

Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia

Assistant Priest: Fr. Cajetan Dara

147 Bingham Road, Addiscombe, Croydon CR0 7EN. Phone 020-8654 1709

email: addiscombe@rcaos.org.uk

website: www.addiscombeatholicchurch.com

Diocesan website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9am - 3pm Wednesday: Closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Monday - Saturday: Before or After 10am Mass or By Appointment

25th January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (page 127 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

Jesus is the promised light that has come into our midst. The light that shines brightly will bathe all humanity bringing healing.

This truth is expressed through Jesus's call of the first Apostles. He chooses them with an unequivocal call, 'Follow Me'. Faced with God's sudden interruption in their lives He invited them to abandon the nets and trust themselves totally to the Lord for a new 'catch', a new definitive horizon. At the Last Supper, the end of His earthly life, Jesus reminds His disciples 'you did not choose me, no, I chose you' (Jn 15:16).

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to remember that our personal vocation is founded on God's original and absolutely free choice. His invitation towards us, therefore, is an invitation to make a final decision to let Him conquer or re-conquer us to mark a turning point in our lives.

Let us ask the Lord, for ourselves and the whole Church, for the gift of a true conversion of our hearts enabling us to receive Christ as the only Light to follow. Christ is the only one that really dispels the darkness within and around us.

The Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-Elect Gerard Bradley is taking place at 12.30pm in St George's Cathedral on Monday 2nd February.

All are welcome to attend!

MEETINGS

Ascent Group: Tuesday 27th at 10.45am (Small Hall)

SVP: Tuesday 27th at 8pm (PRC)

RCIA: Wednesday 28th at 8pm (PRC) **Question Time**

Diversity Group: Sunday 1st at 12.30pm (Large Hall)



EUCARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm

In The Sacred Heart Chapel

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 658.12
Loose cash	£ 642.39
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1340.00
Total	£ 2640.51

COLLECTIONS

Last week's collection for **Pax Christi** amounted to £478.90. Many thanks. This week there will be a Diocesan collection for **The Maintenance of St George's Cathedral**. See note overleaf. Next week there will be a Diocesan collection for **Racial Justice Sunday**.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Elizabeth Casey, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Mary Jayawardena, Peggy Wall, Joseph Anand, Pat Joyce, Darren Ngasseu, Paddy Ryan, Dave Freegard, Lorraine Quinlivan, Westley Adaken, Mervat Nasri & all others

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Cedric Chopin, Grace Jennings, Edward Kingman, Phyllis Dovidonis, Diana Jeffries, Eileen Hudson, Carole Simpson, Elisabeth Piney, Eva Mahoney, Daniel Gorman, Ted Murphy, Marilyn Novell, Sylvester Seaton, Simon Quinn, Richard Walsh, Neil Dennett, Catherine Rocca, Arthur Braiotta, John Williams, Isabella Gallett, Raymond Burkin, Colin Grant, Peter You Than Lim, Sarah O'Hara, Mary Druce, Carmel O'Flanagan, Michael Kenny, Jeremiah Johnson, David Savyell, Sr Rita, Edward Gallacher, Lily Rizzo, Ron Edwards, Roy Cuming, Ralph Hoyle, Maura Waller, Margaret Maguire, Eileen Chesher, Clara Gosine, John Joyce, Geraldine Hanlon, Hilda Botell, Janice McNamara, Peter Fitzpatrick, Maggie Fitzgerald, Ewald (Frank) Szaszynek, Bridget Ivens, Constance Hansen, William McCarthy, Diane Hill, May Carroll, Cherry McLean

*** 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.

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

25th January: Cross Keys
1st February: Martin Ruddy
8th February: Kieran White
15th February: Theresa Rodgers
22nd February: Kevin Kearney
1st March: Shane & Mervyn Owens
8th March: Pat Jordan
15th March: **St Patrick's Celebration** - Glen Flynn

- The Motown Tribute Evening takes place on Friday, 6th February from 7:00pm. All proceeds from this event will be used to support the development of Youth Football at Round Towers GFC.
You can also support this event by donating an item for the Raffle/Auction. Tickets at £20.00 each can be reserved by calling **Ben Cahill on 07958 903410**.

- Jiving sessions are returning: J & M will be facilitating Jiving Sessions in the Hall on Sundays, 15th & 22nd February and 1st & 8th March commencing at 5:00pm. For more information, call **Della Reilly on 07403 227935**.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENT

The funeral of **William (Bill) O'Sullivan** will take place here at **Our Lady's on Monday 16th February at 10am**. Please remember Bill and the family in your prayers at this time.

DIVERSITY SUPPORT GROUP

All are cordially invited to our first meeting of 2026 on **Sunday 1st February in the large hall at 12.30pm** after the 11.30am Mass.

Agenda will include review of Christmas Bash 2025, plans to celebrate our @10 birthday on 8th March, brainstorm on group's name change, discuss future leadership and direction of group and what matters to you. Best wishes and blessings Sylvia.

PARISH ASCENT GROUP

Are you an Adult Catholic, perhaps already retired, and interested in some up-to-date on-going Faith Formation? Would you like to strengthen your personal relationship with Jesus Christ? *Could you be free to join us in the Small Hall, on the second and fourth Tuesdays at about 10.45 after 10.00am Mass?*

All Popes since Paul VI and now Leo XIV have said Catholics need a New Evangelisation. **On Tuesday 27th Deacon Vincent will come to explain and teach. Everyone is welcome!**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - NIGERIA

6th March at 7pm in Church

This year, the women of Nigeria invite us to come to our Church and rest in Jesus in our frantic and tired world.

