



Our Lady of the Annunciation



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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9am - 3pm Wednesday: Closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
 Monday - Saturday: Before or After 10am Mass or By Appointment

11th July 2021 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time YEAR B

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, as we prepare for the announcement tomorrow about the further easing of restrictions due to come into force on the 19th, we prepare to respond to advice from the Bishops of England and Wales on how they will effect parish life. Without pre-empting what they might say, here are my thoughts:

Though face masks may not be compulsory, even in enclosed public spaces, it may be prudent for us to continue to wear a face covering in church. I may not feel the need myself, and, if it is not a legal requirement, I cannot enforce them being worn; but I want to encourage those who are not so confident, back to the Altar, those who will not have been to Mass since March 2020, and if it helps them return I will make that gesture, especially as our normal seating arrangement brings us to a metre from those in front and behind.

When we return to the normal seating, and the new timetable of Masses in August we will also return to celebrating Mass in the normal pattern, restoring Communion to it's rightful place.

It is not yet necessary to return to passing the plate for collections, or Offertory Processions, nor have I made a decision on how we could refrain from introducing shared Mass and Hymn Books when congregational singing is permitted.

So you can see, there is still much to consider 'post pandemic'. What I think I am trying to say is we still need to be sensitive to the situation, not least with regard to those who are still anxious about returning to large gatherings in light of increasing rates of infections.

As yet there is still no indication of when the obligation to attend Sunday Mass will be restored. It may be some time off as the situation globally remains fragile.

God bless.

Fr Keill.

**REMINDER - PARISH MEETING ON 21ST JULY
 8pm in the LARGE HALL**

To discuss the restoration of a Parish Pastoral Council

We would like to invite **ALL** the bodies associated with the parish to give a very brief verbal account (2 mins) of how they have fared through the pandemic, their plans for start-up as restrictions ease and their aspirations and concerns for the future. We will be contacting the leaders directly with an invitation to take part. We hope as many people as possible will take advantage of this opportunity to engage once again with the local church, and it's witness through the satellite activities of our parish, as well as being prepared to commit to new initiatives to insure we continue to function as a dynamic and vibrant community who know they are loved and guided by God.

Mass Intentions This Week

10 July: Saturday

10:00 Thanksgiving for the Connor Family

12:00 *First Holy Communion Mass*

17:30 Guido Pucciarello RIP

18:30 Mary & Anthony McDowell RIP

11 July: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY

09:00 May Ward

10:00 Mary Rayner RIP

11:00 Peter Finnegan RIP

First Holy Communion Mass

12:00 All Parishioners

12 July: Monday

10:00 Sean Connor RIP

11.30 *Funeral Mass for John Walsh RIP*

13 July: Tuesday

10:00 Thanksgiving For The 25th Wedding Anniversary Of Michael & Tracy McMullan

14 July: Wednesday

10:00 Dec. Members of the Lavin Family RIP

15 July: Thursday SAINT BONAVENTURE

10:00 Kevin Hamilton RIP

19:30 Wellbeing of Laura Brighten

16 July: Friday OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

10:00 Lucas, Ubaldina & Sylvia DeSouza RIP

17 July: Saturday

10:00 Mary Rayner & Merita De Saa RIP

17:30 Joan McHugh RIP

18:30 John Francis McGovern RIP


18 July: SIXTEENTH SUNDAY

09:00 Amancio Sequeira RIP

10:00 Ann Fox RIP

11:00 All Parishioners

12:00 David Warner RIP

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

**CHURCH CLEANING - 15th JULY
 TEAM D**

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 496.70
Loose cash	£ 393.30
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1055.00
Total	£ 1945.00

OFFERTORY FOR 19TH/20TH JUNE

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 423.54
Loose cash	£ 387.00
S/Os (Approx)	£ 975.00
Total	£ 1785.54

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

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Reginald Stevens, Bill Jones, Kathleen Pinder, Michael Harry, Frank Tierney, Eileen Stebbing, Pauline Psaila, David Mulrooney, Daniel Spiers, Bridgid Gallagher, Dr. Helene La Rue, Sidney Watts, Frank Stebbing, John Noonan, Bridie McHale, Patricia M. White, Alice Connolly, Ben Kudom, Mary Mohammed

*** POLITE REMINDER ***

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING WHILST IN CHURCH. OUR SEATING IS CLEARLY MARKED TO INDICATE WHERE IT IS SAFE TO SIT. **DO NOT SIT WHERE THERE IS RED TAPE ON A PEW UNLESS YOU ARE IN YOUR FAMILY BUBBLE.** THANK YOU.

