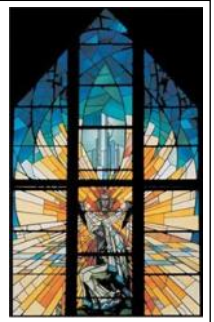




# Our Lady of the Annunciation



**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

## 19th November 2023 Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (page 155 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

At first, it may strike you that each of the servants were entrusted with a different number of talents, a reference to the monetary system used at that time. In our day and age we tend to be fixated on what many call "equal rights." We get envious and angry if others seem to be treated better than us and there are many who become quite vocal about any perceived lack of fairness.

How would you feel if you were the one who received only one talent in this story after watching two others receive five and two talents? Would you feel cheated? Would you complain? Perhaps.

Though the heart of the message in this parable is more about what one does with that which is received, it's interesting to note that God does appear to give different portions to different people. To some He gives what appears to be an abundance of blessings and responsibility. To others He appears to give very little that is considered of value in this world.

God does not lack justice in any way. Therefore, this parable should help us to accept the fact that life may not always "appear" to be fair and equal. But this is a worldly perspective, not a divine one. From the mind of God, those who have been given very little in the view of the world have as much potential to produce an abundance of good fruit as those who have been entrusted with much. Think, for example, about the difference between the wealthy and a beggar. It's easy to compare ourselves to others, but the fact is that the only thing that matters is what we do with that which we have received. If you are a poor beggar who has been dealt a very difficult situation in life, you have just as much potential to glorify God and produce an abundance of spiritual fruit as anyone else; perhaps more so when you take into consideration what Jesus says about the wealthy in the Gospel.

Reflect, today, upon all that God has given you. What are your "talents?" What have you been given to work with in life? This would include material blessings, circumstances, natural talents and extraordinary graces. How well do you use what you have been given? Do not compare yourself to others. Instead, use what you have been given for the glory of God and you will be rewarded for all eternity.



## Mass Intentions This Week

- 18 November: Saturday**  
 10:00 Teresa Dolan RIP  
 18:00 Brian O'Brien & Dennis Budhu RIP ~
- 19 November: THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY**  
 08:30 Noel Mitchener RIP Anniversary ~  
 10:00 All Parishioners ~ #  
 11:30 Arthur Fairservice RIP ~ +
- 20 November: Monday**  
 10:00 Raymond Chow RIP
- 21 November: Tuesday PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
 10:00 Holy Souls
- 22 November: Wednesday SAINT CECILIA**  
 10:00 Betty McHugh RIP
- 23 November: Thursday**  
 10:00 Margaret Kelleher RIP  
 19:30 Carmen Tinglin RIP
- 24 November: Friday SAINT ANDREW DUNG-LAC**  
 10:00 Lawrence Pereira RIP
- 25 November: Saturday**  
 10:00 Bryan Cully RIP  
 18:00 Domingos C D'Souza RIP
- 26 November: SUNDAY OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE**  
 08:30 Mr & Mrs Mathiyas RIP #  
 10:00 Maureen Walsh RIP 2nd Anniversary  
 11:30 Vincente Fernandez RIP
- ~ With Foodbank Sunday  
 + With Baptism  
 # With Children's Liturgy

## MEETINGS

- Ascent Group:** Tuesday 21st at 10.30am (Large Hall)  
**SVP:** Tuesday 21st at 8pm (PRC)  
**Adult Catechesis:** Wed 22nd at 11.15am (Large Hall) & 7.45pm (Small Hall)  
**PPC Meeting:** Thursday 23rd at 8pm (PRC)  
**1st Holy Communion Activity Morning:** Saturday 25th at 10am (Large Hall)



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

## LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 581.30
Loose cash	£ 566.43
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1290.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 2437.73</b>

## \*\*\* DEFIBRILLATOR \*\*\*

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

## COLLECTIONS

Last week's collection for *The Archbishop's Appeal* amounted to £764.77. Many thanks.  
 Next week there will be a Diocesan collection for *Youth Sunday*.

**We pray for the sick in our Parish:** Geoffrey Bird, Dominic Audibert-Moloney, Fr Alan Sharpe, Jean Carpenter, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Michael Hewish, Ann Page

**We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week:** Ned Duffin, Ivy Cooper, Doreen Donegan, James Tully, Don Carmichael, Margaret Dolan, Patrick McHugh, Rita McMahon, Maria Rodrigues, Bernadette Wyatt, John McCarthy, Thomas Lott, James Stewart, Charles Campbell, Reita Pegrum, Ralph Reynolds, Agnes Walker, Anne Sequeira, Antonina Laskowska, Bridget Derby, Mgr. John J. Moran, Catherine Swainsbury, Con Molyneaux, Margaret McGing, Patience Claudius, Arthur Brandon, John Fisher, Nuala Fox, Maureen Walsh

### SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

*A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club*

**Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm**

5th November: Kieran White

12th November: Pat Jordan

19th November: Ally Harron & Marian Curry

26th November: Shane & Mervyn Owens

3rd December: Theresa Rodgers

10th December: Glen Flynn

17th December: Frank Nelson

31st December: **New Year's Eve Party** - Ally Harron/Marian Curry

7th January: Kieran White

14th January: Theresa Rodgers

- The AGM of the Social Club will take place on Sunday, 19th November at 6.30pm. There will be a review of activities over the last year followed the proposed programme for 2024.

