



Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Tomasz Margol
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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 December Third Sunday of Advent (page 87 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR C

You do not need us to tell you that Advent is one of the Penitential seasons of the church.

In Lent we organised a number of retired clergy to be with us for a penitential rite that was (to put it politely) not well attended, in fact it has been some years since we had good numbers for these regular celebrations.

We encourage you all to consider celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation to be better prepared, heart and soul, for the upcoming feast. Fr Tomasz and Fr Keith are available after all mid-week Masses, and between 5.00-5.30pm Saturday evening, or ANYTIME by appointment.

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist reminds us all that repentance is not merely an academic exercise. It has to be demonstrated in the way we interact in the family, the work place, in church and all the places and situations in our lives.

Fr Keill.

Christmas Celebrations are as follows:

Sunday 15th - 2.00pm Everyone's Nativity

Tuesday 24th - 6.00pm Vigil Mass, & 11.30pm Mid-night Mass

Wednesday 25th - 8.30am, 10.00am & 11.30am Mass of Christmas Day.

Mass Intentions This Week

14 December: Saturday

SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

10:00 Agnes, Hilarian & Venitia Dias RIP

18:00 Arthur Fairservice RIP *

15 December: 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08:30 Private Intention *

10:00 Prince & Chief Adeyemo RIP *

11:30 Matt Dolan RIP + *

14:00 Everyone's Nativity

16 December: Monday

10:00 José Fernandez RIP

17 December: Tuesday

10:00 Birthday Wishes for Eugenia Rodrigues

18 December: Wednesday

10:00 Deceased Members of the

Heskin & Sweeney Families RIP

19 December: Thursday FUNERAL MASS

10:00 Merley Mcintosh RIP

19:30 Private Intention

20 December: Friday FUNERAL MASS

10:00 Josephine Hannan RIP

21 December: Saturday

10:00 Pat Harley RIP (Birthday)

18:00 Andy & Nuala Fox RIP

22 December: 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08:30 Michael O'Brien RIP

10:00 Dec. Mems. of the Carey Family

& Maureen Walsh RIP

11:30 John Boswood & David Warner RIP

+ *With Baptism*

* *With Foodbank Sunday*

MEETINGS

Padre Pio Prayer Group: Tuesday 17th at 10.45am (Small hall)

SVP: Tuesday 17th at 8pm (PRC)

Bible Study with Fr Tomasz: Wednesday 18th at 11.30am (Small hall)



Hearing Loop
Switch hearing aid to T-call

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm

In The Sacred Heart Chapel

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes £ 451.98

Loose cash £ 746.02

S/Os (Approx) £ 1340.00

Total £ 2538.00

*** 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

Last week's collection for *Mary's Meals* amounted to £715.00. Many thanks.

Envelopes are now available in the porch for the *Christmas Day* collection, which is your personal offering to Frs Keith & Tomasz.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Elizabeth Damsel, Lauren Horwood, Elizabeth Casey, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Marie Griffin, Ernie & Mary, Arthur Hughes, Peggy Wall, Canon Peter Stodart, Joseph Anand, Paul Gillen & all others

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Maureen Hayes, Freda Santry, Eugene Baptiste, Martin McCorry, Anthony McGuane, Gerry Finigan, Massimina Oriani, Joseph Cruz, Victor Michael, Maria Sequeira, Louise Carter, Elsie Carpenter, Sr. Elizabeth Craig, Ellen Curry, John Knight, Baby James Naylor, Mary Lane, Edith Smith, Norah Everest, Dennis Godfree, George Fowler, Alfreda Schembri, Paddy O'Connor, Rosaleen Jamieson, Mary White, Isabella Rees, May Lally, George Hennessy, Andrew Fox, Helen Smyth, Marie Louise Powell, Tony Nasri, Elizabeth Jerome, Hietty Palmer, Patrick Conway, Patrick Maher, Alfred Henry Daubney, Marie McCann, Richard Avery, Patricia Whiffin, Percy Fowler, Anita Parker, Ashley Jacob

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

15th December: Frank Nelson

22nd December: Pat Jordan

29th December: Kieran White

5th January: Theresa Rodgers

12th January: Frank Nelson

19th January: Shane & Mervyn Owens

26th January: Cross Keys

2nd February: Finbar & Paul

- The Social Club will start the New Year with a **Tea Dance on Wednesday, 1st January** from 2pm - 6pm. To reserve a Ticket (Members: £5 & Guests: £6), call **Ben Cahill on 07958 903410**.

