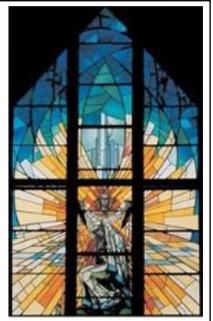




# Our Lady of the Annunciation



**Parish Priest:** Fr. Keith Sylvia      **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Cajetan Dara  
**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

## 15th March Fourth Sunday of Lent (page 164 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

In the Gospel we are immediately introduced to a contrast that appears in all four lectionary readings: sight and blindness, darkness and light.

“As Jesus passed by He saw a man blind from birth” (Jn 9:1). In just these few words, we can understand we are about to hear a story about ourselves. Ever since our first parents fell from grace in the Garden, each one of us has been “blind from birth.” Recall the serpent’s tempting offer to eat the fruit because “...when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God...” In fact, when Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, a profound blindness settled over them. The Church tells us that through their disobedience they lost the grace in which they were created. That grace was their lens on reality. Without it, they could not see God, each other, or even themselves in truth. All their descendants came into the world without the grace of clear vision. We are all spiritually “blind from birth.”

The disciples assume the man’s physical blindness comes as a result of someone’s personal sin. Jesus’ answer likely surprised them. He suggests that the presence of this physical disability has been allowed by God in order to demonstrate His glory. The original Fall of man brought down both God’s mercy and His justice. He had a plan to counter and defeat His enemy but, in the meantime, suffering and death would be an ever-present reminder that this world and these sinful bodies are not as God created them to be. Suffering will become our opportunity to “see” ourselves as we really are: we are utterly, completely dependent on God.



### 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 8pm (PRC)  
**Arts & Crafts Group:** Friday 20th at 2pm (Small Hall)



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

### LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 677.58
Loose cash	£ 575.96
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1340.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 2593.54</b>

## Mass Intentions This Week

**14 March: Saturday**  
10:00 Merle Rosemeyer RIP  
18:00 All Parishioners ~

**15 March: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
08:30 Callimus Dara RIP ~ \*  
10:00 AYC: Mass of Gratitude for Mothers' Day ~ \*  
11:30 Thanksgiving for the Lim Family ~

**16 March: Monday**  
10:00 Thomas Corduff RIP

**17 March: Tuesday SAINT PATRICK**  
10:00 Joan McHugh RIP

**18 March: Wednesday**  
10:00 Brian Green RIP 6th Anniversary  
**15:45 Stations of the Cross**

**19 March: Thursday SAINT JOSEPH**  
10:00 Anne Leigh RIP  
19:30 Michael Conway MBE RIP

**20 March: Friday**  
**09:00 Stations of the Cross**  
10:00 Helene Bambi RIP 2nd Anniversary

**21 March: Saturday**  
10:00 John & Eveleen McBride RIP  
18:00 José Fernandez RIP 2nd Anniversary

**22 March: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
08:30 Robert Hayward White RIP  
10:00 All Parishioners  
11:30 Maureen Walsh RIP

~ With Foodbank Sunday  
\* With Children's Liturgy

### \*\*\* 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

This week there will be an ACC collection for **Anerley ACROSS (Lourdes)**.  
Next week there will be a Diocesan collection for **Poor Parishes**.

**We pray for the sick in our Parish:** Jonathan Leiper, Marie Griffin, Christina Cahill, Ursula & Anthony Kennedy, Peggy Wall, Pat Joyce, Darren Ngasseu, Paddy Ryan, Dave Freegard, Lorraine Quinlivan, Westley Adaken, Mervat Nasri, John Wright & all others  
**We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week:** Luisa Fernandes, Anna O'Donnell, Marion O'Dwyer, Annie Kingman, Jeremiah Murphy, Joseph Devitt, Mary Fitzpatrick, Kathleen Sandy, Joseph Colairo, Thomas Corduff, Baby Matthew Neydorff, Winifred Collins, Norman Coombes, Patrick Kelly, Eveleen McBride, Margaret Warnock, Sybil Whitworth, Emma Bowen, Roseanna McKee, Marjorie Collyer, David Hogan, Michael Morris, Eileen Flanagan, Philomena Doyle, Joseph Foley, Ida DeSouza, Terence Conn, George Chesher, Fr. Anthony Freeman, Victor de Souza, Helene Bambi, Sr Anthony, Edmond Kiely, Desmond Kavanagh, Denis Whitworth, José Fernandez, Ethel Bowen, Rita Stone, Charles Martynski, Kevin McKenna, Celia Sweeney

## SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

*Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm*

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

22nd March: *First appearance* - Family Affair

29th March: Kieran White

5th April: *Easter Sunday* - Shawn Cuddy

12th April: Cross Keys

19th April: *Effie Neill* with the Barry Doyle Band

26th April: *First appearance* - Anton

3rd May: *Bank Holiday* - Theresa Rodgers

- *Declan Nerney & His Band* will appear in the Social Club on Friday, 24th April. All proceeds from this event will be given to the *Brain Tumour Charity*. To reserve Tickets at £20.00 each, please call *Pat Winston on 07734 250375*.

## RECENT DEATHS & FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

We are sad to announce the recent deaths of *Russell Samuel, Marie Wynne* (wife of Seamus), *Michael Gallett & Annabella Deriu* (mother of Marc).

*Russell's* funeral will take place here at *Our Lady's* on **Monday 13th April at 10am**.

*Marie's* funeral will also be here on **Tuesday 31st March at 10am**.

Please keep all the recently departed in your prayers at this sad time.

*May their gentle souls Rest In Peace!*

## PSR GATHERING DAY - 7TH MARCH

I attended the Parish Safeguarding Representative training on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

It was a very informative day and it is really beneficial to hear from other parishes in the dioceses. The afternoon speaker was Darren Stokes from NAPAC the National Association for people abused in childhood. He gave information clearly and with kindness and spoke with hope on the very serious topic of Trauma Informed Practice.

*For further information or support in recovering from Childhood Abuse you can call 08088010331 - opens at 10am (this number will not show on your telephone bill).* Joanna

## OUR CATHOLIC FAITH – ANSWERS TO THE BIG QUESTIONS

Archbishop John Wilson has commissioned a series of short videos and worksheets to answer some of the most important and fundamental questions about our faith. *For further details see page three of the online newsletter or the posters in the church porch.*

## 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**

## I warmly invite you to join me on this year's SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 21st - 28th August 2026

A pilgrimage is a great opportunity to refresh and renew our relationship with the Lord Jesus, with the help of Our Lady's prayers. I have also found it a blessing to be able to accompany and to be inspired by other pilgrims, some of whom are sick, elderly or disabled.

Last year, Deacon John Fogarty and I did a short presentation in parishes, which we would be happy to repeat in your parish, if it can be arranged.

Details for booking travel and accommodation can be found at:

<https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/>

We also ask pilgrims to complete a form with details, including medical requirements (if any) at:

<https://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/join2026>

For more information, please contact:

Canon Edward Perera ([edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk))

Deacon John Fogarty ([johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk))

or myself, Bishop Paul Hendricks ([paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk))

## 'TOGETHER' SERVICE AND MARCH

**10.30am, Saturday 28th March, Central London**

Join the Christian Climate Action pre-march church service and / or walk with us to show we stand together for love, hope, compassion and justice in the face of division, hate and the injustice of climate denialism.

The service will take place 10.30 – 11.15am at Oasis Church Waterloo, SE1 7QP. The Together Alliance march assembles at noon on Park Lane in London and is anticipated to finish around 4.30pm.

The Together Alliance is a large coalition including environmental and faith groups.

