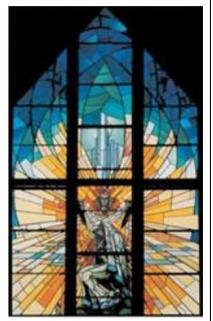




Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Jackson Sebastian
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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 August 2021 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary YEAR B

ASSUMPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Dear friends as we celebrate the Assumption of our heavenly mother, certain questions can arise in our minds whether we honor Mary, venerate her, express our love for her or we worship her? We honor her and never worship her.

Why do we honor Mary?

1) Mary herself gives the most important reason in her "Magnificat:" "All generations (ages) will call me blessed because ***The Mighty One has done great things for me***" a) by choosing Mary as the mother of Jesus b) by filling her with His Holy Spirit twice, namely at the Annunciation and at Pentecost, c) by making her "full of grace," the paragon or embodiment of all virtues, d) by allowing her to become the most active participant with Christ, her Son, in our Redemption, suffering in spirit what Jesus suffered in body.

2) **Mary is our Heavenly Mother.** Jesus gave us His Mother as our Mother from the cross: "Woman, behold your son." ... "Behold your mother" (John 19: 26-27).

3) **Mary is the supreme model of all virtues and hence our role model,** especially in holiness of life ("full of grace"), obedience to the will of God ("fiat") and true humility ("Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me as you have said").

We have been contacted by a company offering car park management services. Equipment and services are supplied to us free of charge. It is something that Fr. Keith has been considering looking into as he is experiencing increased hostility when he approaches those who use the car park at all hours without good cause, that is, who are not conducting business in church or the halls. In essence it will be a system where legitimate users record their number plate on entering the buildings, and a number plate recognition camera issues tickets to the registered keeper of vehicles not entered on the system after 10 mins.

Please let Fr. Keith or Fr. Jackson know your thoughts.

Mass Intentions This Week

14 August: Saturday
SAINT MAXIMILIAN MARY KOLBE
 10:00 John Walsh RIP
 18:00 Patricia, Geoffrey & Paul Emson RIP

15 August: SUNDAY
THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
 08:30 John Flannagan RIP
 10:00 Birthday Wishes for Kay & John Devereux
 11:30 All Parishioners +

16 August: Monday
 10:00 Antonis Luis Alvares RIP

17 August: Tuesday
 10:00 Birthday Wishes for Emily Okeke

18 August: Wednesday
 10:00 Irmgard Jacklowsky RIP

19 August: Thursday
 10:00 Wellbeing of Laura Brighten

20 August: Friday SAINT BERNARD
 10:00 Kieran Morgan RIP

21 August: Saturday SAINT PIUS X
 10:00 Gus Adriano RIP
 18:00 Joan McHugh RIP

22 August: TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
 08:30 Joseph & Flora Menon RIP
 10:00 All Parishioners
 11:30 Ian & Thecla Sulzdorf RIP

+ With Baptism

PLEASE NOTE:
There will not be a 7.30pm Thursday evening Mass during the month of August. They will resume in September upon Fr Keith's return.



PLEASE NOTE:
The 10am Mass WILL NOT BE LIVE STREAMED whilst Fr Keith is away. Apologies for any inconvenience,

CHURCH CLEANING
19th AUGUST - TEAM A

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 604.42
Loose cash	£ 373.58
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1055.00
Total	£ 2033.00

SECOND COLLECTIONS

We have recently installed **2nd collection boxes** on the walls of the Church. All the details for the collections will be posted here in the newsletter, as it was prior to the pandemic. Please then use these boxes for your donations. **Many thanks.**

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Elizabeth Damsel, Fr David Peck, Lauren Horwood, Sharon Gillett, Dominic Audibert-Moloney, Elizabeth Casey, Florence Okugbe, Ethan Patel, Eileen McMurray, Jonathan Leiper, Brian Kearney, Duncan Pears

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Sophia Cheshier, Dorothy Bertha Martin, Carolina Lopes, Angela Cravato, Lucy Warnock, Augustine Williams, Bob Woodroffe, Winifred Harrington, Herminia Menezes, Daniel Hanley, David Morgan, Sophia Greer, Daniel Farrell, Maria Schenk, Lucrezia Mansi, Roger Gallett, Kenneth Waller, Peter Sutcliffe, Br. Fidelis-Tony Knight, Don Galvin, Anthony Rosemeyer, Frances Mary Murphy, Diana Carrapiett, Antony Sapiano, Sylvia Kinghorn, Thomas Anderson

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!

Please remember *Frank Queally* who died on Monday, May His Gentle Soul Rest In Peace. We also remember his family & friends; a Mass will be offered for Frank & his family.

