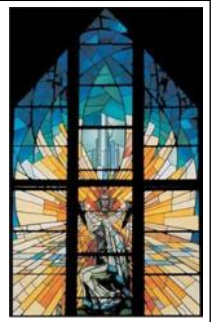




# Our Lady of the Annunciation



**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**

## 10th December 2023 Second Sunday of Advent (page 85 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR B

It is a joy to be present at the Eucharist and at the same time this reality brings suffering, because many cannot be present and receive Him, the Gentle Lover!

Through the Eucharist we become conformed to Christ, a Suffering Saviour, who is the Lord of all and desires everyone in the most profound and loving way! His Majesty makes Himself so vulnerable, to the end! His vulnerability is a sign of His love and a place where we priests, and all the faithful can be united with Him in the most extraordinary way! At the same time His vulnerability is a sign of trust that we will defend Him, console Him, and embrace Him fully with tenderness and joy.

This is His love! So tremendous and so simple. So difficult to grasp. The only response I find is allowing Him to love me and to be conquered by Him. It is so difficult, since we don't want to change, since we don't want to appear as vulnerable. His attitude is such an explicit invitation to that surrender which brings bit -by- bit a recognition of our unbelievable impurity in comparison with His purity. That doesn't create fear of His punishment, but tears and desire to be immersed in Him.

How do we not cling to Him, especially in the Eucharist, 'the Source and Summit' of our lives, 'The Source and Summit' of our identity as human beings?! As His followers how can we not cling to Him, to Him as He really is?! The liturgy becomes such a powerful experience. His death, His suffering, His unification with us! And He gave it to us all! Yes, because He is all about us!

How therefore can we not cherish the liturgy, in which each gesture is an intimate gesture of His love and of our response?! How can it not be all about Him? Can we understand ourselves as Children of God outside of the Eucharist? I doubt it! He gave Himself to us! He was so firm about the Eucharist's importance! Because He is the Eucharist! The only way to respond seems to be obedience to this Gift given in and through the Church, with Her demands of the liturgical law, which is an amazing statement of love and awe to Him, the Little Victim! Our Lord cannot be embraced in any other way than the one which His Merciful and Overpowering Majesty deserves.

It is impossible for us to understand ourselves outside of the Eucharist, outside of God! Those whom we want to invite to be with us, and we ourselves in the first place, are to be emerged in Him as He is! The Almighty God, who is a forgiving and a gentle healer! Let's therefore come to Mass in the spirit of worship and with an expectation of entering into a deeper relationship with Jesus. A real and live-giving relationship because in him we find all we need!

*fr Tomasz Margol*

## Mass Intentions This Week

### 9 December: Saturday

10:00 Wellbeing of the Quinn Family  
18:00 Desmond & Winnie O'Rourke RIP

### 10 December:

#### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08:30 Michael Cafferkey RIP  
10:00 Birthday Wishes & Wellbeing of  
Osita Okeke  
11:30 Christine Brooks RIP  
14:00 *Everyone's Nativity*

### 11 December: Monday FUNERAL MASS

10:00 Nell Bentley RIP

### 12 December: Tuesday

10:00 Antonio Savaglio RIP

### 13 December: Wednesday FUNERAL MASS SAINT LUCY

10:00 Anna Lanzalaco RIP

### 14 December: Thursday FUNERAL MASS SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

10:00 John Boyle RIP  
19:30 Bernadette Guiffrida RIP

### 15 December: Friday

10:00 Deceased Members of the  
Heskin & Sweeney Families RIP

### 16 December: Saturday

10:00 Michael O'Brien RIP  
18:00 Andy & Nuala Fox RIP \*

### 17 December:

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08:30 All Parishioners \*  
10:00 Birthday Wishes for Eugenia Fernandes\*  
11:30 George Hennessy RIP \*

\* With Foodbank Sunday

### \*\*\* DEFIBRILLATOR \*\*\*

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

## MEETINGS

**SVP:** Tuesday 5th at 8pm (PRC)

**Adult Catechesis:** Wed 13th at 11.15am (Large Hall) & 7.45pm (Small Hall)

**RCIA:** Wednesday 13th at 8pm (PRC) *Mary the Mother of God*



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm**

In The Sacred Heart Chapel

## LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 418.01
Loose cash	£ 719.22
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1290.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 2427.23</b>

## COLLECTIONS

This week there will be an ACC collection for *Barnabas Aid*. Special envelopes are now available in the porch for the *Christmas Day* collection, which is your personal offering to Fr Keith and Fr Tomasz *and is separate to your usual Sunday offering*. Those on the Gift Aid scheme should use their designated envelope for Christmas Day please.

