



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

19th March 2023 Fourth Sunday in Lent (page 164 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

Tamaso ma jyotirgamaya (From darkness, lead me to the light)

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as “*Laetare* (Rejoice) Sunday,” expressing the Church’s joy in anticipation of the Resurrection of our Lord. Today’s readings remind us that it is God who both gives us proper vision in body as well as in soul and instructs us that we should be constantly on our guard against spiritual blindness.

By describing the anointing of David as the second king of Israel, the first reading, taken from the First Book of Samuel, illustrates how blind we are in our judgments and how much we need God’s help. It reminds us that those whom God involves in his saving plans are not necessarily those whom the world perceives as great.

Today’s Gospel teaches us the necessity of being willing to have our eyes opened by Faith, and warns us that those who assume they see the truth are often blind, while those who acknowledge their blindness are given clear vision. In this episode, the most unlikely person, namely the beggar born blind, receives the light of Faith in Jesus, while the religion-oriented, law-educated Pharisees remain spiritually blind. To live as a Christian is to see and to grow continually, gaining clearer vision about God, about ourselves and about others. Our Lenten prayers and sacrifices should help to heal our spiritual blindness so that we can look at others, see them as children of God, and love them as our own brothers and sisters, saved by the death and Resurrection of Jesus.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE *with visiting priests*

Tuesday 28th March at 7.30pm

MEETINGS

Ascent Group: Tuesday 21st at 10.30am (Large Hall)
SVP: Tuesday 21st at 8pm (PRC)
1st Holy Communion Parents’ Meeting: Tuesday 21st at 8pm (Large Hall)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Fridays 10.30am - 12pm
 In The Sacred Heart Chapel

CHURCH CLEANING
 23rd MARCH - TEAM D

LAST WEEK’S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 397.27
Loose cash	£ 376.73
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1140.00
Total	£ 1914.00

Mass Intentions This Week

- 18 March: Saturday**
 10:00 William Cornabe RIP
 18:00 Intentions of Brieger Sweeney #
- 19 March: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**
 08:30 Felix Banjo & Martina Oseni RIP #
 10:00 All Parishioners # ~
 11:30 Matt Dolan RIP #
- 20 March: Monday SAINT JOSEPH**
 10:00 Helen Hibbit RIP
- 21 March: Tuesday**
 10:00 Babs McKeown RIP
- 22 March: Wednesday**
 10:00 Eileen Dallas RIP
 15:45 *Stations of the Cross*
- 23 March: Thursday**
 10:00 Wellbeing of Wanda Woolcott
 19:30 Julius Largo Ellis RIP
- 24 March: Friday**
 10:00 Don Carmichael RIP
- 25 March: Saturday**
THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
 10:00 25th Birthday Wishes for Francisco Fernandes
 18:00 Harry, Michael & Harold Sweeney RIP
- 26 March: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**
 08:30 All Parishioners *
 10:00 Abraham & Martha Pereira RIP *
 11:30 Kath & Ed Gallacher RIP

With Foodbank Sunday
~ *With Uniformed Groups*
* *With Children’s Liturgy*

*** DEFIBRILLATOR ***

A defibrillator is located on the right hand side of the porch as you enter the church.

COLLECTIONS

This week there will be a diocesan second collection for **Poor Parishes**.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Elizabeth Damsel, Lauren Horwood, Elizabeth Casey, Brian Kearney, Jose Fernandez, Kevin Moynihan, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Marie Griffin, Ernie & Mary

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: 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, Sr Anthony, Edmond Kiely, Desmond Kavanagh, Denis Whitworth, Ethel Bowen, Rita Stone, Charles Martynski, Stephen Connolly, John Bradley, Emily Judge, Patrick O’Callaghan, Margaret Warne, Colleen Barretto, Fr. Denis Paul, Patrick McHale, Richard Gillen, Delia Carder, Brendan Hickey, Norma Waddell

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

19th March: Glen Flynn

26th March: Shane & Mervyn Owens

2nd April: Pat Jordan

9th April: Shawn Cuddy

16th April: Finbar & Paul

23rd April: Ally Harron & Marian Curry

30th April: Theresa Rodgers

7th May: Kenny Paul

- Thank you to the Parish Community & the Members of the Social Club for your support of the recent **Bacon and Cabbage D & D**. The event raised £2,000.00; these resources will be given to the **Anerley ACROSS Charity** to support their forthcoming pilgrimage to Lourdes.

- A **Quiz Night** will take place on **Friday, 28th April**. All proceeds from this event will be given to the **Brain Tumour Charity**. All Guests will receive a Fish/Chicken or Veggie Burger & Chips Supper. Tickets are £15.00 **SEE THE POSTER FOR MORE INFORMATION AND PICK UP A BOOKING FORM IN THE PORCH**

- The **Bay City Rollers Tribute Evening** on Friday, 19th May. All proceeds from this event will support local Charities including **Children with Cancer at CUH** and the **Critical Care Centre at KCH**. Tickets at £15.00 each can be reserved by sending a Text Message to **Pat Winston at 07734 250375**.

