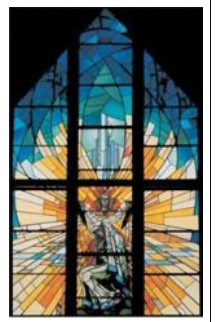


Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Jackson Sebastian
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: The office is currently closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
By appointment only

21st February 2021 First Sunday of Lent YEAR B

The values of the gospel are not always at home in the world in which we live. The pressure to compromise with those values can be very strong. We can find ourselves in something of a moral and spiritual wilderness where there is very little appreciation for, or understanding of the gospel message. Indeed, we can feel very alone as Jesus must have felt very alone in the wilderness.

At such times we have to remind ourselves that we are not alone, no more than Jesus was really alone in the wilderness. The angels are ministering to us. The Lord's ministering, empowering and comforting presence is always at hand. That was the opening message of Jesus as soon as he stepped out of the wilderness, 'the time has come; the kingdom of God is close at hand'. Jesus had come up against the kingdom of Satan during his forty days in the wilderness. However he emerged from that testing time knowing that the kingdom of God was stronger than the kingdom of Satan, proclaiming that the reign of God was present for all. In his letter to the Romans Saint Paul would put that conviction in a very succinct fashion, 'where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more'. That is why Paul could say to the members of the church in Corinth, 'God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it'. There may indeed be wild beast out there, forces that seek to undermine our faith in the Lord and the way of life that flows from that. However, today's gospel reading assures us that there is an even more fundamental reality, and that is the reality of the Lord's empowering presence. The angels will minister to us; the Lord will stand by us. He has given us and will continue to give us an abundance of resources. God is constantly at work among us and within us.



There are a few online options for Free Lent Courses. They vary in theme and structure. Take a look at them and choose the one best suited to you.

<http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/followme>

<https://comeandsee.org/lent>

<https://stpaulcenter.com/studies-tools/journey-through-scripture/parousia-the-bible-and-the-mass/>

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/lent/>

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Lent-Calendar>

Mass Intentions This Week

20 February: Saturday

10:00 *Eucharistic Service*

17:30 Joan McHugh RIP

18:30 George Hennessy RIP

21 February: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

09:00 Welfare of the Nash Family

10:00 Shirley Gaunt RIP

11:00 All Parishioners

12:00 Adam Coleman RIP

22 February: Monday

THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER

10:00 Lucas, Ubaldina & Sylvia DeSouza RIP

23 February: Tuesday

10:00 Wellbeing of the Petrillo
& Philbey Families

24 February: Wednesday

10:00 Harry Sweeney RIP

25 February: Thursday

10:00 Zena Marshall RIP

19:30 *Stations of the Cross*

26 February: Friday

10:00 Intentions of Tobi Arowobusoye

27 February: Saturday

10:00 Martha Sam Vu RIP

17:30 Lance Baptiste RIP

18:30 Sylvester Seaton RIP

28 February: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

09:00 All Parishioners

10:00 Dolly & Ashley Park RIP

11:00 James Brady RIP

12:00 Joe Morgan RIP



IMPORTANT REMINDER

*Our 10am Mass each Sunday is
LIVE STREAMED through our
Facebook page.*

CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES 2020

Confirmation certificates for 2020 can now be collected from the Parish Office. Please ring to let us know when you will collect. *Many thanks.*

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Geoffrey Bird, Phyllis Donnelly, Elizabeth Casey, Florence Okugbe, Ethan Patel, Fr Alan Sharpe, Eileen McMurray, Karen Pearson, Mary Rayner, Bina Bowen, Patrick Murphy

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: George Kaazana, Denis Kelleher, Mary McDowell, George Paice, Edmund Claudius, Caroline Assey, Carol Ann Davey, Gerry Marcelle, Michael White, Tony Durkan, Marshall Henry Weetman, Jessie Mills, Gerard Chandler, Irene Rodrigues, Rose Childs, Mary Mann, Peter O'Flynn, Elizabeth Comber, Sian O'Hara, Kevin Sweeney, Brian Linnane, Kathleen Milmo, Bartolomeo Argenziano, Baby Alexander Partridge, Hanora Daly, Immacolata Di Meo, Antonietta Catley, Michael Grogan, Anne Rogers, Inocencia Fernandes, Vincent McLaughlin, Rose Barker, James Reid, Richard Molyneux, Marshall Weetman, Lancelot Baptiste, Bridget Baptiste, Andonieta Mansi, Patrick O'Hare, Doris Wilson, Stephen Walker

***** IMPORTANT TRACK & TRACE INFORMATION *****
Please text your name to - [07548 868418](tel:07548868418). Many thanks for your cooperation.

***** POLITE REMINDER *****

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING WHILST IN CHURCH. OUR SEATING IS CLEARLY MARKED TO INDICATE WHERE IT IS SAFE TO SIT. **DO NOT SIT WHERE THERE IS RED TAPE ON A PEW UNLESS YOU ARE IN YOUR FAMILY BUBBLE.** THANK YOU.

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!
Thank you for your support of our *February Irish Shop project*; £400.00 has been raised for the Anerley ACROSS Tumour Charity.
If the Social Club Committee can help you in anyway, please make contact with the Parish Office. You may need assistance with shopping, collection of medication, transport to a hospital appointment et al. **No task is too small - please make contact.**

RECENT DEATH: We are sad to announce the recent death of **Pat Ryan**. Pat was a well known member of our parish and a keen advocate of Eucharistic Adoration here. Please keep Pat and all his family in your prayers at this difficult time.

EXPERIENCED CLEANER REQUIRED

Please contact the parish office **VIA EMAIL** for further details at addiscombe@rcaos.org.uk as the office remains closed at this time.
Many thanks.

