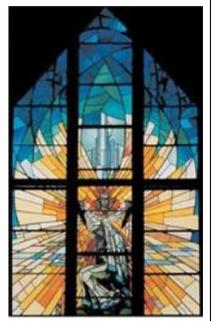




# Our Lady of the Annunciation



**Parish Priest:** Fr. Keith Sylvia      **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Jackson Sebastian  
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 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

## 26th March 2023 Fifth Sunday in Lent (page 170 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

St Ignatius Loyola suggests that when reading a particular Gospel passage we should put ourselves in the place of each character in turn, and use our imagination to see how we would feel in those circumstances. This can be a most revealing exercise. How about putting myself in the place of Lazarus? I am dead to everything and then I hear a voice: 'Come out, Lazarus.' There I am, lying in a tomb swathed in bandages and surrounded by darkness. If we wonder how we would feel in this situation, the answer would be different for everyone but I think many might say: Thanks Lord, but I'd prefer to stay where I am.

While attempting to put ourselves imaginatively in Lazarus's place we might become aware of how tomb-like our present way of life is, and rekindle a longing for freedom which has perhaps been buried for years. Putting ourselves into the place of a character from scripture can awake all kinds of thoughts within us and lead us to turn to God in prayer with new words on our lips. Yet it is something so simple that we are surprised that we never thought about it ourselves. This Gospel features here in Lent to help us come to live life to the full; for often it is only in the face of death that we are shocked into this realisation. This can happen to us in all sorts of ways on the occasion of a loss or bereavement. It is amazing how often it takes overcoming a negative experience to make us realise afresh how much there is that is truly positive and makes life worth living.

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**This Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm**  
**Service of Reconciliation (with visiting Priests)**

**Following recent announcements regarding the reinstatement (or not) of Communion in both kinds, a reminder that it is now permissible to receive directly onto the tongue. However, if you are doing so, you are respectfully asked to**

**present yourselves last, that is, after all those receiving into the hand,**  
**both at Mid-week and Sunday Masses. Thank you.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The parish office will be closed on Thursday & Friday next week (30th/31st March) due to staff annual leave. Sorry for any inconvenience.

## Mass Intentions This Week

**25 March: Saturday**  
**THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**  
 10:00 25th Birthday Wishes for Francisco Fernandes  
 18:00 Harry, Michael & Harold Sweeney RIP +

**26 March: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
 08:30 All Parishioners \*  
 10:00 Abraham & Martha Pereira RIP \*  
 11:30 Kath & Ed Gallacher RIP

**27 March: Monday**  
 10:00 June Cully RIP

**28 March: Tuesday FUNERAL MASS**  
 10:00 Simon Nolan RIP

*Reconciliation Service (visiting priests)*

**29 March: Wednesday**  
 10:00 Rita Slevin RIP  
 15:45 Stations of the Cross

**30 March: Thursday**  
 10:00 Christine Brooks RIP  
 19:30 Caroline Koch RIP

**31 March: Friday**  
 10:00 Phyllis Tuscan RIP

**1 April: Saturday**  
 10:00 Birthday Wishes for Clarina Rodrigues  
 18:00 Arthur Fairservice RIP

**2 April: PALM SUNDAY**  
 08:30 Michael Semeta RIP  
 10:00 UCM:  
 11:30 Rosa Lobo RIP

+ With Baptism  
 \* With Children's Liturgy

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

## MEETINGS

**Finance Committee:** Monday 27th at 8pm (PRC)  
**SVP:** Tuesday 28th at 8pm (PRC)



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

**CHURCH CLEANING**  
 30th MARCH - TEAM A

## LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 423.40
Loose cash	£ 871.60
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1140.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 2435.00</b>

## COLLECTIONS

Last week's collection for **Poor Parishes** amounted to £793.50. Many thanks.  
 Next week there will be a second collection for **Little Sisters of The Poor**.

**We pray for the sick in our Parish:** Phyllis Donnelly, Fr David Peck, Ethan Patel, Jonathan Leiper, Kevin Moynihan, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Marie Griffin, Ursula & Anthony Kennedy

**We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week:** Patrick McHale, Richard Gillen, Delia Carder, Brendan Hickey, Norma Waddell, Eileen Parsons, Jack Hoey, Bob Tatnell, June Cully, Petronilla Molyneux, Stanislaw Stepien, Charles Lancaster, Felecita Johnson, Ryszard Siepka, John Groombridge, Brenda Bond, Maria Robinson, Patrick Joseph Carroll, Harold Kelly, Maureen Purcell, Bridget Daly, Bill Cox, Patrick Reddington, Alvaro Pinto, Rosa Lobo

### SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

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

**Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm**

26th March: Shane & Mervyn Owens

2nd April: Pat Jordan

9th April: Shawn Cuddy

16th April: Finbar & Paul

23rd April: Ally Harron & Marian Curry

30th April: Theresa Rodgers

7th May: Kenny Paul

14th May: Mustang Showband

- **Gaelic Football Taster Sessions** for Girls & Boys aged 8yrs - 16yrs take place on Wednesday evenings 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.

