



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

27th October Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (page 149 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR B

NEW AGE By John B. Shea

This so-called New Age movement is a cultural current that has engulfed the world today. There is therefore a pressing need for Catholics to understand authentic Catholic doctrine to properly assess New Age themes.

New Age presents the notion that the self is sacred and to an exaggerated idea of freedom, self-reliance, and authenticity. Faith in God is often abandoned, except perhaps as a tool for self advancement. Thus is the stage set for an imagined triumph and reign of the consumer culture.

A society which has undergone a breakdown of faith in the Christian tradition and in the unlimited process and progress of science and technology has now to confront the surprising return of Gnosticism, a compendium of cosmic religiosity, rituals, and beliefs which had never really disappeared. The New Age movement claims to be able to acquire this knowledge in an esoteric way through such methods as dream analysis and through the medium of a "spiritual master."

The central question about the New Age movement is how it defines spirituality. For the New Age devotee, spirituality means the use of the powers of nature and of an imaginary cosmic "energy" to communicate with another world and to discover the fate of an individual, or to help to make the most of oneself. The New Age does not believe in a God who transcends His creation, does not believe in good or evil, has no room for judgment or blame, and holds that belief in evil is negative and causes only fear. It also fails to distinguish between God who created the universe and the universe He has created.

Examples of New Age practices: Dreams, discussed under the headings of "Our Cosmic Connections," Symbols, Archetypes, Life of the Spirit, Healing of Body, Mind, and Spirit; Prophetic and Telepathic Dreams; Focusing: Doorway to the body-life of spirit; Mindfulness; Reiki; Eco-Spirituality; Star in My Heart with Sophia and She is God; Reflexology; Praying with Kabir; Centering Prayer; The Enneagram; Dancing with the Cosmos.

ATTENTION: IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please note that Canon Gerard will be celebrating Confirmation for our young people at **11.30am Mass next Sunday 3rd November**. All are welcome, however please remember that this Mass may be very crowded, so we kindly ask members of the congregation not involved in this celebration, to consider attending at an alternative time next weekend. *Many thanks.*

MEETINGS

SVP: Tuesday 29th at 8pm (PRC)
Bible Study: Wednesday 30th at 11.15am (Large Hall) *Letter to Philemon cont.*
Padre Pio Prayer Group: Friday 1st at 9.30am (Church)
Young Adults' Fellowship: Friday 1st at 7pm (PRC)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm

In The Sacred Heart Chapel

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£	451.35
Loose cash	£	548.65
S/Os (Approx)	£	1340.00
Total	£	2340.00

Mass Intentions This Week

26 October: Saturday
 10:00 Kathleen Finnegan RIP
 18:00 Nora (Ann.), Paddy & John Walsh RIP

27 October: THIRTIETH SUNDAY
 08:30 Sebastian & Maryla Gomez RIP
 10:00 All Parishioners
 11:30 The Welfare of Coloma & All Catholic Education

28 October: Monday SS SIMON & JUDE
 10:00 James Murphy RIP

29 October: Tuesday
 10:00 Alan Dwyer RIP

30 October: Wednesday
 10:00 For All the Nuns of Presentation Convent

31 October: Thursday
 10:00 Wellbeing of Maria & Karol Skorniak
Vigil Mass for Holy Day of Obligation

19:30 Mary Good RIP 18th Anniversary

1 November: Friday ALL SAINTS
 07:30 Holy Souls
 10:00 Intentions of Betty Borfiga

2 November: Saturday ALL SOULS
 10:00 Marie Josee Domah RIP
 18:00 Joan McHugh RIP

3 November: THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY
 08:30 Dec. Members of the D'Mello Fam RIP
 10:00 UCM: All Confirmandi

Confirmation Mass

11:30 All Parishioners

*** 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.

COLLECTIONS

Last week's Diocesan collection for *World Mission Sunday* amounted to £580.00. Many thanks. This week there will be an ACC collection for *Barnabas Aid*. Next week, our second collection will be in aid of the Confirmation Candidates' chosen charities.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Geoffrey Bird, Dominic Audibert-Moloney, Fr Alan Sharpe, Jean Carpenter, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Ann Page, Arthur Hughes, Peggy Wall, Canon Peter Stodart & all others