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!

- *Ethel Corduff*, a member of our Parish Community, has recently launched her book *Ireland's Loss Britain's Gain*. The book tells the story of the impact of Irish Nurses on the British Health Service. The phenomenon is traced back to the Florence Nightingale era through to the early years of the Millennium.

The book is available within the UK for £12.00 including P & P. To reserve a copy, please send an email to ecorduff@hotmail.com.

- The *Annual ACROSS Charity Golf Day* will take place on *Friday, 10th September* at the *De Vere Selsdon Estate Golf Course*. For more information, please send an email to bernardcahill2004@yahoo.co.uk.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS: The funeral of *John Walsh* will take place here at Our Lady's on **Monday 12th July at 11.30am**.

AYC: Is looking forward to a BBQ and music night on **Friday 16th July 7.30 - 10pm**. All Members welcome (those who have completed registration forms). Interested young people school years 7-11 are very welcome and can register via our email on addiscombeyouthclub@gmail.com.

**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.

**ST THOMAS BECKET CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Open Morning Visits for Admission to Reception in 2022**

We will be holding three open mornings for you to visit and have a tour of the school on **Thursday 30th September, Wednesday 13th October and Thursday 21st October** starting at **9.30am**.

If you would like to book onto one of these tours please email: admin@thomasbecket.croydon.sch.uk

Alternatively, you can ring the office on **020 8654 3006**

We will be holding a prospective Reception parents information open evening, at the school, on **Thursday 4 November 2021**

We have reduced the distance between some of the seating in church to accommodate greater numbers at one or two of our Masses.

We are still maintaining over a meter's distance, (and in some areas two) and we are still asked to wear masks and to maintain social distancing when moving around the building and the grounds. THANK YOU.

MASS TIMES FROM AUGUST 2021

From... **Saturday 31st July: Mass 6pm**
Sunday 1st August: Mass 8.30am, 10am, 11.30am

As mentioned a few weeks back in the news letter, we propose to change the 12.00pm Sunday Mass back to 11.30am to regularise the time between Masses and allow for Baptism outside the Mass at 1.00pm every first Sunday. No one has indicated violent opposition to this but if you have an opinion please speak with Fr Jackson or Fr Keith or email the office by next weekend. This will come into effect this August when we propose Mass times return to 'normal.'
Thank you.

**GIFT AID NEW YEAR!
THE NEW SETS OF ENVELOPES ARE NOW IN USE!**

If you have not yet collected your new box, (or small set for the Standing Order donors) they are available from the table in the porch.
Please recycle the old yellow envelopes now. Many scheme numbers have changed including all between 220 and 260. Many thanks.

CONFIRMATION 2021

If you are currently in Year 8 (moving into Year 9 in September) or above, you are eligible to join this year's cohort for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The documents you need are posted on the web site, and you have about a month to fill them in and deliver them to Fr. Keith or Fr. Jackson **by hand** as stated in the handbook. We look forward to meeting you all.

SEA SUNDAY - 11th July 2021

Today is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea), the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. For an appeal talk from Bishop Paul Mason, and a video showing some of what Stella Maris does, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/SeaSunday. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue it's important work. To donate and for more information please visit: www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. Stella Maris is dependent on voluntary donations so please give generously. Thank you.

**ST THOMAS BECKET SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
SUMMER RAINBOW RAFFLE**

The St Thomas Becket School Association are hosting a Summer Rainbow Raffle. 10% of proceeds will be donated to the NHS. Star prizes include rainbow hampers. **Draw date 17th July.**

Tickets can be purchased here: <https://raffall.com/242260/enter-raffle-to-win-the-stbsa-rainbow-raffle-2021-hosted-by-stbsa>

Everyone is welcome to enter. Thank you for your support!

PLEASE NOTE: We now have a QR CODE for the church, which is displayed at all entrances and exits, for use by those who have the NHS COVID19 App. The church mobile number (07548 868418) for Track and Trace is still in use if you do not have the App.



THE NEW NORMAL - WHAT DO WE WANT AS A PARISH?

