



Our Lady of the Annunciation

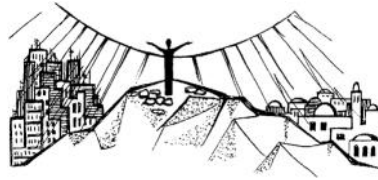


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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9am - 3pm Wednesday: Closed
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
 Monday - Saturday: Before or After 10am Mass or By Appointment

26th February 2023 First Sunday in Lent (page 151 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

We have now entered the great season of Lent. In times past, Lent was not viewed as a time we looked forward to. Fasting and abstinence, not to mention other forms of penance, were in force and it was a serious business. Easter was looked forward to with real anticipation. Our attitudes to Lent tended to be on the gloomy and negative side. Perhaps nowadays we have gone to the other extreme where Lent hardly means anything at all. "You mean Lent has started already? Really, I had no idea! Easter will be on top of us before we know it, eggs already line the shelves!"

Yet Lent has always been one of the key periods of the Church year and it would be a great pity if we were to forget its real meaning. In fact, that is what we ask for in the Opening Prayer of today's Mass just before we sit down to listen to the readings: "Grant almighty God, through the observance of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects." Really, the whole purpose of Lent is beautifully summarised in that prayer - to understand the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus and to live that out in our own lives.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

PLEASE **DO NOT** DOUBLE PARK IN THE CAR PARK OR ON THE CHURCH DRIVEWAY - **EVER!**

IT IS HAZARDOUS & AN INCONVENIENCE TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND IMPEDES EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

THANK YOU!

CHANT:

Spirit of God, show me Jesus.
 Remove the darkness, let truth shine through.
 Spirit of God, show me Jesus,
 Reveal the fullness of His love to me.

MEETINGS

SVP: Tuesday 28th at 8pm (PRC)
 UCM: Wednesday 1st at 8pm (Large Hall) SEE NOTE OVERLEAF



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

CHURCH CLEANING
 2nd MARCH - TEAM A

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£	523.37
Loose cash	£	923.63
S/Os (Approx)	£	1140.00
Total	£	2587.00

Mass Intentions This Week

25 February: Saturday
 10:00 Martha Sam Vu RIP
 18:00 Zena Marshall RIP

26 February: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
 08:30 All Parishioners #
 10:00 Thanksgiving for Jose & the Pinto Fam #
 11:30 Pauline & Terry Maguire RIP

27 February: Monday
 10:00 Veronica Kearsley RIP

28 February: Tuesday
 10:00 Intentions of Bodil & Michael Cronin

1 March: Wednesday SAINT DAVID
 10:00 Veronica Carter RIP
 15:45 Stations of the Cross

2 March: Thursday
 10:00 Desmond & Winnie O'Rourke RIP
 19:30 Paul Antoine RIP 11th Anniversary

3 March: Friday
 10:00 Birthday Wishes for Anton Vethanayagam

4 March: Saturday
 10:00 Birthday Wishes and Wellbeing for Maduka Okeke
 18:00 Lance & Adrienne Baptiste +

5 March: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
 08:30 All Parishioners
 10:00 UCM: Syria/Turkey Earthquake Victims
 11:30 Anna Caitana D'Sa

With Children's Liturgy
 + With Baptism

*** DEFIBRILLATOR ***

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

COLLECTIONS

Last week's second collection for *Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal* amounted to £1215. Many thanks. This week there will be a second collection for *The Clergy Support Fund* (please see note overleaf). Next week there will be a second collection for *CAFOD Family Fast Day* (Pick up an envelope in the porch & see note overleaf).

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

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: 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, Mary Hoey, Daniel Chambers, Sarah Burnett, May Pick, Thomas Byrne, Philomena Clark, John Izzie, James Dalrymple-Alford, Patrick Coffey, Marian Hayward, William Hills, Winifred Chandler, Juan Garcia, Kathleen Lacy, Maria Ferreira, Sampat Bhardwaj, Theresa Young, Bill Kendall, Marion Bolechala, Baby Lillian Harris, Mary Warner, Ida De Souza, Lynda Salako

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

26th February: Theresa Rodgers

5th March: Finbar & Paul

12th March: Frank Nelson with the *Keady Academy of Irish Dance*

19th March: Glen Flynn

26th March: Shane & Mervyn Owens

2nd April: Pat Jordan

9th April: Shawn Cuddy

16th April: Finbar & Paul

- **Gaelic Football Taster Sessions** for Girls & Boys aged 8yrs - 16yrs will commence on Wednesday, 1st February at Trinity School from 5.45pm and concluding at 7.00pm. The sessions will be on the astro-turf pitch focusing on the key skills of the game. Participants require a full sports kit including, top, shorts, socks & trainers (football boots with studs are not permitted). For more information, please call Danny O'Donovan on 07796 934748.

- **Jiving Classes** take place on Sunday afternoons from 2.00pm - 4.00pm in the Large Hall; the sessions would be ideal for both experienced dancers & beginners.

- Our **St Patrick's Celebrations** will commence with a **Bacon & Cabbage Dinner & Dance** on Friday, 10th March. Entertainment will be by **Barry Doyle & His Band**. All proceeds from this event will be given to **the Anerley ACROSS Charity**. To reserve tickets at £15.00 each, please contact Pat Winston on 07734 250375.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

The funeral of **Dulcie Gent** (mother of Sue Smith) will take place here at **Our Lady's on Monday 13th March at 10am**. This will be followed by a short service at West Norwood Crematorium at 12:30pm, then after at Shirley Park Golf Club from 1:30pm. The family welcome anyone who wishes to attend any/all parts of the day. May her gentle soul **Rest in Peace**.

