

# Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia

Assistant Priest: Fr. Cajetan Dara

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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

15th February Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (page 136 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

There are quite a few Catholics Christians who feel that if they just keep the Commandments they are good Catholics. I am often asked questions like, "Is this a sin?", meaning, is it against the law? Is it a mortal sin or is it a venial sin? If it is 'only' a venial sin, then I can still receive the sacrament before reconciliation etc. etc.

But true Christians do not ask whether something is legal or illegal. They love God, they love Jesus, they love their brothers and sisters. Their only concern is how they can serve and love them more and more. They want to work with Jesus and with his brothers and sisters to build the Kingdom of God. No matter how much they do, they know they can still love more and do more and be more.

It is not then a question of law; it is not a question of what I have to do. It is a question of how much more I can do, how much more I want to do. The requirements of the law form the foundations for our daily practices, but without faithfulness to the command to love above all things those foundations prove to be unstable.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Please note that the parish office will be unattended on a Thursday and Friday for the next few weeks. Stephanie will be working from home to produce a newsletter and respond to emails etc, but she will only have limited access to documents. Masses can still be booked in the usual way with Rachel on a Monday or Tuesday.

Sorry for any inconvenience, we hope to be back to normal soon!

## MEETINGS

SVP: Tuesday 17th at 8pm (PRC)

RCIA: Wednesday 18th at 7.30pm (Mass in Church) *Ash Wednesday*



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm

In The Sacred Heart Chapel

### LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 677.90
Loose cash	£ 693.17
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1340.00
<b>Total</b>	£ 2711.07

## COLLECTIONS

This week there will be a Diocesan second collection for *The Clergy Support Fund*. See note overleaf.

**We pray for the sick in our Parish:** Elizabeth Casey, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Mary Jayawardena, Peggy Wall, Joseph Anand, Pat Joyce, Darren Ngasseu, Paddy Ryan, Dave Freegard, Lorraine Quinlivan, Westley Adaken, Mervat Nasri & all others

**We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week:** Stuart White, Catherine Wilson, Edward Scanlon, Bernadette Moynihan, Patrick Murphy, Walter D'Cruz, Giuseppe Oriani, Stanley Earl, John Scanlon, Gordon Thompson, Patrick Joyce, Agnes O'Dwyer, Sr Felicite, Sarah Wright, Dr. Iolo Williams, Irene Griffiths, Sr Mary Cecilia, John DeCaestecker, Eric Houston, Margaret Lock, George Kaazana, Denis Kelleher, Mary McDowell, George Paice, Edmund Claudius, Caroline Assey, Carol Ann Davey, Gerry Marcella, Bina Bowen, Christina Conlan, Michael White, Tony Durkan, Jessie Mills, Marshall Weetman

## Mass Intentions This Week

**14 February: Saturday**

**SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS**

10:00 Ian Brooks RIP

18:00 Christine Rogers RIP ~

**15 February: SIXTH SUNDAY**

08:30 All Parishioners ~

10:00 Simon Nolan RIP ~

11:30 Diarmuid MacSweeney RIP ~

16:00 Reception of the Body of William (Bill) O'Sullivan RIP

**16 February: Monday FUNERAL MASS**

10:00 William (Bill) O'Sullivan RIP

**17 February: Tuesday**

10:00 Jose Pereira RIP

**18 February: ASH WEDNESDAY (Pg 147)**

10:00 Barbara & Francis Fernandez RIP

19:30 Pasquelina Fernandes RIP

**19 February: Thursday**

10:00 Marie & Gerard Clements RIP

19:30 Bridget & Derek Ivens & Family RIP

**20 February: Friday**

10:00 Bill O'Sullivan RIP

**21 February: Saturday**

10:00 Martha Sam Vu RIP

18:00 Joan McHugh RIP

**22 February: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

08:30 All Parishioners

10:00 Bina Bowen RIP \*

11:30 Margaret Stickland RIP

\* With Uniformed Groups

~ With Foodbank Sunday

## \*\*\* 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.

## SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

**Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm**

15th February: Theresa Rodgers

22nd February: Kevin Kearney

1st March: Shane & Mervyn Owens

8th March: Pat Jordan

15th March: **St Patrick's Celebration** - Glen Flynn

22nd March: **First appearance** - Family Affair

29th March: Kieran White

5th April: **Easter Sunday** - Shawn Cuddy

- Thank you to the Parish Community & Members of the Social Club for your support of the **Motown Tribute Evening**. The event raised £2,500.00; these resources will be used to provide **Gaelic Football Coaching Sessions** in Primary Schools.

- **Jiving sessions are returning:** J & M will be facilitating Jiving Sessions in the Hall on Sundays, 15th & 22nd February and 1st & 8th March commencing at 5:00pm. For more information, call **Della Reilly on 07403 227935**.

- The **Bacon & Cabbage Dinner & Dance** will take place on Friday, 13th March. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm and **Dancing to Frank Nelson** will commence at 8:00pm. **The Keady Academy of Dance** will provide a display of Dance during the evening. All proceeds from this event will be given to the **Anerley ACROSS, a charity which will be taking a party of disabled people to Lourdes in June**. To reserve tickets for the above event, please call **Ben Cahill on 07958 903410**

## UCM CHARITY EVENT SUPPORTING SARCOMA UK

### MURDER MYSTERY EVENING

**Saturday 11th April from 7pm** in the church hall

**£15 per ticket**

Bring your own food and drink for your table

To book tickets please contact **Marie Tross 07774 643159**

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - NIGERIA

**6th March at 7pm in Church**

This year, the women of Nigeria invite us to come to our Church and rest in Jesus in our frantic and tired world.