Much has been said about "the new normal" when the pandemic allows things to settle down. The sort of comments heard have been:

- what did we *used* to do, that (for a year) we haven't and that we miss? How soon can we re-start?
- what did we *used* to do, that (for a year) we haven't and we *don't* miss? Do we *have* to pick them up again?
- what have we done in lockdown that we didn't do before but we want to keep doing?
- what have we done in lockdown that we didn't do before and will happily drop again?

An example of these might be "doing jigsaws was lovely, but after a year it's time to stop", or "having my shopping delivered was lovely but I do miss visiting the high street", or "I really missed hugging the family".

Those are all at a personal level - but what about at a parish level? We haven't had the Mass attendances of yesteryear - do those who've stayed away want to come back? I know that I do ... and the Obligation will be reintroduced at some point. Do we want to have social events again (probably "yes")? What have we missed that we can still do without? What have we done differently that we'd rather do the "old" way (like attending Mass without a mask, or receiving Holy Communion at the "usual" point of the service)?

The time has come, or is soon to arrive, when we will need to address these thoughts both as individuals and as a parish - as Fr Keith has said, it is our parish and we have a responsibility to run things while the Priests undertake their sacramental and pastoral roles. How can we do that? Do we need committees or working groups to coordinate (for example) the summer fair, the worship, the buildings and grounds, outreach and mission, so forth?

If so, who would serve on those groups? A comment has been made that some such groups are seen as parallel to the wider community's view of the Church of England - most of them don't go or get involved *but they feel comfortable knowing that it's there*. If someone in the parish feels that there should be (for example) a worship committee to assist the Priests with preparations for Easter or Christmas, what would they say if no-one stepped forward to serve on that committee?

Putting it bluntly, what only happens now because one or other of the Priests does it? And how would you feel if they stopped doing it (as being outside their sacramental and pastoral role) and it didn't happen? Would you be ready to step forward and say "I valued that; I want to ensure it continues; how can I help?" ... or would you let it die?

It's time to think ...

Andy Bebington

OFFERING A MASS INTENTION

If you wish to offer a Mass intention at this time, please either visit the parish office, use an 'Intentions' form & envelope located in a tray by the church exit, or download it from our website under the **COVID 19** tab. Please complete the form and return it via the parish office letterbox with stipend enclosed. Many thanks.

Our Repository shop has an excellent selection of Mass cards.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

In case anybody is interested, **Saint Mary Magdalene Church in Canning Road** is now open for food bank donations. Food is collected by the Salvation Army and Croydon Voluntary Association weekly to go into food parcels for the community.

The church is open from **10am to 2pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays**. All dried and tinned food is welcomed.

CAFOD: THANK YOU! Thanks to your support, CAFOD has been helping communities around the world cope with the pandemic. Just in Zambia, in the past year, our reports show we've been able to reach 1,234,200 people with messages on COVID-19, provide 13,312 people with access to safe water, train 392 frontline health workers from Zambia's 11 dioceses on how to prepare and respond to COVID-19 in their local communities and donate over 1000 handwashing hygiene stations in communities to support handwashing measures. Thank you for standing alongside people in Zambia and for supporting people in more than 30 other countries worldwide.

SUMMERTIME 2021

Tuesday 3rd – Friday 6th August

Following last year's cancellation, we are pleased to announce that this annual activity is back, and commend it to boy and girl altar servers aged 10 - 15 years within Southwark Diocese.

Summertime 2021 will take place at the Oratory School in Reading and will open with Mass celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson.

Activities will include talks, discussions, prayer, daily Mass, as well as sport, a trip to Thorpe Park and swimming.

A coach is being provided from St. Anselm's, Dartford, and the cost of £165 covers all board and lodging, Thorpe Park and swimming.

For more details please contact Fr Stephen Boyle, Chaplain to the Guild of St. Stephen.

Tel: **01322 220075** Email: dartford@rcaos.org.uk

CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES 2020

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

Lord Jesus,

*When you walked with us on earth
you spread your healing power.*

*We place in your loving care all
who are affected by Coronavirus.*

Keep us strong in faith, hope and love.

*Bring relief to our sick, console our bereaved,
protect those who care for us.*

*We lift our prayer to you Lord,
and trust in your infinite mercy,
as we wait for the daybreak.*

Amen.