*** IMPORTANT NOTICE ***

For some time now we have not been collecting batteries in the church porch - most supermarkets have bins where you can dispose of them as part of a routine shopping trip. I recently took away some 6 kg of batteries for recycling and **I hope not to find any others left in the porch**. Please take them to your favourite supermarket and use the bins they have there.

Many thanks

Andy Bebington, obo Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Group

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

THE GREAT BOOK SALE!

Saturday 11th March, 10am - 4pm Shirley Methodist Church

Good quality paperbacks, hardbacks, children's books, CDs, Records and DVDs. (No VHS thanks) gratefully received - drop off at Shirley Methodist Church, Eldon Rd on Wednesday morning 10am - 12pm.

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

How to get the marriage you want out of the marriage you have. This Saturday morning online course on February 18th is aimed at couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to improve their relationship further and gain insights into their communication and the call of the Church to the married. There is no personal sharing between couples.

Contact Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk or phone **07983 524 727**.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 3RD MARCH 7pm

The annotated service booklets can be collected by volunteers from the Sacristy corridor this weekend. **All parishioners and friends are welcome to be part of a huge wave of prayer circling the earth for 38 hours beginning at dawn in Western Samoa and closing at dusk in American Samoa.**

A collection will be made for WDP during the service and there will be light refreshments after. We look forward to seeing you there. If you have any queries, please contact Anne on anne.barcellos@btinternet.com

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Please note that there will be Stations of the Cross every Wednesday during Lent at **3.45pm**.

WOODSIDE BEREAVEMENT SERVICE (WBS) - VOLUNTEER TREASURER

Following the retirement of their current treasurer, WBS is looking for a volunteer to undertake the role. If you are an accountant, or have a knowledge of finance in a charitable setting and would be able to spare some time to support this well-established charity, WBS would be pleased to hear from you.

For full details of this role, email WBS at wbs@thelisteningear.org.uk or call **020 3256 2009**.

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 Feb: Part 2 - Beloved Disciples video "Changing Your World"

7th March: Part 3 - Beloved Disciples video "Thy Will Be Done"

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

UCM - ZUMBA GOLD CLASS

Wednesday 1st March 8pm in the Large Hall - £5 entry

Zumba Gold is a lower-intensity version of the typical Zumba class, aimed at older adults. All parishioners are invited to attend.

CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION

The Clergy Support Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark provides care for priests in their old age and retirement, and in their time of ill health. A gift to this worthy fund will ensure a dignified retirement for our priests, after they have dedicated a lifetime of service to Christ, His Church and His People.

In 2022, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 73 retired priests, at a cost of £1.33 million. With the number of priests over the age of 65 steadily increasing, so too will the financial obligation to the Archdiocese.

Please be generous today with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers.

Thank you!

Donate Online: <https://rcaos.org.uk/donate/csf>

Telephone Mon-Fri 9am-5pm: **020 7960 2504**

Cash / Cheque –

(please use the Clergy Support Fund envelopes at the back of church)

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR VACANCY

St James the Great Catholic Primary School, Thornton Heath

For full details and application forms: www.stjamesthegreat.org

THE REAL EASTER EGG: For full details of this offer, see the poster in the porch, read page 3 of this newsletter on the website or contact Andy on **020 8777 4840**

Items for collection: H Carmichael, JPIC Co-Ordinator, K Duignan, M Klos, B D'Souza, M Warner

Baptism certificates: PLEASE COLLECT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

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

THE REAL EASTER EGG – A BULK ORDER

The Real Easter Egg Company is again offering several choices of fair-trade Easter eggs this year, each of which marks Easter in a special way. A Christian company, they believe in saying that Easter isn't just a time for buying chocolate, it's a reason to stop and think about why we have Easter (and Easter eggs) at all.

By buying in bulk, we will avoid the postage associated with individual purchases – these eggs are not going to be available in supermarkets – and you have until early March to place your order through the parish.

The choices are:

- The Dark Chocolate egg, with a 24-page Easter story-activity book, a prize competition and a 150gm smooth super-thick dark chocolate egg – at £5.50
- A milk chocolate “Original” egg with a 24-page Easter story-activity book, a prize competition and a 150gm milk chocolate egg – at £4.50
- The Special Edition has a simple guide to Easter, a designer Easter card, an Easter blessing milk chocolate bar (80gm) and a luxury milk chocolate egg (200gm) – at £9.99
- A Sharing Box containing 30 Belgian chocolate midi eggs (20gm each) and 30 Easter story activity posters – at £30.00
- A Fun Pack containing 6 milk chocolate midi eggs (20gm each) and an Easter story activity poster – at £5.00
- Easter Blessings bars featuring “The Resurrection” image by award-winning artist Martina Peluso – 80gm fair-trade milk chocolate – at £3.00



As well as being made from fair-trade ingredients, all are palm-oil free and plastic free, consistent with the company's concern for the environment.

Order via our Justice Peace & Integrity of Creation group – Andy Bebington will be placing a bulk order on 5 March and will happily arrange delivery of your order when it comes in.

Cash with order, please, either by cheque (payable to A Bebington) to 79 Shirley Way, Shirley CR0 8PL or credit AP & ME Bebington at 56-00-46 account 01038893. Please detail exactly what you want and give your address and phone number so that we can deliver your order in due course. If you have any queries, or want to confirm your order, Andy is at andy.bebington@gmail.com.