brian Kearney, Duncan Pears*

*We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: John Feeney, Edward Rowland, Anthony McDowell, James McGreal, Eileen Flanagan, Doreen (Kaye) Abbott, Ivy O'Connor, Veronica Bedminster, Reginald Botell, Ernest Padbury, Kathleen Mary Tatnell, Mae Knight, John McBride, Jean Ansdell, Henry Judge, Matilda Sequeira, Louise Vertannes, Baby Sinead Katie Lynch, Ita Foley, Wasył Dydyk, Philip Cox, Martin Hayes, Kitty Mooney, James ("J.J.") Tyrell, Ellen Chambers, Francis Ford, Felix McGovern*

### SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

#### *A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club*

On behalf of the Social Club, I hope that you are all safe and well!

- **Cherry May Cahill**, has recently completed the 200 Club Across Draw for August 2021; the winners are:

No. 46: Mena Maguire £100

No. 100: Noel McCorry £50

No. 20: Mary Ashe £50

All winners will receive their cheques over the next few days. If you would like to join the 200 Club, please go to the website ([www.anerleyacross.org.uk](http://www.anerleyacross.org.uk)) and download an application form.

### **Annual ACROSS Charity Golf Classic**

*Anerley ACROSS is a Charity which takes disabled children on annual pilgrimage to Lourdes*

*De Vere Selsdon Estate -*

*Friday, 17th September 2021*

*(please note change of date)*

10.00am: Arrival with Bacon Rolls and Tea/ Coffee

11.00am: 18 Holes of Golf

The Golf Day is available at **£50.00 per person**

You can also support the event by

Sponsoring a Hole at £50.00

Donating items for the Auction/ Raffle

**For more information, please contact**

**Ben Cahill on 07958 903410 or**

**[bernardcahill2004@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bernardcahill2004@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Save the date - Sunday, 26th September:** There will be a meeting to discuss proposals for the reopening of the **Social Club: the Ballroom of Romance**. The evening will commence at 6pm with Tea/Coffee being available. The formal meeting will start at approx. 7pm; we will address a range of issues including Covid protocols, a programme for the remainder of the year and a Christmas Raffle to support local charities.

### ATTENTION CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES AND THEIR PARENTS'

You will know from the handbook that our first meeting together is Tuesday evening at 8pm. The candidates will be taken into the small hall to be placed into groups and the parents will meet with Fr Keith to be better informed of what the course contains and how to support the process. We look forward to seeing you all.

**SVP:** One of the things which we do is call and visit people in our parish, particularly, those who are on their own. If you are one of these people or, you might know somebody in our parish who might like us to befriend them, please get in touch with us, via the parish office, or see the SVP contact details in the parish website:

<http://www.addiscombecatholicchurch.com/st-vincent-de-paul-svp>

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Following on from the Parish Meeting of 21 July 2021, it is hoped to set up a Working Party consisting of a small(ish) group of parishioners to consider further the proposal to establish a Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). The Working Party would aim (among other things) to determine the purpose of the PPC, its aims and objectives, its constitution and membership, and its accountability.

Some parishioners have already indicated their readiness to be involved, but this is an open invitation to any member of the parish to join in.

Interested? **Contact Arthur Hughes** via the parish office; or directly by phone **020 8654 3943** or email: [arthur.hughes116@gmail.com](mailto:arthur.hughes116@gmail.com)

### OUR LADY'S TODDLER GROUP

We are pleased to announce that we shall be re-opening our doors on **Thursday 9th September at 9.30am in the large hall!** We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back.

### APPLICATIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL REFERENCES

Forms can now be downloaded from the Parish website. **Please complete the form and return it to the presbytery/parish office by Friday 8th October.** Only then can an appointment be arranged with Fr Keith. Appointments will be available from Monday 20th September to Friday 15th October.