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Richard Allen Wilding, Kathleen Finnegan, Catherine Grogan, Innes Gosine, Matthew McCabe, Mark McDonald, Joseph D'Souza, Maria Mendonca, Albert Rocca, Nora Walsh, Edward Mobsby, Alan Dwyer, Pearl Stevens, Peter Tuck, Douglas Morrison, Sean Gaffney, Patricia Aherne, Sylvia Desouza, Sylvia Pyne, Caroline Mozumder, Mary Good, Shirley Adams, Antony Brabin, Oscar Marshall, Anne Farrell, David Bassett, Maria Cowley, Michael Huggett, Antonio Braiotta, Vincenzina Lacovara, Frank Hadfield, Peter Lacovera, Gloria Browne, Ella Bloxham, Anastasia McHugh, Thecla Sulzendorf

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

27th October: Theresa Rodgers

3rd November: Frank Nelson

10th November: Ally Harron & Marian Curry

17th November: Cross Keys

24th November: Shane & Mervyn Owens

1st December: Theresa Rodgers

8th December: Glen Flynn

15th December: Frank Nelson

- The **ABBA Tribute Evening** featuring all of their hits over the last 40+ years takes place on Friday, 15th November commencing at 7:30pm. All proceeds from this event will be given to **CLAPA (Cleft Lip & Palate Association)** and the **NICU (Neuro Intensive Care Unit) at St George's Hospital**, Tooting.

Tickets at £15.00 each can be reserved by calling **Ben Cahill on 07958 903410**.

ROSARIO PRAYER

Monday - Saturday 9.30 - 9.50am

Friday - 9.15am - Chaplet of Divine Mercy followed by Rosario

BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS WITH FR TOMASZ

Are continuing on a Wednesday, after coffee morning in the large hall. **All are welcome!**

Please bring your Bible; the best translation would be the **Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition**.

SR SHEILA: There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Sister Sheila in St. Andrew's, Thornton Heath, on Tuesday 5th November at 7pm. All are most welcome.

OUR LADY'S CENTENARY CALENDARS

During the first 2 weeks in November, calendars will be on sale after every Mass and they are also available in the repository. Also because it's All Souls and Remembrance Sunday, there will be a scroll down the centre of the middle aisle. This mirrors all the names of our loved ones mentioned in our calendar. We would ask that you are mindful of the scroll as you walk down the aisle. Thank you.

If you'd like to reserve any copies, please contact **Marie Tross** on **07774 643159** or email **tross.marie@gmail.com**. Alternatively you can contact or visit the parish office.

DIVERSITY SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Join us for our meeting **TODAY** (Sunday 27th October) at **12.30pm** in the **large hall**. Agenda will include feedback from our successful day out to Arundel, and our Christmas bring & share with carols and secret Santa and your shout (Saturday 14th Dec). *Sylvia*

ASSISTED DYING BILL: PLEASE ACT NOW

A vote on this bill is expected in December. To defeat it, we need a huge effort to lobby MPs. Our MP, Natasha Irons, is new to Parliament so has not voted on this issue before. She will be getting a barrage of messages – we must make sure our voice is heard. **Email natasha.irons.mp@parliament.uk**

For more information, please see page 3 of the newsletter online

ST THOMAS BECKET CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: SEWING SKILLS NEEDED!

The St. Thomas Becket School Association is looking for volunteers from our community with sewing skills to help repurpose preloved uniforms into various items, including hairbands, scrunchies, bunting, bears, lanyards, and leavers cushions.

If you have sewing experience and are willing to help, please reach out to us at **stbsateam@gmail.com** or text Sarah at **07950 381029**. This initiative serves as a fundraiser for our school and promotes environmental sustainability. Your support is greatly appreciated!

For Collection: Helen (UCM)

Rotas: Eucharistic Ministers (Nov) Readers (November/December)

ROSARIO: PAULINE'S CHALLENGE

WHAT IS IT ABOUT? Rosario is directly inspired by the Living Rosary created by blessed Pauline Jaricot in the 19th century. A Living Rosary is a group of 5 people praying each day, each receives one mystery of the Rosary and takes 5 minutes to meditate on it while reciting a decade: a spiritual rose offered to Mary. At the end of the day, the group will have meditated on the 5 mysteries of the day, thus completing an entire rosary: this is the Living Rosary! During the month of October, the month of the Rosary, let's follow in Pauline Jaricot's footsteps and introduce the Rosary to as many people as possible through the Living Rosary!

THE GOAL? To welcome over 50,000 new participants to the Rosario app during the month of October. Each new person praying on Rosario during the month of October is a new heart offered to Our Lady and will be counted towards the challenge.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE? 2 OPTIONS:

1st OPTION: invite your friends and family for them to join Rosario

2nd OPTION: spread the word about Rosario in your parish

Did you know? Over 100 parishes offer their parishioners daily prayer communion through Rosario. This helps to:

- strengthen the fraternal bond within your parish

- pray for the parish's intentions

- encourage parishioners to pray more

Now it's our turn! We too, at Our Lady's of Annunciation, can become an ambassador for Rosario:

1. Create a prayer group after downloading the app

2. Give it the name of your parish

3. Invite as many parishioners as possible: those you already know, go and meet others after Mass, and mention it to your priest...

