



# 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

**25th July 2021 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time YEAR B**

**NEXT WEEK SEES THE RETURN OF OUR NORMAL PATTERN OF MASSES FOR SUNDAY....**

**SATURDAY EVENING 6pm**

**SUNDAY MORNING 8.30am, 10am & 11.30am**

The seating in the nave has been returned to its normal position, however for those who consider they still need to maintain a degree of social distancing the seating in the area in front of the Lady Chapel and the balconies remains spaced out and marked up in the manner we have come to know this past 18 months.

Again, with cases of Covid on the increase nationally, I remind you to sanitise on entering the church and to wear a mask if you will, for your own and everyone else's peace of mind.

We would like to thank all those who attended the Parish Meeting on Wednesday. It was the best turn out for many years, and 15 groups associated with the parish presented reports documenting how they have operated through Covid and the challenges they face in the coming months.

We were reminded, as if we needed it, that Addiscombe is a lively place to be. There is a huge amount of spiritual and physical activity that flows from the Eucharistic life we share. This activity is maintained by the laity not the priests, and this bodes well for the future as the clergy come and go, the laity are the 'constant' in the equation.

However, there are some areas that are a cause for concern. We are still without a Safeguarding lead though Ann Marie continues to monitor the post. This situation has lasted as long as the pandemic and cannot be allowed to continue. There is also a desire to establish once again a Pastoral Committee which will only happen if a few 'movers and shakers' take a lead.

A common theme on Wednesday was the increasing difficulty in recruiting leaders and volunteers. A number of units in the Uniformed Organisations have folded though waiting lists remain long, Children's Liturgy and the Catechetical groups need a few more willing bodies; in fact, nearly all the groups who reported back stressed that their greatest concern moving forward would be issues around leadership. It does not take long to fell even the oldest and mightiest tree.

We all need to search our hearts, look to the skills we have been gifted by God with the determination to be generous with them, assess how the life of faith which flows from this place enriches us daily and has nurtured us and our children, and refuse to look back nostalgically at what a wonderful parish this used to be in favour of looking forward at what a wonderful parish I am helping to sustain, to the glory of God from whom all blessings flow.

*Fr Keith.*

## Mass Intentions This Week

**24 July: Saturday**

10:00 Clement & Wendy Pereira RIP  
17:30 John Boswood RIP  
18:30 Martha Nestor RIP

**25 July: SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY**

09:00 Tony Borfiga RIP  
10:00 Intentions of the Tavares Family  
11:00 All Parishioners  
12:00 Arthur Fairservice RIP

**26 July: Monday**

**SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE**

10:00 John Joseph RIP

**27 July: Tuesday**

10:00 Special Intentions for Kirsty Connor

**28 July: Wednesday**

10:00 Ints. Of Mama Beaty & Grandchildren

**29 July: Thursday SAINT MARTHA**

10:00 Michael O'Connor RIP  
19:30 Eileen Scanlon RIP

**30 July: Friday**

10:00 Mr & Mrs Weston RIP

**31 July: Saturday**

**SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA**

10:00 John Walsh RIP  
18:00 Joseph Rasanayagan RIP +

**1 August: EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY**

08:30 All Parishioners  
10:00 Mary Slattery RIP  
11:30 Ann Hazell RIP +

+ With Baptism

**PLEASE NOTE:**

*There will not be a 7.30pm Thursday evening Mass during the month of August. They will resume in September upon Fr Keith's return.*

## LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 637.98
Loose cash	£ 402.10
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1055.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 2095.08</b>



*Our 10am Mass each Sunday is LIVE STREAMED through our Facebook page and on the 'Live Masses' page of the parish website.*

### CHURCH CLEANING

**29th JULY - TEAM B**

**5th AUGUST - TEAM C**

*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, Jonathan Leiper, Brian Kearney*