Annual ACROSS Charity Golf Classic

Anerley ACROSS is a Charity which takes disabled children on annual pilgrimage to Lourdes

*De Vere Selsdon Estate -
Friday, 17th September 2021
(please note change of date)*

10.00am: Arrival with Bacon Rolls and Tea/ Coffee

11.00am: 18 Holes of Golf

The Golf Day is available at **£50.00 per person**

You can also support the event by
Sponsoring a Hole at £50.00
Donating items for the Auction/ Raffle

*For more information, please contact
Ben Cahill on 07958 903410 or
bernardcahill2004@yahoo.co.uk*

Save the date - Sunday, 5th September: There will be a meeting at 6pm to discuss proposals for the reopening of the *Social Club: The Ballroom of Romance*. Further details of the structure of the meeting will be available at the start of September.

RECENT DEATHS & FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

We are sad to announce the recent death of *Nadia Ghawi* on Wednesday 11th August. Please keep Nadia, her daughter Isabella and their family and friends in your prayers at this sad time. Details of her funeral will follow.

The funeral of *Hannah Beston* will take place here at Our Lady's on **Thursday 26th August at 10am.**

May they both Rest In Peace.

WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING IS BACK!!!

Please join us in the hall **after the 10am Mass** for a cuppa, company and a raffle ticket! It may be your lucky day! A small donation towards costs would be appreciated. If anyone is willing to help, even occasionally, please come along and introduce yourselves.

ARE YOU IN YEAR 10 OR ABOVE FROM SEPTEMBER?

Are you interested in doing your Silver Duke of Edinburgh award or working towards a young leader qualification? Girlguiding Croydon can help make that happen. Our local Brownies unit is looking for a new Young Leader. Volunteering with us can make impressive additions to any CV or UCAS application. You'll develop skills in leadership, communication and team working. You will need to show commitment to Wednesday evenings for at least one term. We are a friendly group and do a huge range of activities from art and craft and sport, to adventurous activities, camps, and games.

For more details please contact:
Clare Buxton **0777 978 2275** or clare@teambuxton.co.uk

LIVING LAUDATO SI' RETREAT: Online from Boarbank Hall. Includes talks from Cardinal Vincent Nicholas and Bishop Paul Swarbrick. **3rd - 6th September.** Voluntary donation. No fee for weekend. To apply email Sr Margaret Atkins on margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk

OUR LADY'S TODDLER GROUP

We are pleased to announce that we shall be re-opening our doors on **Thursday 9th September at 9.30am in the large hall!** We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back.

This Toddler Group was set up many years ago by The Young Wives Committee and is affiliated with the church. Over the years we have been fortunate enough to have had some brilliant volunteers who have helped make this group very successful and a pleasure to run.

We are now looking for someone to help us to continue to run this lovely group each Thursday (term time only) 9am - 12pm.

For more information please contact
Andrea on 07952 664224

ACCOMMODATION TO LET: Addiscombe Catholic Housing Association has a second floor, two room bed-sit with a shared bathroom, utility and garden in Addiscombe, close to the shops, buses and tramlink to let.

Applicants should be 55+, not a homeowner or have savings or equity over £30,000 and able to live independently. If interested and require more details, please email carolinenestor@acha.org.uk. If you do not have access to email, call **07795 269533**.

NEEDED ESSENTIALY:

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.

FRIDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

We would very much like to resume Adoration on a Friday in September. However, in order to sustain the timeframe of 10.30am to 8pm, we need 18 people on our list ideally, as the Blessed Sacrament should not be left unattended. Unfortunately due to the pandemic, many of our regulars can no longer attend.

Are you able to commit one hour of your day to the Lord?

Please think about spending this time with God & contact Fr Keith or the parish office if you would like to put your name on our list.

SVP - AN INVITATION!

The SVP would like to invite all parishioners to join us for coffee/tea & biscuits **after the 11:30am Mass on Sunday, 22nd August**, in the large hall. We look forward to seeing you there!

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNINGS FROM SEPTEMBER

We are pleased to say that the our Sunday Coffee Mornings after 10am Mass will resume in September! Many thanks to all those who have supported them in the past. A new rota is up in the church porch for any parish groups or individuals who wish to sign up and run one.

CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES 2020

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

A CHALLENGE

In the Parable of The Talents, different people get given different levels of “gift” and use them differently. Well, not quite – the ones with five and with two do the same – they use them. It’s the person who doesn’t use what they are given who is castigated. The parable could perhaps make the point better if the person with five had done nothing and the person with one had doubled it.

At the Annual Meeting a theme ran through constantly – there was a cry of “we need volunteers” from a high proportion of those telling the meeting what their group had been doing in the last year or so. There was also mention of the old saw “if you want something done, ask a busy person”.

