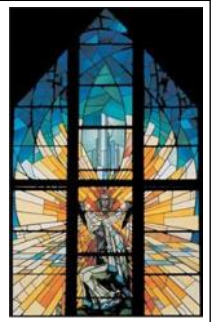




Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Tomasz Margol
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 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

12th January Sunday The Baptism of the Lord (page 118 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR C

The Baptism of the Lord is a profound moment in the liturgical calendar that marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Celebrated annually, this event highlights the humility of Christ as He chooses to be baptized by John the Baptist in the River Jordan. It signifies His acceptance of His mission to bring salvation to humanity and serves as a powerful reminder of the grace bestowed upon us through the sacrament of baptism. We pray that we may be faithful to our vocations as baptised Christians, primarily in taking up the mantle of Our Lord in caring for the weak and marginalised.



**In the first newsletter of 2025,
 may we wish you all a blessed and happy New Year.**

Thank you all for the support you give throughout the year to Fr. Tomasz and myself as we seek to serve you all faithfully as priests, and for your overwhelming generosity in the Christmas offering.

God Bless. +

Fr Keill.

Fr Tomasz

Mass Intentions This Week

- 11 January: Saturday**
 10:00 Deceased Members of the Lavin Family RIP
 18:00 Brendan Moss RIP
- 12 January: SUNDAY
 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
 08:30 Raymond Chow RIP (Birthday) *
 10:00 All Parishioners *
 11:30 Brian Kearney RIP
- 13 January: Monday**
 10:00 Rachael & Fredy D'Silva RIP
 16:00 Reception of the body of Paul Gillen RIP
- 14 January: Tuesday FUNERAL MASS**
 10:00 Paul Gillen RIP
- 15 January: Wednesday**
 10:00 Dick Walsh RIP
- 16 January: Thursday**
 10:00 In Celebration of Sr Sheila Maloney
 19:30 Betty McHugh RIP Anniversary
- 17 January: Friday SAINT ANTHONY**
 10:00 Rosalie Hughes RIP 12th Anniversary
- 18 January: Saturday**
 10:00 Ian & Thecla Sulzdorf RIP
 18:00 All Parishioners ~
- 19 January: SECOND SUNDAY**
 08:30 Len & Cella Dickens RIP ~ *
 10:00 Welfare of Coloma & All Catholic Education ~ *
 11:30 Tatty Slater RIP ~

* With Children's Liturgy
 ~ With Foodbank Sunday

MEETINGS

- SVP:** Tuesday 14th at 8pm (PRC)
Parish Pastoral Council: Thursday 16th at 8pm (PRC)
Young Adults' Fellowship: Friday 17th at 7pm (PRC)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

OFFERTORY

21st/22nd Dec 24	£2585.73
28th/29th Dec 24	£2397.40
4th/5th Jan 25	£2335.95

*** DEFIBRILLATORS ***

There is a defibrillator located on the right hand side of the porch as you enter the church, and another on the wall outside the large hall entrance.

COLLECTIONS: Your *Christmas Offerings* to Fr Keith and Fr Tomasz amounted to £9699.00. *Crib Offerings* amounted to £440.00. Many thanks for your generosity. This week there will be an ACC collection for *SPUC - White flower Appeal*. Next week there will be an ACC second collection for *Pax Christi*. Please see the note overleaf and pick up an envelope in the porch.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Geoffrey Bird, Dominic Audibert-Moloney, Fr Alan Sharpe, Jean Carpenter, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Ann Page, Arthur Hughes, Peggy Wall, Canon Peter Stodart, Joseph Anand, Pat Joyce & all others