- In partnership with St Mildred's Church, we will be supporting the **Annual Pyjama Appeal for Children** up to 18 years of age in Hospital, Hospices and Women's Refuges throughout the UK. If you would like to support the appeal, please bring your Pyjama sets to Mass over the weekend 25th/ 26th November.

\* The Pyjamas need to be brand NEW

\* They must not be wrapped

\* Please avoid Christmas themed pyjamas as excess pairs are given to children throughout the year

\* Please avoid fleecy pyjamas and onesies as hospitals wards can be quite warm

- **The Declan Nerney & His Band evening - is completely SOLD OUT.** No tickets will be available at the door.

- **The Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons Tribute Evening** will take place on Friday, 15th December. All proceeds from the event will support the Anerley ACROSS; a Charity which will be taking a party of disabled children to Lourdes in June ' 24. Tickets at £15.00 each can be reserved by calling Ben Cahill on 07958 903410.

### CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS

Fr Tomasz delivers catechesis for adults **every Wednesday from 11.15am (during coffee morning) in the large hall, and at 7.45pm in the small hall.** He looks forward to seeing you there!

**Topic for this week:**

What The Church Teaches About Assisted Dying & Euthanasia

**GIFT AID ENVELOPES:** Please remember to use your Gift Aid envelopes every week. If you require a replacement set please contact the parish office and a new set can be arranged for you.

**\*\*\* SAVE THE DATE - Everyone's Nativity \*\*\***  
**Sunday 10th December, 2 - 3pm**

Join us for an interactive and 'family friendly' reading of the Nativity Story. Come dressed up as one of the characters to help bring this special story to life. Your costume can be as elaborate or as simple as you like. We don't mind how many Marys, Josephs, Donkeys, Innkeepers, Stars, Shepherds, Wise Men, Angels or Kings we have. Everyone will be included - the more the merrier!

*Afterwards, festive refreshments will be served in the church hall, and all children will be invited to take part in arts & craft activities.*

### HOLY SOULS - NOVEMBER LIST

We invite you to take a Holy Souls envelope from the table at the back of church. Write a list of any family and friends who have died, and put it in the envelope. **Please place the envelope in the secure 'offertory' box in the Lady chapel.** The list of names will then be placed in our Memorial basket (in the Lady Chapel) and your deceased loved ones will be remembered at all Masses during the month of November. Any donations in the envelopes are used as Mass stipends for Masses for the Holy Souls throughout the year.

### PRIMARY SCHOOL REFERENCES FOR 2024 ENTRY

Priest's reference application forms are now available to download from our website. Please return the completed form to the parish office before ringing to arrange an appointment with Fr Keith. Appointments will **ONLY** run between **Monday 20th November and Friday 8th December.**

### ANNUAL REFUGEE DAY CENTRE TOY COLLECTION 2nd/3rd December

Please bring your gifts wrapped and marked with age & gender. (Please avoid gifts involving paints as children may be housed in hotels and toys with combat connotations). You will be invited to bring up your gifts to the altar during the Offertory at Mass.

### 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 November:** CaFE Video on St. Catherine of Sienna

**5th December:** Talk on Prayer by Sr. Sheila Moloney, DMJ

**19th December:** Social with shared refreshments and discussion on Life Ascending matters

### ADVENT WREATH MAKING

**Saturday 25th November 2 - 4pm in the Large Hall**

I have a small supply of rings for sale at £4.50 to make the wreaths; please contact me by Wednesday 22nd November if you need one. Bring garden clippers/scissors, gloves, and any candles, greenery or decorations you wish to add. **Call or text Joanna on 07793 826103**

### GOLDEN PENNIES

It's that time of the year again! Please bring in your golden pennies jar. Kindly leave it with the office or the church on the porch by the last Sunday in November. Don't worry if your jar isn't full, as every penny helps. Feel free to use your own jars. Thanks to everybody who already has a jar or picked up one last Sunday. All proceeds go towards Christmas meals for the homeless.

### COFFEE, CHAT, COMPANY AND CAKES!

Join us for bacon butties at coffee morning this Sunday after 10am Mass. We look forward to seeing you for cake, company and coffee with the rare appearance of a bacon roll! You are awesome. Thank you!

From The Second Sunday Coffee Morning Group

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH OCTOBER 2023 AND SICKLE CELL CHARITIES

Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to Black History Month coffee morning two weeks ago it was a lovely gathering and stories of black Faith leaders and other people that we found inspiring in recent times. We enjoyed eating "akara" (bean fritters). Did you know the first Black CoE Bishop Wilfrid Woods 1985 to 2003 lived in Croydon. We also raised a whopping £109.43 that morning for sickle cell.

### THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL – VACANCY

We are currently looking to appoint a full-time **Finance Assistant**. Please visit the school's website for more information.

<https://www.johnfisherschool.org/our-school/career-opportunities>

### \*\* PAY WHAT YOU CAN CAFE \*\*

Eat, drink, chill and pay what you can afford! Every Tuesday - Friday 10am to 5pm at Socco Cheta Café, 44B Portland Road.

**For Collection:** Joanna Murphy

**Baptism certificates:** COLLECT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE OR RING TO ARRANGE COLLECTION FROM CHURCH

**Rotas:** Eucharistic Ministers (Nov) Readers (Nov/Dec)