**\*\* Don't forget - Next weekend is Foodbank Sunday! Please leave donations in the porch. Thank you. \*\***

*We pray for the sick in our Parish: Geoffrey Bird, Dominic Audibert-Moloney, Fr Alan Sharpe, Jean Carpenter, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Michael Hewish, Ann Page*

*We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Rodney Burleigh, Michael McGowan, Ralph Rayner, Mary Sims, Elena Braiotta, Iris D'Rose, Monica O'Donnell, Christine Brooks, Kazimierz (Charlie) Martynski, Adam Coleman, Baby Lilly Beaven, Irene D'Rosario, Kathleen Evans, Maureen Hayes, Freda Santry, Eugene Baptiste, Martin McCorry, Anthony McGuane, Gerry Finigan, Massimina Oriani, Joseph Cruz, Victor Michael, Maria Sequeira, Louise Carter, Elsie Carpenter, Sr. Elizabeth Craig, Ellen Curry, John Knight, Baby James Naylor, Mary Lane, Edith Smith, Norah Everest, Dennis Godfree, George Fowler*

### **SOCIAL CLUB NEWS**

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

**Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm**

10th December: Glen Flynn

17th December: Frank Nelson

31st December: **New Year's Eve Party** - Ally Harron/Marian Curry

7th January: Kieran White

14th January: Theresa Rodgers

21st January: Shane & Mervyn Owens

28th January: Cross Keys

4th February: Finbar & Paul

- The winners of the *200 Club Across Draw* for November 2023 are:

£100: Eileen O'Sullivan

£50: Cathy Gleeson

£50: Sean Carr

Cheques have now been sent to all of the winners. 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.

- **The Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons Tribute Evening** - is **completely SOLD OUT**. No tickets will be available at the door.

- The **Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner** will be on Sunday, 17th December from 12.30pm. This event is open to members of our Lady's Parish Community & Members of the Social Club; entertainment will be provided by Frank Nelson. **To reserve a place at the Dinner, call Pat Winston on 07734 250375.**

- The **New Year's Eve Party** will take place on Sunday, 31st December from 7.30pm. Guests will be invited to bring Party Food to the event & Entertainment will be provided by **Ally Harron & Marian Curry**. Admission will be by Ticket: Members - £5.00 & Guests £6.00. **To reserve Tickets call Ben Cahill on 07958 903410.**

### **THE SHRUBLANDS FOOD BANK REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING:**

Jam/honey	Sugar	Milk	Coffee	Pasta
Rice Pudding		Pasta Sauces		Custard
Tinned Fruit/Veg		Tinned Tomatoes		Savoury Biscuits
Soup (tinned or packet)		Shampoo		Washing Up Liquid

**Kindly ensure donations have a shelf life of six months. Thanks!**

### **ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

Tuesday 19th December at 7.30pm - with visiting priests.

### **ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL**

From 9.30am every Monday - Saturday

### **WILL YOU BE HOME ALONE ON CHRISTMAS DAY?**

St Mildred's Church would like to invite you to the Community Lunch on Christmas Day. To reserve a place, please call their Parish Office on **0208 655 1434**.

### **\*\*\* SECOND SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING \*\*\***

After 10am Mass today in the large hall. Please join us!

### **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:** The Marian Dogmas

### **AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM**

**ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE WITH MATHS?** We can help!

We will be offering Maths tuition for **years 1 to 'A' level**  
**On Sundays in Our Lady's small hall between 1 - 7pm.**

To register your interest please contact:

**Joseph 07714 203973 or Grace 07516 396009**

### **OUR LADY'S GOLDEN PENNY JARS**

Thanks to all who generously sent in their pennies! £82 was raised and sent to Croydon Night Watch. An acknowledgement also goes to the red box donor, which had £52 in. This was given to the parish office to pass on. **Many thanks!**

### **ETHICS CONFERENCE**

#### **PATIENT ADVOCACY IN PALLIATIVE CARE**

11th December from 10am – 4pm

Venue: 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1PB

Legal and professional issues / conscientious objection

Cost £40 (Concessions available)

Lunch and refreshments provided

Please contact Teresa Lynch, Pro Life Nurses

**teresalynch1@hotmail.co.uk or 07721 372786**

### **CHRISTMAS CARD STAMPS**

As people will be receiving Christmas cards from overseas, we appeal for the stamps from the envelopes. These add significantly to the value of stamps passed to charities for sale. Please bring them to church for passing on. **Many thanks.**

### **CAROL SINGING AT MIDNIGHT MASS**

If you wish to join the singers at Midnight Mass this Christmas, please email the parish office and we will advise you of rehearsal dates and times.

### **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.

**19th December:** Social with shared refreshments and discussion on Life Ascending matters

9th Jan: CaFE Video on Reflections on the Creed - Why we believe.

### **PLEASE COLLECT YOUR BAPTISM CERTIFICATES!**

We have Baptism certificates dating back pre pandemic that are yet to be collected! Please contact the parish office to pick up this important document as soon as possible! Many thanks.

### **ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?**

**Welcome!** Please introduce yourselves to one of our Priests. There are registration forms in the porch on the table and on the shelf besides the water font with gift aid forms. Our website - **Addiscombe Catholic Church** - has information about groups, activities, current and past newsletters that may be useful to you, or you can call or visit our secretaries, Rachel and Stephanie, in the parish office during opening times (shown overleaf).

**THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE LONDON:** Is holding a Divine Mercy Advent Reflection 2023 at the Church of Mary Mother of God, 192 Nags Head Road, Ponders End, Enfield EN3 7AR, on **Saturday 16th December** from 1:30pm to 4:30pm led by the Marian Fathers.

The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. **All Welcome.** Please call **Millie on 07957594646** for more information.

### **\*\* PAY WHAT YOU CAN CAFE \*\***

Eat, drink, chill and pay what you can afford! Every Tuesday - Friday 10am to 5pm at Socco Cheta Café, 44B Portland Road.

**For Collection:** J Murphy, D O'Donovan, UCM

**Baptism certificates:** COLLECT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

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