AN UPDATE FROM ADDISCOMBE WELCOMES REFUGEES GROUP

The Covid-19 pandemic brought Community Sponsorship programmes in the UK to a halt in March 2020. Having received 'approval in principle' to welcome a family before the pandemic hit, as you'll be aware, our group were actively preparing for their arrival.

The Home Office recently announced that some of the first refugees since the pandemic began will arrive in the UK this month. We have been contacted and asked to get ready to welcome a family, which is a positive indication. We are still waiting for the Home Office to confirm details of who will be coming and when. As soon as we have more information, we will update the parish.

In the meantime we would like to thank everyone who has helped us reach this point - supporting, donating, advising and encouraging. Best wishes, and thanks as ever. Sophia

HOLY WEEK VOICES FROM THE HOLY LAND: Is a prayerful and timely resource which contains poems, scripture, prayers and much more. It can be used for individual meditation as well as group reflection. For details on how to obtain your copy priced at £7.99 visit our website.

www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

GIFT AID BOXES

There are still 70+ sets of Gift Aid envelopes uncollected in the parish office. If you would like yours, please ring the office giving your **FULL NAME** and your box will be left on the table in the church entrance for collection.

LENT AT OUR LADY'S

During Lent, the **10am Mass on Wednesday mornings** will be **LIVE STREAMED** and Fr Keith will give a themed homily each week. There will also be **Stations of the Cross** every **THURSDAY EVENING AT 7.30pm**.

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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

In order to provide our secretaries with a **COVID SECURE** working environment, the Parish office **REMAINS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**. Rachel and Stephanie continue to work in isolation answering your calls and emails, *however please do not go to the office without an appointment or calling to notify us in advance.*

Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

OFFERING A MASS INTENTION: If you wish to offer a Mass intention at this time, please either use an 'Intentions' envelope located in a tray by the church exit, or complete the form on our website under the **COVID 19** tab. You can print this off and return it via the parish office letterbox with stipend enclosed, or email it to us directly at addiscombe@rcaos.org.uk. If you choose to email the form we will then contact you once lockdown is lifted regarding the stipend.

PURCHASING MASS CARDS: The parish office remains closed to the public. If you wish to purchase a Mass card, *please see Fr Keith or Fr Jackson who can assist you with this.* Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

EASTER EGGS



Please see page 3 for news of how to buy fairtrade Easter eggs and other goods (and how to give some away!)

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: This Lent, we can continue to express our shared love and concern as one global Church Family. Our *Family Fast Day* will be on **Friday 26th February**. Please support our appeal online at cafod.org.uk/lent

FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH OF LOVE.....

St Thomas Becket School Association are selling **wooden hearts**, which people can write the names of loved ones on, and loop them around the school fence on Birchanger Road, Woodside, for the month of February. Hearts will cost **£2 each** and can be purchased through this site [STBSA \(pta-events.co.uk\)](http://STBSA(pta-events.co.uk))

OUR LADY'S SAFEGUARDING OFFICER - Ann Marie Christian. Contact email - addiscombesg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

**STAY
HOME**

**PROTECT
THE NHS**

**SAVE
LIVES**

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**A FAIR-TRADE EASTER? AND SUPPORT FOR THE
NEW ADDINGTON FOOD BANK? READ ON**



The parish's Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Group is unable to offer fair-trade Easter eggs *in church* this year for obvious reasons. Instead, we are offering to supply *The Real Easter Egg* (with a children's book about the Easter story) on a payment-with-order-and-we'll-deliver basis.

We promote fairly traded goods because we think that third world farmers get a raw deal from "big business"; and companies like Traidcraft and Café Direct seek to engage with those farmers to offer a fair-trade bonus on price, a guarantee on price (which is perhaps more valuable) and an offer of assistance in achieving local aims (a new school, a clinic, a safe water supply or whatever) in a non-patronising way.

Climate change impacts directly on some countries, by disrupting the rainfall pattern and making crop security more of a gamble than it was; by inducing landslides and floods – or drought! – which make subsistence living, or growing goods for trade, far more difficult and problematic. They don't create the carbon emissions which exacerbate climate change – they merely suffer, far more than we in the western world, the consequences.

This is why JPIC members promote (and use) fairly traded goods. We hope you will join us this Easter!

For the first time, and bearing in mind that the Repository is currently closed, *we can also offer Easter cards* on the same payment-with-order basis.

"The best chocolate I've ever tasted" was the verdict of Daniel (9) although the book was a little young for him (didn't stop him eating the chocolate!) – and that was the milk chocolate egg at £4.50 (a white chocolate egg costs the same). There's also the dark chocolate egg at £5.95 with extra chocolate squares and an "Easter sharing book" ... all eggs come in a plastic-free box (result!).

Please visit traidcraftshop.co.uk and look for their Easter cards, Real Easter eggs and other goods. We have an agency arrangement with Traidcraft and our rep is **Andy Bebington**. Please send your order and a cheque (to **A P Bebington, please; send or deliver to 97 Shirley Way, CR0 8PL, 020 8777 4840 or andy.bebington@gmail.com**) by the **end of February**. Don't forget – cash with order, please, and don't leave it to the last minute!!

The agency arrangement allows the parish a discount and we have traditionally donated the surplus to the New Addington food bank. As a new initiative, this year you are invited to consider "buy two, give one away" (or 4 and 2, 6 and 3, so forth) so that you buy twice as many as you want and we deliver the extra one (or more) to the food bank for adding to their food parcels at Easter; that way, we get the Easter books into homes where they might not know what Easter is *really* all about. Please make clear whether your order includes any eggs (and how many) which you wish us to pass on for you.

Remember the saying attributed the St Francis, talking to his Brothers –

"Go out and preach the Gospel. Use words if you have to".



**STAY
HOME**

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LIVES**