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Gaetano Mansi, Louisa White, Colm Folan, Irene Foley, Maura Brophy, Daniel Gibbs, Peter Rooney, Monica Grant, Brendan Moss, Cynthia Hadfield, Denise Pepper, Anne Overton, Doris Corazzo, Luis Fernandez, John Fowley, Dorothy Rowland, Alfred McSweeney, Agnes Solle, Elsie Keane, Cynthia Forage, Agnes Donlon, Elizabeth McHugh, Mark Murphy, Claire O'Dwyer, Eric Stammers, John O'Flaherty, Valerie Cotta, Arthur Donegan, Terry McGuire, Richard Harvey, Irene Rozario, Elvira Molda, Randolph Coombs, Patrick Mulholland, Lydia Nasse, Isobel Anderson, Fr. Tom Connelly, John Scanlon, Norman Cunningham, Joan Ringrow, Mary Finigan, Kathleen O'Brien, Lena Crinnegan, Juliet Dias, Celino Rodrigues, Rosalie Hughes, Vera O'Neill, Sr. Mary Leontine, Ian Sulzdorf, William McHale, Ted Hanlon, James Concannon

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

12th January: Frank Nelson

19th January: Shane & Mervyn Owens

26th January: Cross Keys

2nd February: Finbar & Paul

9th February: Theresa Rodgers

16th February: Kieran White

23rd February: Barry Doyle & Sean Wilson

2nd March: TR Dallas

- A **Quiz Night** will take place on Friday, 17th January commencing at 7:30pm. All proceeds from this event will be given to the Critical Care Centre at King's College Hospital to provide funding for Music Therapy for Patients recovering from serious head & brain injuries. **Please bring your own Nibbles et al - No Nuts!!** To reserve tickets at £10.00, please call **Sheila Jordan on 07921 235141**.

- **Declan Nerney & His Band** will appear in the Social Club on Friday, 14th March. All proceeds from this event will be given to St Christopher's Hospice & Guy's Hospital. To reserve Tickets at £15.00 each, please call **Pat Winston on 07734 250375**.

We are saddened to inform you of the recent death of **Michael Barrado**, affectionately known as the **Hoover Man from Portland Road**. Please remember Michael in your Prayers. We will publish Michael's Funeral Arrangements when they are known.

ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING & MODERN SLAVERY SEMINAR

Wednesday 29th January 6.30pm St Mary's Church

Please come along and find out more about how the issues of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking are affecting people in the UK, London and globally. We have speakers from the Santa Marta Group and the British Red Cross. You will learn to recognise the signs of human trafficking and hear how the Church is responding, as well as the British Red Cross.

RECENT DEATH

We are sad to announce the recent death of **Mary Johnston**, mother of Mary Hartnell. Her funeral will be held at the Good Shepherd Church, New Addington on Friday 24th January at 12pm. May she **Rest In Peace**.

SECOND SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING

The Second Sunday team would be delighted if you drop in after 10 and 11:30am Masses today, for some coffee, cake and biscuits and a chat with other parishioners. Its our first one of the year.
Happy New Year!

OLA GOLDEN PENNIES JAR

Thanks to everyone who collected a jar to fill and to all those who have dropped them back. We want to do the counting by end of this month so please do bring your jars in. Feel free to pick up an empty jar from the porch! Best wishes **Nike**

PARISH ASCENT GROUP

Tuesday 14th January after 10am Mass

Our Parish Ascent Group will gather in the Small Hall for the first time in 2025. One of our members will be recalling and describing for us their very personal journey of faith.

Everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments, especially mature parishioners of a certain age, to pray, to share together and reflect on our own faith.

OUR LADY'S CENTENARY CALENDARS

Every weekend this year, the names of our loved ones listed in the current week of the calendar, will be read out during the bidding prayers.

For Collection: *S Turner*

Rotas: *Eucharistic Ministers (Jan) Readers (January/February)*

Baptism Certs: *Should be collected from the parish office*

PAX CHRISTI - PEACE SUNDAY 19th January 2025

The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice.

MASS AND ADORATION: With prayer for healing on **Saturday 25th January from 10am**. Refreshments in the small hall afterwards.

Please join us!

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

This is a one-day marriage-enrichment course aimed at couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to try and make them better.

There is no charge and no group sharing. Couples have the opportunity individually to explore their relationship and levels of communication, which is the key to relationship.