Please do come along, and if you wish to join in the service or perhaps read a part, please contact Anne Barcellos via the parish office email.

## PARISH ASCENT GROUP

Are you an Adult Catholic, perhaps already retired, and interested in some up-to-date on-going Faith Formation? Would you like to strengthen your personal relationship with Jesus Christ?

*Could you be free to join us in the Small Hall, on the second and fourth Tuesdays at about 10.45 after 10.00am Mass?*

## WITH THANKS!

The **2nd Sunday Coffee Morning** has raised £385 for the Coloma students attending Lourdes this Easter!

Thank you to all who came and supported, the Parish has been so generous towards the Pilgrimage.

## ATTENTION ALL SINGERS & MUSICIANS

Please see the 3rd page of this newsletter for information about our parish music groups, accessible online via the website.

**SAFEGUARDING:** It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. Further safeguarding info can be found on the Diocesan website:

[safeguardingoffice@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:safeguardingoffice@rcaos.org.uk)

**Rotas: Eucharistic Ministers (February)**

**Readers (January/February)**

## PRAY THE ROMERO ROSARY AT ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

Join Archbishop John Wilson and the Cathedral clergy in praying the rosary **every Friday at 5pm** throughout Lent. This is a beautiful opportunity to draw closer to the Lord Jesus in prayer. Archbishop John will personally lead the devotion at the National Shrine of St Oscar Romero at St George's Cathedral (SE1 6HR) on **Ash Wednesday (18th February) at 5pm**, and again on **Friday 6th and Friday 27th March**.

On all other Fridays during Lent, the Cathedral clergy will lead the rosary, followed by the Stations of the Cross at 6pm. Let the rosary connect you to the Lord Jesus this Lenten season. Find out more at: [rcaos.org.uk/romerorosary](http://rcaos.org.uk/romerorosary)

## RACE NIGHT FUNDRAISER

**Saturday 21st March**

The **28th Croydon Scout Group** warmly invite parishioners, friends, and families to a fun **Race Night** fundraiser on **Saturday 21 March, 7:00pm–10:30pm**, in the **large hall of Our Lady of the Annunciation church**.

The evening will include eight races, a final auction race, a raffle, bar, and tuck shop. Entry is **£2 per person**, which includes a free bet, with additional £1 bets available on the night. No experience is needed — just come along and enjoy a relaxed and sociable evening.

This event forms part of our fundraising efforts to raise **£20,000 in 2026 to replace the roof on our Scout HQ**, helping ensure the building remains safe and usable for young people, volunteers, and the wider community.

All are very welcome — please come along, bring a friend, and support local Scouting.

More info at [www.28thcroydon.scoutsonline.co.uk](http://www.28thcroydon.scoutsonline.co.uk)

## CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION

The clergy in our Archdiocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have done for parishes.

You make supporting our clergy in retirement possible! Find out how to donate to the Clergy Support Fund at:

[www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF)

You can also donate via telephone (office hours Mon - Fri) **020 7960 2504**, or by using the Clergy Support Fund envelopes available today in the church porch. *Please continue to keep Priests in your prayers.*

## 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 - 5pm**.

**£25 p/h for years 1 - 9**

**£30 p/h for GCSE & A Level**

To register your interest please contact:

**Joseph 07714 203973 or Grace 07516 396009**

## COME CELEBRATE WITH US

Our Cultural Diversity Support Group invites Parishioners to our **10th Birthday celebration on Sunday 8th March**.

Attend Mass at 11.30am followed by a party at 1pm in the large hall with lunch, music, video presentation and open mic.

Warmest Sylvia

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

For the past 50 years Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering marriage enrichment retreats all around the world.

Focused on couples who want to enrich their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage, the retreat offers a unique experience. It's a chance to explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, regardless of how long you have been together. Thousands of couples in the UK have benefited from a Marriage Encounter weekend retreat.

The next 2 retreats are **27th Feb-1st Mar in Swindon** and **15th-17th May in Maidstone**. Why not find out more at [wwme.org.uk](http://wwme.org.uk)

## ATTENTION ALL SINGERS & MUSICIANS

All choirs and music units in the church are always ready to welcome new members. This "appeal" is aimed, to a degree, at those who have started a new instrument at school last September and are now feeling "at home" with it. Playing in church is a way of rehearsing without the pressure of either a forthcoming exam or of a teacher ticking you off for a duff note. We have always had the approach that, if you're not comfortable playing in (say) Ab or F#, don't! Perhaps play what you can and stop when you can't - or simply sing instead. This way you can play your instrument without pressure.

"Aiming" at young people just starting on an instrument doesn't mean that we won't welcome people who are, or who were, comfortable playing an instrument. Whether you currently play, or would like to resume playing after a gap, do come along and help us to help the congregation's worship.

This "appeal" is also aimed at people who enjoy singing and would like to sing *with others* and not "just" as a member of the congregation. All are welcome with (as always) a special welcome to boys and men and ladies who can sing the alto line. Pianists are always welcome, as this is the one instrument (beside the organ) which can best give a clear "lead". It's also a very, very long time since we had any brass instruments with us (not that these are suited to all hymns and Mass settings - but, then, neither are harps, tambourines or sopraninos; each has its place and each is welcome).

Music is offered at all Saturday evening and Sunday Masses, with the organ leading the congregation at 8.30 (with no choir) and with music of various types at other Masses. Please see details of who to contact for these Masses, on the parish website under "Music at Mass". Go on - make yourself (and your family & friends??) proud ...