*Primary school interviews will take place later in the year.*

**OUR LADY'S ASCENT GROUP:** Will restart our fortnightly meetings on **Tuesday 14th September**. We meet in the **large hall after the 10am Mass**, and everyone is welcome to join us. The meetings are Scripture and Prayer based.

### VISIT OUR REPOSITORY SHOP!

Don't forget to pay the Repository shop a visit after Mass each weekend. The new Confirmation cards and gifts are now on display, and a great selection of Christmas things are sure to follow soon after. **Bag yourself a bargain and support Sr Celia and her team!**

### FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

We would very much like to resume Adoration on a Friday in September. However, in order to sustain the timeframe of 10.30am to 8pm, we need 18 people on our list ideally, as the Blessed Sacrament should not be left unattended. Unfortunately due to the pandemic, many of our regulars can no longer attend.

*Are you able to commit one hour of your day to the Lord?*

Please think about spending this time with God & contact Fr Keith or the parish office if you would like to put your name on our list.

### \*\*\* MCMILLAN COFFEE MORNING \*\*\*

**FRIDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 9.30am - 12.30pm Large Hall**

Please join us in the large hall for a cuppa, a cake and a catch up! You can pop by at any time and stay as long as you want!

**Any donations of cakes, (homemade or shop bought - they are all delicious) would be gratefully received!**

If you are able to make a donation, please contact **Chris on 07535 978010**. This will help us know what else is needed.

*Many thanks and we look forward to seeing you there!*

### GIFT AID NEW YEAR!

THERE REMAIN 60+ ENVELOPE BOXES AWAITING  
COLLECTION FROM THE CHURCH PORCH!

***If still required please collect by 29th August at the latest*** as I have to place the Parish envelope order for next year in September.

There are also 40+ small sets of 2nd collection envelopes unclaimed. I suspect that some parishioners who donate by Standing Order may have forgotten that they requested these.

***PLEASE CHECK and see if there is a set waiting for you before the 2nd collections recommence.***

*Many thanks, Jenny Mitchener*

### SUNDAY COFFEE MORNINGS FROM SEPTEMBER

We are pleased to say that our Sunday Coffee Mornings after 10am Mass will resume in September! Many thanks to all those who have supported them in the past. A new rota is up in the church porch for any parish groups or individuals who wish to sign up and run one.

## ANOTHER CHALLENGE

Pope Francis wants us to be active in changing how we live – and this can involve simply a few – or a lot of – small things. Don't ever think small things can't matter – try sharing your bedroom with a mosquito to disprove that!

A change could involve asking a question about whether there's a connection between raging fires in Greece and my thermostat being set at 20°C or above? Or floods in Haiti and those ¾-mile drives to the shops (a bike ride? A walk?).

You could ask if there's a connection between people working long hours in a rickety fire-risk of a building in (say) Bangladesh and the chance to buy three t-shirts for £5 ...

Is there a link between the fuel used to transport apples from New Zealand and your insistence on buying a particular type of apple instead of choosing between a limited range from Worcestershire or Kent, or doing without a favourite vegetable because it's not in season in Britain and has to be brought in from Chile or The Philippines?

Might there be a connection between the centuries or millennia it'll take to break down that plastic in a landfill site and the possibility of (or the need for) recycling it now into something useful like a drinks cup, a pencil or a picnic bench? I have been surprised and gratified at the very positive response to the option of recycling pill blister packs – the reaction has been far, far higher than I had expected; brilliant! So why do some people think it's OK to leave plastic bottles on the grass verge, or the hedgerow, or the gutter?

Is there, finally, a connection between drought in East Africa, our continued need to burn fossil fuels to generate electricity and those acres of roof-tops with no solar panels on them? Is there a contrast between the successive cuts in the financial support for installing solar panels on houses, factories (and churches!) and the need for continuing expansion of the searches for gas and oil reserves to give us "energy security"?

All small things – but a lot of small things add up to a lot. After all, I couldn't run the London Marathon – but if I did, I'd need the first stride and the thousand-and-first stride; both small, but both essential contributions to the whole thing. So never think your small contribution doesn't count – it does, and the more you can urge other people to get on board and do the same, the better the world will be for our grandchildren's grandchildren.