RECENT DEATH & FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

We are sad to announce the recent death of **Joseph Colairo**. Details of his funeral to be held here at Our Lady's, will follow shortly.

The funeral of **Simon Nolan** will take place here at Our Lady's on **Tuesday 28th March at 10am**.

The funeral of **Nora McGowan** will also take place here at Our Lady's on **Tuesday 4th April at 10am**.

Please keep them and their families in your prayers at this time.

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 - 7pm**.

To register your interest please contact:

Joseph 07714 203973 or Grace 07516 396009

BY HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED: The All Nations Catholic Charismatic Group would like to invite you for a day of healing and prayer at Our Lady's on **Saturday 25th March** from **10am - 4pm**. The programme will begin with Eucharistic celebration followed by rosary, Holy wounds novena, adoration, confession, healing prayer and praise and Worship.

Come and encounter the Lord who forgives all our iniquities.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDP) - 2023

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all those who came to our service on 3rd March and especially to those who took on specific roles and helped with setting up the church. It was beautiful to know that we were joining with people around the world in prayer and song and showing our solidarity with the women of Taiwan who designed the service. In addition we raised over £200 in donations to support the WDP Programme of provision of grants to registered Christian charities here in the UK and worldwide. Special thanks go to Jacqueline Sylvia for the musical input and to Fr Keith for supporting us over the years - without them, we would not have such a blessed and exciting experience. *For next year, in March 2024, we will be sharing a service prepared by the women of Palestine, another country which is continuing to experience huge pressures in their daily lives. It would be lovely if we could show them they are not alone in prayer and their hopes for the future.*

Items for collection: *H Carmichael, JPIC Co-Ordinator*

Baptism certificates: *COLLECT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE*

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

*** UCM SPECIAL MEETING ***

DRUG AWARENESS & YOUNG PEOPLE BY DANIEL SPARGO - MABBS FOUNDATION DRUG EDUCATION CHARITY

Wed 5th April Large hall 8pm - Entry Minimum £2 donation

All parishioners are invited but especially parents, carers and youth leaders (18 and over only please)

This is a drug and alcohol awareness workshop which will be led by the foundation's founder and director - Fiona Spargo-Mabbs. This foundation was set up by Fiona and Tim in 2014 after the tragic death of their son, 16 year old Daniel, as a result of taking ecstasy. For more information, please visit their website: www.dsmfoundation.org.uk or contact Marie (UCM) **07774 643159**

OUR LADY'S ASCENT GROUP (Members of Life Ascending)

Is meeting every second Tuesday in the Large Hall after 10am Mass. Life Ascending is a Catholic Organisation for people in middle and later life. It celebrates our faith and the sharing of common experiences of life. It encourages friendship between retired people, stimulates thoughts and discussion. It helps us to reflect on the purpose of our own lives as we grow older. Please do join us.

21st March: Part 4 of the Video "The Best Is Yet To Come"

4th April in the Small Hall at 11am: Gospel Reading for the day

IMPORTANT NOTICE - OUR LADY'S TODDLER GROUP

This Toddler Group was set up over 40 years ago by The Young Wives Committee and is a valued resource in the parish. Over the years we have been fortunate enough to have some brilliant volunteers who've helped make this group very successful and a pleasure to run.

We are now looking for someone new to take the helm, as Andrea is retiring from the role of lead co-ordinator after 20 years!

If you think you would like this opportunity to work as a volunteer with a great team of helpers, in this very rewarding role, and continue to run this lovely group each Thursday (term time only) 9am - 12pm....

please contact **Andrea** on **07952 664224**

PARISH FILM SHOW

The Film Show team will present their next show on **Friday 14th April at 7.30pm**. This will be in support of the national charity Life.

Booking information will appear in next week's newsletter.

BINGO NIGHT

The 28th Croydon Scout Group invite all Parishioners to their Family Fun Bingo evening on **Saturday 25th March** from **7pm until 10.30pm** in the **large hall**.

Line prizes, House Prizes, Heads & Tails game, Children's Quiz, Tuck Shop and Bar open.

Entry Prices: Adults £1.00, Children (6 to 17 - 50p / Under 5's free).

Please reserve your places by contacting **Kevin Moynihan** on **07952 752790** or email: kevmoynihnan@msn.com.

Places limited to 100 so don't delay – book today!

COULD YOU BE A RAINBOW LEADER?

The upcoming Easter break brings the departure of Sarah as leader of the 5th Addiscombe Rainbows. As yet, no volunteers have stepped up to take over this very rewarding role, which would mean the unit (*our last remaining Rainbow unit*) would be **forced to shut down**.

Please don't let this happen to our Rainbows! If you think you could be the leader the unit need, please contact Sarah for more information about what is involved, by either:

Emailing oakley50@gmail.com Or texting **07950 381029**

A CLEANER IS REQUIRED FOR SELSDON PARISH

Three hours on one weekday. Time and remuneration by arrangement. Please contact Fr Julian on **020 8657 3747** or email selsdon@rcaos.org.uk