*This will be a family friendly day filled with welcome, unity and prayer.*

Contact **Gill (07796 340 193)** for further details

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION - MARYHILL SCHOOL UGANDA

Thank you so much for your generous donations and support over the years to Maryhill School. Unfortunately, due to constraints on office staff and our organizer, Angela Yates, stepping down, we will no longer accept donations via standing order, so please cancel with immediate effect. Instead, a yearly collection will be organised and sent to the school. You are very welcome to include your donation by cheque or cash as part of this collection. Thank you for your understanding and continued support. *Fr Keith*

## PARISH FILM SHOW

This year's show will take place in the **Small Hall, at 7.30pm on Saturday 18th April**. Full details will be announced in due course.

## RACE NIGHT – SUPPORTING 28TH CROYDON SCOUTS Saturday 21 March - 7:00pm – 10:30pm

**Church Hall, Our Lady of the Annunciation, Bingham Road**

28th Croydon Scout Group warmly invites parishioners and friends to join us for a fun-filled **Race Night** in the Church Hall this March.

It promises to be a relaxed and enjoyable evening with eight exciting races, a final auction race, raffle prizes, and refreshments available. Entry is just **£2 per person**, and each paid entry includes one free bet to get you started.

Race Night is one of our key fundraising events this year. Our Scout Headquarters roof is reaching the end of its life and will not survive another winter. We need to raise **£20,000** to refurbish the building so that it remains safe, warm and dry for the 100+ young people who meet there each week.

Scouting at 28th Croydon continues to grow, with young people from Squirrels through to Scouts developing confidence, resilience and practical Skills for Life. Our HQ is at the heart of that programme — and we are determined to protect it for the future.

There are several ways you can support:

- Come along on the night
- Sponsor a race (perfect for local businesses)
- Donate a raffle prize

Spread the word to friends and family!

If you would like to attend or offer support, please speak to one of our leaders or contact the Group.

Thank you for your continued support of Scouting within our parish community.

## DIVERSITY GROUP 10TH CELEBRATIONS - APPRECIATION!

Dear Parishioners, those of you who attended will agree with me that our celebration on Sunday was a real hit and we would like to thank everyone for their contributions. We thank Father Keith, Rachel and Stephanie in the Parish Office for all their support in planning. Special thanks to all our members and friends for their contributions of fresh tasty foods, drinks plus the required logistics.

*Much appreciated and blessings galore.*

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

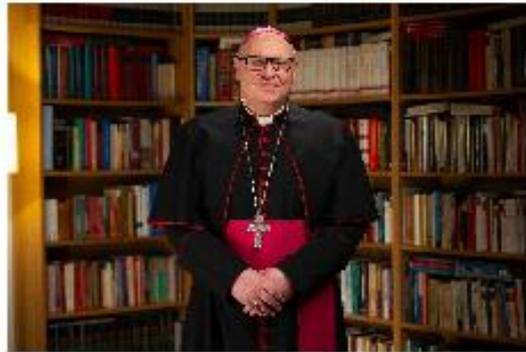
*Rotas: Eucharistic Ministers (March) Readers: (March/April)*



# ARCHDIOCESE of SOUTHWARK

## Ambassadors for Christ

*Building witnesses for the Lord Jesus and His Church*



**Ambassadors for Christ** is a new year-long video series from the Archdiocese of Southwark, created to help Catholics feel more confident talking about their faith so they can be a joyful witness for the Lord Jesus and His Church.

As interest in the Catholic Church continues to grow, many people find themselves asking big questions, or being asked them by friends, family and colleagues. This project offers clear, trustworthy answers through 52 short weekly videos, each presented by a Catholic priest and designed to be easy to understand, practical and rooted in the teachings of the Church. (The videos are 5-10 minutes each)

Each video has a supporting worksheet for personal use or for discussions in a group.

Full details are available on the Archdiocese website at:

<https://rcaos.org.uk/ambassadorsforchrist>

<https://rcaos.org.uk/worksheets>

The videos can also be watched on the Archdiocese You Tube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@RCSouthwark1>