"Place 15 coals, with only 1 fully lit, 3 or 4 partially lit, and the rest not lit at all. Bring them closer together, and they will become a blazing fire." Blessed Pauline Jaricot.

READERS NEEDED FOR 6PM MASS: We are in need of more readers, specifically for the Saturday evening Mass, as there are currently only 2 volunteers on the rota. If you feel called to this ministry, please speak with a priest after Mass or ring the office.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE: Please note the parish office will be closed on **FRIDAY 1st NOVEMBER** due to staff annual leave.

DAY TRIP TO ST MARY'S COLLEGE, OSCOTT

A visit is planned to St. Mary's College, Oscott - the seminary for the Archdiocese of Birmingham, on Sunday 9th February 2025.

The college was opened in 1794 and has ties with St. John Henry Newman and Pugin architecture. It is a chance to meet some of the seminarians, have a tour of the college, enjoy afternoon tea with cakes baked on-site and attend Evening Prayer with Benediction.

Costs will be for transport only (to be determined once numbers are known), tickets are by donation only. Planned departure at 11:00am, return by 21:30pm.

To express interest, please email **francisbunch500@hotmail.com**

ADVENT: Please see page 3 of this newsletter online where there is a note about establishing house groups for Advent, where we will follow a professionally-prepared course of bible study.

HOLY SOULS - NOVEMBER LIST

We invite you to take a Holy Souls envelope from the table at the back of church. Write a list of any family and friends who have died, and put it in the envelope. **Please place the envelope in the secure 'offertory' box in the Lady chapel.** The list of names will then be placed in our Memorial basket (in the Lady Chapel) and your deceased loved ones will be remembered at all Masses during the month of November.

Any donations in the envelopes are used as Mass stipends for Masses for the Holy Souls throughout the year.

WEEKLY MASS IN CROYDON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

There is Mass every **Wednesday** at 12noon in Croydon University Hospital Chapel. All are most welcome.

ASSISTED DYING BILL: PLEASE ACT NOW

This booklet is very helpful (and inspiring) [Stories of ordinary people opposed to assisted suicide](#)

This webpage is useful <https://www.spuc.org.uk/livesworthliving>

However, if you are too busy to read up on the matter, just write a brief email to Natasha Irons in your own words, mentioning your own concerns about assisted suicide. Do you have a disability that will make you vulnerable? Or have family members you'd be worried about? Natasha is a Labour MP – you could remind her of her party's commitment to the poor and vulnerable. *Many thanks!*

HOUSE GROUPS FOR ADVENT

“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belong to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work”
(2 Timothy, 3:16,17)

From Psalm 119 ... *“O teach me true understanding and knowledge”* (v. 66); *“Give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments”* (v. 73).

Sermons are good – they can be very good – but are they enough?

Did our understanding of our faith come to a halt after Confirmation? If “Yes!!”, does this bother you? Would you welcome a convivial way of deepening and broadening your knowledge and understanding of what it means to be a Christian today?

In times past locally, there have been house groups and Bible study groups (generally of between 6 and 10 members), aimed at enabling us all to learn more, in a guided way, perhaps focused on a short season such as Advent or Lent. Following a short booklet covering (say) four weeks of Advent, groups examine and discuss what relevance to today there might be in (say) the Parable of the Prodigal Son, or The Council of Trent, or the various stories of deaths in the Bible (Goliath, Lazarus, Judas Iscariot and of course Jesus himself), or why and how the Old Testament is a formative element in the Christian faith.

Yes, it may sound daunting – but it isn't. For each week, the booklet might have a suggested Bible reading, a few paragraphs of commentary and several questions. It is these questions which the group leader would focus on with the members, drawing out insights and experiences which help others to see more clearly the important issues of the day in the light of their (we hope now expanded) Christian faith. To have groups at all, we clearly need hosts who can seat up to ten people more or less comfortably, and leaders who are prepared to ensure that a balanced conversation is held, with the discussion including everyone and not dominated by one or two people.

If you believe you could do either (or both) of these, please let Andy Bebington know via **020 8777 4849** or, preferably, **andy.bebington@gmail.com**, giving your name and contact details and an indication of which afternoons or evenings you'd generally expect to be available.

If you think you might like to join a group just as a member, (subject to date, and time of day), please also let him know your “availability” so that the numbers of groups can be arranged.