*We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Thomas Davie, Leo McHugo, Bernard Moynihan, Irene Groombridge, Martha Nestor, Bill Cowan, Eric Wood, Phyllis Linton, Maria Albert, Anne Larkin, Jacqueline Collins, Deborah Shine, Pauline Smith, Jimmy Flaxman, John Templeton, Eileen Fleury, Michael Kemmett, Lena Croxford*

### 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!

### **Annual ACROSS Charity Golf Classic**

*Anerley ACROSS is a Charity which takes disabled children on annual pilgrimage to Lourdes De Vere Selsdon Estate - Friday, 17th September 2021*

10.00am: Arrival with Bacon Rolls and Tea/ Coffee

11.00am: 18 Holes of Golf

The Golf Day is available at **£50.00 per person**

You can also support the event by  
Sponsoring a Hole at £50.00  
Donating items for the Auction/ Raffle

*For more information, please contact  
Ben Cahill on 07958 903410 or  
[bernardcahill2004@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bernardcahill2004@yahoo.co.uk)*

**MARY, ANN & EILEEN:** Would like to thank everyone in the parish for their kind words, sympathy cards, support and prayers since the death of their brother **John Walsh**. It has been a great comfort to the family at this very sad time.

### NEEDED ESSENTIALLY: SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE PARISH

This post (vacant for a year) is key to the good standing of the parish and the protection of all its members. The safeguarding of all children and young people as well as vulnerable elderly people, is required both by the Church and Government.

The post holder will be responsible to Fr. Keith for all aspects of Safeguarding, especially ensuring that Disclosure & Barring (DBS) checks for involved parishioners are completed; that essential personal records are kept; and that suitable training is organised.

A commitment of time and energy, balanced by satisfaction, will be required of the post holder.

*No specific qualifications are required but relevant experience is desirable.*

### RECYCLING - PLEASE NOTE

We continue to recycle milk-bottle tops and blister packs, but I'm sorry to say that people are leaving other things we can't handle. We can't handle plastic "wallets" that some blister packs come in, for example; we can only handle the blister packs themselves. The "wallet" should be put in your household recycling.

As for bottle tops, oh, please!!!! If it says "Coca Cola" on the top, it didn't come from a milk bottle!! If it clearly is part of a bottle of hand-pumped liquid soap or hand cream, it's not from a milk bottle!! We can only recycle milk-bottle tops, and anything else should be disposed of via your Council recycling bin.

Please don't get me wrong, we're very happy - very happy indeed - to continue recycling the blister packs and the milk-bottle tops - so please don't leave anything else in the church porch for me to take home, identify and throw in my recycling bin. Throw it in your own!

Many thanks - *Andy Bebington*

### GIFT AID NEW YEAR!

THE NEW SETS OF ENVELOPES ARE NOW IN USE!

If you have not yet collected your new box, (or small set for the Standing Order donors) they are available from the table in the porch.

***Please recycle the old yellow envelopes now.*** Many scheme numbers have changed including all between 220 and 260. Many thanks.

### Mass Intentions This Week

#### **2 August: Monday**

10:00 Fr John McKenna RIP

#### **3 August: Tuesday**

10:00 Wellbeing of Nellie Malone

#### **4 August: Wednesday SAINT JOHN VIANNEY**

10:00 Valerie Cotta RIP

#### **5 August: Thursday**

10:00 Martin Carey RIP

#### **6 August: Friday**

#### **THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

10:00 Lucas, Ubaldina & Sylvia DeSouza RIP

#### **7 August: Saturday**

10:00 Intentions of Dominic Moloney

18:00 Jerry McLelland RIP

#### **8 August: NINETEENTH SUNDAY**

08:30 Intentions of the Okeke Family

10:00 Wellbeing of Alexandra Osborn & Her Baby

11:30 All Parishioners

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

*There will not be a 7.30pm Thursday evening Mass during the month of August. They will resume in September upon Fr Keith's return.*

### CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES 2020

Confirmation certificates for 2020 can now be collected from the Parish Office. Please ring before collecting. *Many thanks.*

### WOODSIDE BEREAVEMENT SERVICE AFTERNOON TEA

Please join us for freshly made sandwiches, scones and cake, with free flowing tea, coffee and juice!