If you want to know what someone far smarter than me thinks about this, ask The Pope – he did write *Laudato Si* for a reason ...

## \*WE NEED YOUR VOTES IN STORE!!\*

Tesco's Bags of Help have selected the St Thomas Becket Parents Association (STBSA) to go up for a public vote in stores against two other organisations, from 12th July until 30th September 2021.

The winners of this vote will receive a cash prize to go towards a project that will benefit the community. The project the STBSA have selected is 'IT equipment for children for home learning'.

To vote for us, when you make a purchase within a store, of any value, *you should ask the cashier for a Bags of Help token*: it's one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token. Thank you so much for your support!

## GRIEF AND LOSS: HOPE IN CHRIST

Have you been bereaved? This weekend being held at *Aylesford Priory* is for you, or for anyone who has lost a loved one through death; an opportunity to mourn but also to share with and be supported by others. The date: **8 - 10th October**. For more info phone **01622 717272** or email [enquiry@thefriars.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@thefriars.org.uk)

## OUR LADY'S SAFEGUARDING OFFICE:

Contact email - [addiscombesg1@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:addiscombesg1@safeguardraos.org.uk)

## ARE YOU IN YEAR 10 OR ABOVE FROM SEPTEMBER?

Are you interested in doing your Silver Duke of Edinburgh award or working towards a young leader qualification? Girlguiding Croydon can help make that happen. Our local Brownies unit is looking for a new Young Leader. Volunteering with us can make impressive additions to any CV or UCAS application. You'll develop skills in leadership, communication and team working. You will need to show commitment to Wednesday evenings for at least one term. We are a friendly group and do a huge range of activities from art and craft and sport, to adventurous activities, camps, and games.

For more details please contact:

Clare Buxton **0777 978 2275** or [clare@teambuxton.co.uk](mailto:clare@teambuxton.co.uk)

**CROYDON REFUGEE DAY CENTRE:** Is making an appeal for new and good quality pre-worn clothing for refugees from Afghanistan.

Here's the list of clothing needed:

- **New men's underwear - boxers please**
- **New ladies' underwear**
- **New Children's underwear**
- **New socks - all sizes**
- **Men's hats - good condition**
- **Trainers for children and men and women - good condition**
- **Men's jeans all sizes**
- **Men's and women's t-shirts**
- **Small and medium sized men's jackets**
- **Small and medium sized men's jumpers**
- **Men's hoodies and tracksuit bottoms**

They are also requesting the following for children:

- **Pads of paper**
- **Crayons**
- **Pencils**
- **Sharpener**

Drop off times:

**Next week: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> only. between 9am-1pm**

At West Croydon Baptist Church, on the corner of St James Rd and Whitehorse Rd. CRO 2JH

Please note: There is a only very small car park, accessed through the entrance 'arch' of the new block of flats behind the church. Drive straight through their car park and then turn right up a ramp and into the church car park. Ring bell for Hall 2.

**Any queries ring Ivanka: 07802 631023**

(Alternatively, drop off could be arranged at St Mark's Woodcote.

Please leave on the pew at the back of church by the food hub donation table.)

## NEEDED ESSENTIALLY:

### SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE PARISH

This post (vacant for a year) is key to the good standing of the parish and the protection of all its members. The safeguarding of all children and young people as well as vulnerable elderly people, is required both by the Church and Government.

The post holder will be responsible to Fr. Keith for all aspects of Safeguarding, especially ensuring that Disclosure & Barring (DBS) checks for involved parishioners are completed; that essential personal records are kept; and that suitable training is organised.

A commitment of time and energy, balanced by satisfaction, will be required of the post holder.

*No specific qualifications are required but relevant experience is desirable.*

## CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES 2020

Confirmation certificates for 2020 can now be collected from the Parish Office. Please ring before collecting. *Many thanks.*