I have met a lady who, after organising an event (to include doing the catering), took home the tea-towels to wash; she was challenged by her husband asking whether no-one else might feel deprived of a chance to do their bit – maybe they couldn’t organise the overall event, maybe they couldn’t temporarily fund the catering costs, maybe they wouldn’t dare stand in front of microphone and MC the event – but they *could* wash tea-towels. Except that they couldn’t because *she* had.

Everyone has talents (they might not recognise them as such!!), whether that involves master-minding the opening ceremony of the London Olympics, washing a dozen tea-towels, listening patiently to someone sounding off for an hour, or making tea and coffee all afternoon – and if we fail to use those talents, we’re like the person in the parable who buried their talent in the ground. *Do we wish to be castigated by the Lord?*

Is your life full of unsatisfying things? I’m thinking of the time after I retired when I was advised not to take up any new volunteering roles until six months had passed. By then, I was told, I would be tired of pointless daytime TV, I’d have run out of “nice to do” jobs and I’d be raring to go, itching to use my brain, whether volunteering or taking an evening class or whatever. Is your life a little like that? Do you find your leisure time pursuits unsatisfying?

Surely, then, it’s time to examine yourself and ask “what am I good at?” – some will recognise that they’re good with numbers, or words, or their hands, or young people, or old people, or one-to-ones or publicity or fund-raising ... and they’ll see that they do have a talent which could benefit someone. Are you like that? Do you have a talent from which society – or some part of society – would benefit?

And don’t say “I couldn’t possibly ...” because if you look at life, you already are (whether it’s running a house, running a job, washing a dozen tea-towels, whatever) – and don’t say “I don’t know enough about ...” because there’s always room to learn. We learn constantly, from listening, from reading, from *doing*, whether we recognise it as “training” or not – and any body worth its salt will have a programme of learning, whether formal (sending you “back to school”) or informal (choir rehearsals ...)

So, when you hear someone say “we need volunteers”, ask yourself whether that’s *you* they’re talking to and whether this is your opportunity to become an *active* Disciple, promoting the Kingdom in this world. As St Francis may or may not have said, “go out and preach the Gospel. Use words if you have to”.

Don’t say “I’m too busy” and then be ready to discuss in detail a contrast between X Factor and Britain’s Got Talent. Or Bake-off and the Sewing Bee. Or BBC Sport vs Sky Sports.

And don’t say “I’m too young” unless you want to say that to William Pitt the Younger (PM at age 24) or “I’m too old” unless you’re prepared to say that to the 84-year-old Pope!



WE NEED YOUR VOTES IN STORE!

Tesco’s Bags of Help have selected the St Thomas Becket Parents Association (STBSA) to go up for a public vote in stores against two other organisations, from 12th July until 30th September 2021.

The winners of this vote will receive a cash prize to go towards a project that will benefit the community. The project the STBSA have selected is ‘IT equipment for children for home learning’.

To vote for us, when you make a purchase within a store, of any value, *you should ask the cashier for a Bags of Help token*: it’s one token per transaction and it’s not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token.

Thank you so much for your support!

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SYRIAN CONFLICT – HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELP THE SYRIAN PEOPLE

Thanks to your donations, CAFOD has been helping people in Syria since the crisis began 10 years ago. Over 12 million people have left their homes, 5.6 million are refugees in neighbouring countries and within Syria, 13 million people need help. At the beginning, our focus was on delivering food and blankets through our local church partners. Then we started providing education, health and legal services, and helping people earn a living. Our latest projects are supporting children, lonely elderly people, helping women learn to read, and helping people restart their small businesses. We’ve always planned for the long term, standing alongside people who lost everything. None of this work would have been possible without your support of CAFOD. Thank you.

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.

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.

RECYCLING - PLEASE NOTE

We continue to recycle milk-bottle tops and blister packs, but I’m sorry to say that people are leaving other things we can’t handle. We can’t handle plastic “wallets” that some blister packs come in, for example; we can only handle the blister packs themselves. The “wallet” should be put in your household recycling.

As for bottle tops, oh, please!!!! If it says “Coca Cola” on the top, it didn’t come from a milk bottle!! If it clearly is part of a bottle of hand-pumped liquid soap or hand cream, it’s not from a milk bottle!! We can only recycle milk-bottle tops, and anything else should be disposed of via your Council recycling bin.

Please don’t get me wrong, we’re very happy - very happy indeed - to continue recycling the blister packs and the milk-bottle tops - so please don’t leave anything else in the church porch for me to take home, identify and throw in my recycling bin. Throw it in your own!

Many thanks - *Andy Bebington*