**Saturday 14th August 2 - 4pm**

**The Waterside Centre  
26 Avenue Rd London SE25 4DX**

**Price: £5 per person**

**RSVP to: [wbs@thelisteningear.org](mailto:wbs@thelisteningear.org) or ring 020 3256 2009**

### 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.

*Lord Jesus,*

*When you walked with us on earth  
you spread your healing power.*

*We place in your loving care all  
who are affected by Coronavirus.*

*Keep us strong in faith, hope and love.*

*Bring relief to our sick, console our bereaved,  
protect those who care for us.*

*We lift our prayer to you Lord,  
and trust in your infinite mercy,  
as we wait for the daybreak.*

*Amen.*

## A CHALLENGE

In the Parable of The Talents, different people get given different levels of “gift” and use them differently. Well, not quite – the ones with five and with two do the same – they use them. It’s the person who doesn’t use what they are given who is castigated. The parable could perhaps make the point better if the person with five had done nothing and the person with one had doubled it.

At the Annual Meeting a theme ran through constantly – there was a cry of “we need volunteers” from a high proportion of those telling the meeting what their group had been doing in the last year or so. There was also mention of the old saw “if you want something done, ask a busy person”.

I have met a lady who, after organising an event (to include doing the catering), took home the tea-towels to wash; she was challenged by her husband asking whether no-one else might feel deprived of a chance to do their bit – maybe they couldn’t organise the overall event, maybe they couldn’t temporarily fund the catering costs, maybe they wouldn’t dare stand in front of microphone and MC the event – but they *could* wash tea-towels. Except that they couldn’t because *she* had.

Everyone has talents (they might not recognise them as such!), whether that involves master-minding the opening ceremony of the London Olympics, washing a dozen tea-towels, listening patiently to someone sounding off for an hour, or making tea and coffee all afternoon – and if we fail to use those talents, we’re like the person in the parable who buried their talent in the ground. *Do we wish to be castigated by the Lord?*

Is your life full of unsatisfying things? I’m thinking of the time after I retired when I was advised not to take up any new volunteering roles until six months had passed. By then, I was told, I would be tired of pointless daytime TV, I’d have run out of “nice to do” jobs and I’d be raring to go, itching to use my brain, whether volunteering or taking an evening class or whatever. Is your life a little like that? Do you find your leisure time pursuits unsatisfying?

Surely, then, it’s time to examine yourself and ask “what am I good at?” – some will recognise that they’re good with numbers, or words, or their hands, or young people, or old people, or one-to-ones or publicity or fund-raising ... and they’ll see that they do have a talent which could benefit someone. Are you like that? Do you have a talent from which society – or some part of society – would benefit?

And don’t say “I couldn’t possibly ...” because if you look at life, you already are (whether it’s running a house, running a job, washing a dozen tea-towels, whatever) – and don’t say “I don’t know enough about ...” because there’s always room to learn. We learn constantly, from listening, from reading, from *doing*, whether we recognise it as “training” or not – and any body worth its salt will have a programme of learning, whether formal (sending you “back to school”) or informal (choir rehearsals ...)

So, when you hear someone say “we need volunteers”, ask yourself whether that’s *you* they’re talking to and whether this is your opportunity to become an *active* Disciple, promoting the Kingdom in this world. As St Francis may or may not have said, “go out and preach the Gospel. Use words if you have to”.

Don’t say “I’m too busy” and then be ready to discuss in detail a contrast between X Factor and Britain’s Got Talent. Or Bake-off and the Sewing Bee. Or BBC Sport vs Sky Sports.

And don’t say “I’m too young” unless you want to say that to William Pitt the Younger (PM at age 24) or “I’m too old” unless you’re prepared to say that to the 84-year-old Pope!

