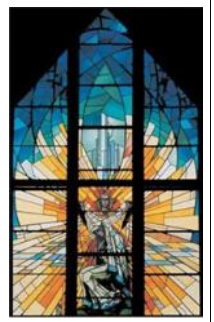




# Our Lady of the Annunciation



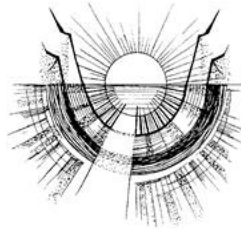
**Parish Priest:** Fr. Keith Sylvia      **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Jackson Sebastian  
 147 Bingham Road, Addiscombe, Croydon CR0 7EN. Phone 020-8654 1709  
 email: addiscombe@rcaos.org.uk      website: www.addiscombecatholicchurch.com  
 Diocesan website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk  
**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9am - 3pm      Wednesday: Closed**  
**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**  
 Monday - Saturday: Before or After 10am Mass or By Appointment

## 5th December 2021 Second Sunday of Advent YEAR C

Baruch characterizes the devastated Jerusalem as a woman in mourning for her exiled children who have been forcibly taken away from her by the Babylonians. The prophet declares that it is time for Jerusalem to exchange her robe of mourning and misery for a brilliant new mantle. Her new cloak is spun from justice and glory from God. If she despaired for her children, thinking God had forgotten them, the prophet insists that "they are remembered by God." The humiliation of their forced march into exile on foot will be undone by their being carried back aloft, as if they were royalty. The heights of despair and the depths of depression will be levelled out. It is not that the suffering is forgotten, or that anything could go back to being the way it was before the tragedy, but now the divine gift of joy settles over the grieving mother as rebuilding life out of the ruins begins. The returnees are led by God's light, and their companions are mercy and justice.

This time of pandemic has felt like a kind of exile for us, too, hasn't it? On top of that, migrants and refugees at our borders, and victims of violence in our cities are all struggling to rebuild life out of the ruins. Like Jerusalem in Baruch's time, there is no going back to what was before, but we let God's motherly care enfold us with mercy and justice as our companions. With them we can move toward healing, restoration, and the chance for a new beginning.

In the gospel, John the Baptist also announces a chance for a new beginning. The narrative starts on an ominous note, reminding us of the power that Pontius Pilate, Herod, Annas, and Caiaphas hold. We already know the end of the story. And so it is with some urgency we hear John's invitation to repent: to turn away from personal choices that impede God's coming and collectively turn toward divine mercy. Using Isaiah's words, John first speaks in imperatives: prepare and make straight the way. But then the verbs shift to the passive voice, implying that it will be the Coming One himself who will do the filling in of the valleys and levelling of the mountains, straightening out winding roads, and smoothing the rough ways. The Coming One does not eliminate the suffering and sorrow along life's path, but fills us with saving joy, justice, forgiveness, and mercy as we open ourselves to the great things God has done and continues to do for us.  
 (Collegetown: Liturgical Press).



## Mass Intentions This Week

- 4 December: Saturday**  
 10:00 Birthday Wishes for Nayo Joseph Okeke  
 18:00 Deceased Members of the Heskin & Sweeney Families RIP
- 5 December:**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
 08:30 Intentions of the Maher Family  
 10:00 UCM: All Receiving Cancer Treatment  
 11:30 Bernadette Simons RIP +
- 6 December: Monday**  
 10:00 Anne Farrell RIP
- 7 December: Tuesday SAINT AMBROSE**  
 10:00 Catherine Crowley RIP
- 8 December: Wednesday**  
**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
 10:00 Nora, Paddy & John Walsh RIP
- 9 December: Thursday**  
 10:00 Deceased Members of the Heskin & Sweeney Families RIP  
 19:30 George Hennessy RIP
- 10 December: Friday**  
**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER**  
 10:00 Maureen Sullivan RIP  
*Followed by Devotion*
- 11 December: Saturday**  
 10:00 Birthday Wishes for Osita Anthony Okeke  
 18:00 Martin McCorry RIP
- 12 December:**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
 08:30 All Parishioners  
 10:00 Joan McHugh RIP  
 11:30 Arthur Fairservice RIP
- + *With Baptism*