- 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**.

- In recent weeks, the Social Club has been able to make donations to two vital services that serve the local & national Community:

The Woodside Bereavement Service - a service providing one-to-one and group bereavement support sessions to local residents: a donation of £1,000.00 has been made.

Stamp Out Suicide (www.stampoutsuicide.co.uk) - a counselling service supporting anyone with suicidal thoughts: a donation of £200.00 has been made.

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th December: CLOSED

Monday 30th December: CLOSED

Tuesday 31st December: OPEN 9.30am - 11.30am

Wednesday 1st January: CLOSED

Thursday 2nd January: CLOSED

Friday 3rd January: OPEN 9.30am - 11.30am

Monday 6th January: CLOSED

Our usual office hours resume on Tuesday 7th January 2025

OUR LADY'S CENTENARY CALENDARS

Calendars will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. Please see notices in the church porch. If you'd like to reserve any copies, please contact **Marie Tross** on **07774 643159** or email **tross.marie@gmail.com**.

WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNINGS: Emer & Dave would like to thank all those who have supported our coffee mornings. We have been able to give a cheque to St Mildred's Homeless fund for £435! It was great to be able to that on your behalf.

Thank you again and God bless!

**** POLITE REMINDER ****

Please remember that ALL posters/notices/adverts that you wish to be displayed in the porch **MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH THE PARISH OFFICE** for authorisation and stamping. Thanks.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024 -2025

Recently at Mass, you may have noticed some children wearing white sashes with crosses on them. These are the children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion next year. Until then, they will be wearing them every Sunday. We are asking that you support them and their families with your prayers in the coming year. They took part in a very successful activity morning as a starter to their programme & dedicated themselves to a prayerful and successful year learning about the full meaning of the Eucharist.

The FHC Catechists

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.

FAREWELL TO MRS. HARPER!

As many of you already know, Mrs. Harper will be leaving St Thomas Becket Primary School after an incredible **37 years** of dedicated service.

To show our appreciation for everything she has done for the school community, the STBSA are organising a special collection from the school community, past and present. If you wish to contribute to this collection, you can do so here:

pay.collectiv.com/mrs-harpers-retirement-collection-33598

If anyone would like to send a special message, please share it here: **forms.gle/7m15mGW6JNdh7Z6j8**

Let's make her farewell memorable! Thank you for your support!

YOU'RE INVITED: EVERYONE'S NATIVITY SERVICE TODAY! Sunday 15th December 2 - 3.30pm

Join us in the church for an interactive and family friendly reading of the Nativity Story. Dress as a Nativity character to help bring this special story to life. Costumes can be as simple or as elaborate as you like. We don't mind how many Marys, Josephs, donkeys, innkeepers, stars, shepherds, wise men, angels or kings - the more the merrier!

After the service, which will last for around 30 minutes, there will be arts & crafts activities and refreshments in the large hall.

We look forward to seeing you this afternoon!

FESTIVE CHRISTMAS HAMPER SALE Sunday 22nd December in the large hall

Next Sunday, during coffee morning in the large hall (**after 10am Mass**) there will be a sale of CHRISTMAS HAMPERS to **raise funds for Our Lady's grotto**.

The hampers will feature festive items and be sold at affordable prices from £10 - £20.

Please come along and support our efforts and buy a lovely hamper to enjoy, or gift to someone special.

ST THOMAS BECKET CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: SEWING SKILLS NEEDED!

The St. Thomas Becket School Association is looking for volunteers from our community with sewing skills to help repurpose preloved uniforms into various items, including hairbands, scrunchies, bunting, bears, lanyards, and leavers cushions.

If you have sewing experience and are willing to help, please reach out to us at **stbsateam@gmail.com** or text Sarah at **07950 381029**. This initiative serves as a fundraiser for our school and promotes environmental sustainability. Your support is greatly appreciated!

BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS WITH FR TOMASZ

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

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OVERSEAS: Will be sending cards to many of us this Christmas. Please save the stamps and put them in the box in the porch. Foreign stamps significantly boost the value of donation of stamps ...

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).

For Collection:

Rotas: Eucharistic Ministers (Dec) Readers (November/December & Christmas)

Baptism Certs: Should be collected from the parish office