These BABM days start at 9.30am and finish by 4.30pm. Dates and venues for 2025 are: March 15th, East Sheen; April 12th, West Croydon; June 28th, Kingston-upon-Thames; and September 13th, Amigo Hall, Southwark.

More details – T: **07983 524727** or E: mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

MILK BOTTLE TOP RECYCLING

We are no longer able to take milk bottle tops for recycling, due to circumstances beyond our control. Please see the online third page of this newsletter for details.

Many thanks for all you have done over recent years, *Andy Bebington, for the Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Group*

FOODBANK SUNDAY

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

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).

PLEASE COLLECT YOUR BAPTISM CERTIFICATES!

We have Baptism certificates dating back 5 years that are yet to be collected. If you are applying to a faith school, you will need to present this certificate. Please contact the parish office to pick up this important document as soon as possible! **Many thanks.**

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Dates/venues for the official Southwark diocesan marriage preparation course taking place during 2025 are as follows: February 15th, Wallington; April 26th, Amigo Hall; June 7th, Amigo Hall; July 5th, Wallington; October 18th, Purley; November 22th, online.

The face-to-face courses start at 9am and finish by 5pm. The online course, for which homework is set two weeks before, begins at 9.15am and finishes at lunchtime.

The Certificate of Completion issued to each couple at the end of the courses is recognized worldwide. There is a charge for participating in the course of £120 per couple. Early booking is advisable.

HOUSEBOUND & WANTING COMMUNION?

Do you know of any parishioners who are housebound and unable to come to Mass? Would they like to receive Communion at home? If so, please contact the parish office with their details, and home visits can be arranged for those in need.

BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS WITH FR TOMASZ

Topic: *The Faithful Love of God in the Old Testament*

MILK BOTTLE TOPS - WHY HAVE WE STOPPED COLLECTING THEM?

A company in Hilsea, Portsmouth, recycles milk-bottle tops into park benches, picnic tables and new milk-bottle tops, among other things. As part of their raw materials, they collect, every few months, from people not too far from Portsmouth, the tops which are collected by people like you and me and passed to one of those “collecting points” (or “clearing houses”).

The system has been described as each household being a twig, and relating to a local collecting point – a branch. Each branch (that’s us) delivers to a clearing house – a tree – whence the tops pass, along with those from other “trees”, to the factory – the forest.

The clearing house we used for the parish’s Justice & Peace & Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Group is a lady in Bookham, Surrey, past whom we used to drive weekly as we went to look after our two grandsons in Guildford. This was very convenient, of course, but no longer; the lady there stopped at the end of 2024.

She had been taking deliveries from collectors such as us since 2010 and reckons that she has sent 1.1 tonnes to Portsmouth in that time. The company makes a small charitable donation for each 80 bin-bags they collect and she tells us that she has raised over £350 but that that was not her motivation. Like us, she was motivated by the need to stop using oil to make plastics, while dumping plastics in landfill. The oil could be put to better use and the landfill needs could be reduced – as the advert says: both for the planet and for the charity, every little helps. We have checked with the company and they do not collect from anyone even vaguely convenient ... but, anyway, it would be daft on an ecological balance to burn petrol getting to another non-convenient clearing house, if the motivation is indeed the environment. They say that we could deliver to them (but we have no reason to visit Portsmouth regularly) or post them (but the cost would be prohibitive).

The only solution is to stop acting as a feeder to a clearing house. This is hugely regretted but we are proud that we were able to contribute to the “local” delivery of over a tonne of raw material, which will have reduced the amount of “raw” raw material the factory has had to use, as well as contributing to keeping down our need for landfill.

Of course, if any does have cause to visit the Hilsea area of Portsmouth routinely or regularly, I’d be glad to pass on the address and to have them take over collecting locally and delivering centrally.

Thank you to those who delivered to the church porch – or to our porch – but please stop now. In future we shall be putting our tops out for kerbside recycling, trusting that they will eventually find themselves back in the supply chain as raw material for someone.

Andy & Liz Bebington, for JPIC