## MEETINGS

**Ascent Group:** Tuesday 7th at 10.30am (Large Hall)  
**SVP:** Tuesday 7th at 8.30pm (PRC)



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

**CHURCH CLEANING**  
 9th DECEMBER - TEAM A

## LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 440.70
Loose cash	£ 425.30
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1055.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 1921.00</b>

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Fridays 10.30am - 3pm**  
**In The Sacred Heart Chapel**

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

The next second collection will be in January 2022.

**We pray for the sick in our Parish:** Elizabeth Damsel, Fr David Peck, Lauren Horwood, Sharon Gillett, Dominic Audibert-Moloney, Elizabeth Casey, Ethan Patel, Jonathan Leiper, Brian Kearney, John Devereux, Jean Carpenter

**We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week:** Joseph Morais, Mary Patterson, Joseph Leaman, Beatrice Michael, Molly Wynne, Ernest La Rue, George Horsley, Maria Tagliarini, David Mahoney, Candida "Peggy" Corner, Baby Martin Moss, Salvatore Parise, Bridget Coughlan, Rodney Burleigh, Ralph Rayner, Mary Sims, Elena Braiotta, Iris D'Rose, Monica O'Donnell, Kazimierz (Charlie) Martynski, Adam Coleman

### SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

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

**Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm**

5th December: Glen Flynn

12th December: Mustang Showband

19th December: Kieran White

26th December: **Christmas Celebration** - Finbar & Paul

2nd January: **New Year Party** - Ally Harron & Marian Curry

- The **ABBA Tribute Evening** is now a complete **SELL OUT**. All proceeds from this event will be given to the Anerley ACROSS Charity. You can also support this event by donating an item for the Raffle or the Auction.

- Thank you for your wonderful support of our Christmas Raffle; to date, we have raised £3000.00. Our target is to reach £4,000.00 to support three local charities; The Alzheimer's Society, The Woodside Bereavement Service & Young Minds. There will be three cash prizes of £500.00, £300.00 and £100.00 plus seven additional prizes. The Draw will take place on Sunday, 19th December.

You will have the opportunity to purchase tickets after all Masses next weekend - 11th & 12th December.

Further information on the Raffle is available on the Parish website - Addiscombe Catholic Church.

- The **Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch** will take place on Sunday, 19th December commencing at 12.30pm. Admission will be by Ticket Only. To reserve a place at the event, please call or send a Text to **Pat Winston on 07734 250375** before Monday, 13th December.

### RECENT DEATH

We are sad to announce the recent death of **Maureen Walsh** last Friday, 26th November. Her funeral will take place here at Our Lady's on **Tuesday 14th December at 10am**.

Our prayers and sympathy go to her family at this very difficult time, may she Rest In Peace.

### ADDISCOMBE WELCOMES REFUGEES NEWS!

The parish community sponsorship group Addiscombe Welcomes Refugees is making excellent progress by securing a property and hope to welcome a family in the new year. Thankyou all for all your support with the cake and coffee morning after the 10am mass on Sunday 14th November - we managed to raise some much needed funds thanks to your generosity.

**VOLUNTEER WITH US!** We are looking for two new vital members to join our friendly steering group to attend regular meetings and organise support for the refugee family for the following:-

Volunteer Role - ESOL Lead (English for Speakers of Other Languages.) To help liaise with adult learning providers and assist the resettled adults with attendance to English speaking classes.

Volunteer Role - Education Lead. To assist with the application process for local schools and liaise with the school once the family arrives.