- A **Quiz Night** will take place on **Friday, 28th April**. All proceeds from this event will be given to the **Brain Tumour Charity**. All Guests will receive a Fish/Chicken or Veggie Burger & Chips Supper. Tickets are £15.00 **SEE THE POSTER FOR MORE INFORMATION AND PICK UP A BOOKING FORM IN THE PORCH**

- The **Bay City Rollers Tribute Evening** on Friday, 19th May. All proceeds from this event will support local Charities including **Children with Cancer at CUH** and the **Critical Care Centre at KCH**. Tickets at £15.00 each can be reserved by sending a Text Message to **Pat Winston at 07734 250375**.

### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

The funeral of **Ann Goy (Cummins)** will be at **St. Edmund's Church**, Village Way, Beckenham on **Friday 31st March at 12.30pm**

The funeral of **Joseph Colairo** will take place here at **Our Lady's** on **Wednesday 19th April at 10am**.

The funeral of **Walter Claudius** will take place here at **Our Lady's** on **Thursday 20th April at 10am**.

*Please them and their families in your prayers at this time.*

### 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 - 7pm**.

To register your interest please contact:

**Joseph 07714 203973** or **Grace 07516 396009**

### LAY CHAPLAIN VACANCY

Coloma Convent Girls School are currently recruiting for a Lay Chaplain. For details please visit their website:

<https://www.coloma.croydon.sch.uk/>

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDP) - 2023

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all those who came to our service on 3rd March and especially to those who took on specific roles and helped with setting up the church. It was beautiful to know that we were joining with people around the world in prayer and song and showing our solidarity with the women of Taiwan who designed the service. In addition we raised over £200 in donations to support the WDP Programme of provision of grants to registered Christian charities here in the UK and worldwide. Special thanks go to Jacqueline Sylvia for the musical input and to Fr Keith for supporting us over the years - without them, we would not have such a blessed and exciting experience. *For next year, in March 2024, we will be sharing a service prepared by the women of Palestine, another country which is continuing to experience huge pressures in their daily lives. It would be lovely if we could show them they are not alone in prayer and their hopes for the future.*

**Items for collection:** *H Carmichael, N Akinyemi*

**Baptism certificates:** *COLLECT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE*

**Rotas:** *Readers (Easter) Eucharistic Ministers (March)*

\*\*\* UCM SPECIAL MEETING \*\*\*

### DRUG AWARENESS & YOUNG PEOPLE BY DANIEL SPARGO - MABBS FOUNDATION DRUG EDUCATION CHARITY

**Wed 5th April Large hall 8pm - Entry Minimum £2 donation**

**All parishioners are invited but especially parents, carers and youth leaders (18 and over only please)**

This is a drug and alcohol awareness workshop which will be led by the foundation's founder and director - Fiona Spargo-Mabbs. This foundation was set up by Fiona and Tim in 2014 after the tragic death of their son, 16 year old Daniel, as a result of taking ecstasy. For more information, please visit their website: [www.dsmfoundation.org.uk](http://www.dsmfoundation.org.uk) or contact Marie (UCM) 07774 643159

### 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.

**4<sup>th</sup> April** in the **Small Hall** at 11am: Gospel Reading for the day

### IMPORTANT NOTICE - OUR LADY'S TODDLER GROUP

This Toddler Group was set up over 40 years ago by The Young Wives Committee and is a valued resource in the parish. Over the years we have been fortunate enough to have some brilliant volunteers who've helped make this group very successful and a pleasure to run.

*We are now looking for someone new to take the helm, as Andrea is retiring from the role of lead co-ordinator after 20 years!*

*If you think you would like this opportunity to work as a volunteer with a great team of helpers, in this very rewarding role, and continue to run this lovely group each Thursday (term time only) 9am - 12pm....*

please contact **Andrea** on **07952 664224**

### PARISH FILM SHOW

An entertaining variety show projected on film (not digital), in support of the national charity **Life**. In the **Small Hall** on **Friday 14th April at 7.30pm**.

Tickets (**£7 adults, £3 aged up to 16, £16 family of 3/4**) will be on sale after Mass next weekend.

You can also reserve seats via Adrian Winchester

Email: [adrianw\\_8-16@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:adrianw_8-16@tiscali.co.uk) or tel: **020 8656 0168**

### HOMES FOR UKRAINE MATCHING SERVICE

Caritas Social Action Network in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, are matching Ukrainian people displaced by the brutal war in their country with people in the Catholic community willing to host them in their homes for six months. If you have room in your home and in your heart to consider welcoming a stranger displaced by war, then we'd love to hear from you.

Please visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/> for more information

### COULD YOU BE A RAINBOW LEADER?

The upcoming Easter break brings the departure of Sarah as leader of the 5th Addiscombe Rainbows. As yet, no volunteers have stepped up to take over this very rewarding role, which would mean the unit (*our last remaining Rainbow unit*) would be **forced to shut down**.

**Please don't let this happen to our Rainbows!** If you think you could be the leader the unit need, please contact Sarah for more information about what is involved, by either:

Emailing [oakley50@gmail.com](mailto:oakley50@gmail.com) Or texting **07950 381029**

### A CLEANER IS REQUIRED FOR SELSDON PARISH

Three hours on one weekday. Time and remuneration by arrangement. Please contact Fr Julian on **020 8657 3747** or email [selsdon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:selsdon@rcaos.org.uk)