Please do come along, and if you wish to join in the service or perhaps reading a part, please contact Anne Barcellos via the parish office email.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass for Racial Justice Sunday at St George's Cathedral on **Sunday 1st February at 10am**.

Racial Justice Sunday is a time for the Church to pray, reflect and take action against racism, while celebrating the diversity of our Archdiocese. Everyone is invited to take part, and those who wish may wear national or cultural dress as a sign of unity and pride.

If you would like, please gather outside the cathedral at 9.45am to join the procession of national flags.

After Mass, all are welcome to gather in Amigo Hall for refreshments — a chance to meet one another, share experiences and continue the conversation about faith and inclusion.

You are warmly encouraged to attend in person, but if you cannot make it you can watch the livestream through the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/fdmGwmESSgI>

ATTENTION ALL SINGERS & MUSICIANS: Please see the 3rd page of this newsletter, accessible online via the website.

Diocesan Safeguarding Office: safeguardingoffice@rcaos.org.uk

COLOMA LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

FUNDRAISING COFFEE MORNING & CAKE SALE
TODAY Sunday 25th January in the large hall

A group of Coloma 6th form students will be holding another coffee morning/cake sale **TODAY, 25th January after the 10am Mass**.

They are volunteering a week of their 2026 Easter break supporting the HCPT Lourdes pilgrimage and have to raise significant funds.

Please come along and support the girls' fundraising event!

Given the large target, Coloma are also looking for sponsorship and partnerships with companies. If you are able to assist in anyway or have connections, please email group703@hcpt.org.uk

CAN YOU HELP REHOME JADE THE CAT?

Jade, a 7 year old grey female cat belonging to a parishioner, needs to be rehomed as a matter of urgency. She is litter trained, well behaved, and would enjoy access to an outdoor space. **Please contact Michelle on 07301 204716 for all the information.** Thanks

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL SECOND COLLECTION

For over half a century, St George's Cathedral has been the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Southwark, home to 175 parishes and over 50,000 Roman Catholics. For many Catholics living and working across London and the South East of England, St George's has been a beacon of light.

Today, St George's Cathedral continues to attract thousands of worshippers and visitors each year, as well as serving a lively local parish community which proudly reflects the rich cultural and ethnic diversity of South London. The Cathedral frequently hosts important Diocesan and national celebrations, as well as concerts and events for various Catholic charities. There is a rich musical tradition, maintaining a choir of boys and men, as well as a girls' choir, both of which sing at Sunday Masses and on major feasts. In many respects, St George's Cathedral serves as a spiritual home and 'beehive' for Catholic evangelisation and mission across the Archdiocese of Southwark.

St George's Cathedral is entirely reliant upon the generosity of its parishioners, volunteers and the Archdiocese of Southwark to keep its doors open. It does not receive Vatican or government funding, nor has an endowment to rely on. Your support can enable the Cathedral to remain open daily to those seeking a place of peace, prayer and worship. Thank you!

- **Donate Online:** www.rcaos.org.uk/Cathedral
- **Telephone weekdays 9 am – 5 pm:** **020 7960 2504**
- **Cash / Cheque** – please use the St George's Cathedral envelopes at the back of church.

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 - 5pm.

£25 p/h for years 1 - 9
£30 p/h for GCSE & A Level

To register your interest please contact:

Joseph 07714 203973 or Grace 07516 396009

NEW BEAVER COLONY LAUNCHES AT 28TH CROYDON SCOUTS

We are delighted to share the good news that 28th Croydon Scouts, proudly sponsored by Our Lady of the Annunciation, is launching a new Beaver Scout Colony.

Beavers is for children aged 6-8 and offers a safe, welcoming environment where young people can grow in confidence, friendship and service to others through fun activities, teamwork and outdoor adventure.

If your child may be interested, or if you feel called to support this work as a volunteer, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

For more information, please visit
www.28thcroydon.scoutsonline.co.uk

Rotas: Eucharistic Ministers (January)

Readers (January/February)

ATTENTION ALL SINGERS & MUSICIANS

All choirs and music units in the church are always ready to welcome new members. This "appeal" is aimed, to a degree, at those who have started a new instrument at school last September and are now feeling "at home" with it. Playing in church is a way of rehearsing without the pressure of either a forthcoming exam or of a teacher ticking you off for a duff note. We have always had the approach that, if you're not comfortable playing in (say) Ab or F#, don't! Perhaps play what you can and stop when you can't - or simply sing instead. This way you can play your instrument without pressure.

"Aiming" at young people just starting on an instrument doesn't mean that we won't welcome people who are, or who were, comfortable playing an instrument. Whether you currently play, or would like to resume playing after a gap, do come along and help us to help the congregation's worship.

This "appeal" is also aimed at people who enjoy singing and would like to sing *with others* and not "just" as a member of the congregation. All are welcome with (as always) a special welcome to boys and men and ladies who can sing the alto line. Pianists are always welcome, as this is the one instrument (beside the organ) which can best give a clear "lead". It's also a very, very long time since we had any brass instruments with us (not that these are suited to all hymns and Mass settings - but, then, neither are harps, tambourines or sopraninos; each has its place and each is welcome).

Music is offered at all Saturday evening and Sunday Masses, with the organ leading the congregation at 8.30 (with no choir) and with music of various types at other Masses. Please see details of who to contact for these Masses, on the parish website under "Music at Mass". Go on - make yourself (and your family & friends??) proud ...