If you are interested in joining our steering group in either of these roles at this crucial and exciting time please do ring/text **Laura** on **07811 351122** or email [lkimurtagh@gmail.com](mailto:lkimurtagh@gmail.com)

### ST THOMAS BECKET CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The draw will take place on **Sunday 12th December at 4pm**

There are lots of amazing prizes including a portrait from a local artist, Crystal Palace FC tickets, tickets at Addington Palace golf club, cash and vouchers. All the money raised is going to our school.

Click on (or visit) the link to buy tickets: <https://raffall.com/266987/event/enter-raffle-to-win-lots-of-christmas-goodies-hosted-by-stbsa>

### EVERYONE'S NATIVITY

There will be an "Everyone's Nativity" on **Sunday 12th December at 2pm** here at **Our Lady's**, followed by refreshments in the large hall. If any child **OR** adult would like to take part please come to the church on the day dressed as a character from the Nativity. It doesn't matter how many Mary's, Joseph's, Donkeys, Innkeepers, Stars, Shepherds, Wise Men, Angels and King Herod's we have, everyone will be included! All parishioners are welcome.

### \*\*\* REPOSITORY SHOP \*\*\*

The Repository shop now has a wonderful range of Christmas cards and gifts at great prices! They are happy to accept all **CASH and CHEQUE payments**. Don't forget to pay them a visit after Mass!

### PAX CHRISTI TALK

The Justice and Peace group invites all parishioners to come to a talk on the work of Pax Christi, the Catholic peace organisation. The talk will be on **Zoom on Tuesday 25th January at 8pm**.

Please contact Chris Sciberras if you are interested in attending. You will be sent a Zoom link before the talk.

### REFUGEE COLLECTION OF COATS (NOT TOYS) - 15th/16th JAN 2022

Due to Covid, the Croydon Refugee Day Centre are unable to hold their Children's Christmas Party this year or distribute toys to refugee children. **They are, however, in need of warm winter clothing!**

We will not therefore be holding our usual Advent Toy Collection but will instead be collecting **WARM coats** (and jumpers) for adults and children (not babies) in the New Year - 15<sup>th</sup>/ 16<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

### AS A PRACTISING CATHOLIC HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BEING A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR FOR A LOCAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL?

The John Fisher School, Purley, is recruiting volunteers for the post of Foundation Governor. Would you like to give a few hours a month as part of the strategic team that helps develop the school, drive education and achieve positive outcomes for local children?

The Governing Body are particularly keen to hear from those with a background in Finance then please contact:

Mrs Lindsay Redding, Clerk to the Governors via email on [l.redding@johnfisherschool.org](mailto:l.redding@johnfisherschool.org)

**Closing date is noon on Friday 10th December.**

For more information speak to Simon Drury, Chair of Governors.

### CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES 2021

Confirmation certificates for 2021 can now be collected from the Parish Office. **Many thanks.**

**THE PASSAGE:** A Catholic charity working with homeless people is raising funds through the Big Give a matched giving scheme. Every £1 donated online between 12noon on Tuesday 30th November and 12noon on Tuesday 7th December makes £2, or £2.25 if you are a taxpayer through Gift Aid.

At a time when The Passage's finances are stretched and they are helping more homeless people please consider supporting this charity through the link <https://bit.ly/PassageBG2021>

### BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

Here is a gift for husbands and wives, an opportunity to spend a morning online exploring and improving your relationship. It's for couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to make them a bit better. There is no group sharing. **Saturday 8th January, 9am-1pm**. Booking is essential: phone **07983 524727** or email [mflkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflkent@rcaos.org.uk) There is a nominal charge of £10 per couple.

**Items for collection:** *Francisco Serradilla-Mazuelos*

**Baptism certificates:** PLEASE COLLECT YOUR BAPTISM CERTIFICATES FROM THE PARISH OFFICE. THANK YOU.

**Rotas:** *Readers (Nov/Dec) Eucharistic Ministers (Dec)*