



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:
 Weekdays after 10am Mass Every Saturday at 5pm Or by appointment

29th March 2020 Fifth Sunday of Lent YEAR A

Things are moving at such a pace. You will now be aware that Churches are required to close, and the diocese has requested we do this with immediate effect along with all church buildings.

It is important at times like these to remain faithful to the personal disciplines of Christian discipleship. In prayer we maintain, even grow our relationship with the Father. At the same time we unite ourselves with all other Christians who know their need for God, and are seeking to come to a fuller understanding of their own vocations through the intimacy of prayer. So you see, we may not be in the same room as each other, but we are certainly not 'in isolation.'

Be assured Fr. Jackson and I continue to celebrate the Mass for your intentions each day and invite you to remain faithful to the Mass at the time you would normally attend, that we may remain in spiritual communion. Do keep checking our website, as this will be updated weekly with information, and from this weekend will have the Sunday liturgies and bidding prayers uploaded. Should you want to arrange an intention for Mass in the coming months an online application can be found in the Covid-19 tab on the website. You can contribute the stipend when we are no longer under 'house arrest.' Also, the car park is deserted so if you are out and about on you permitted exercise or dog walk and want to post your weekly offering through the parish office letter box, please feel free to do so.

It is likely that the Easter liturgies will be celebrated privately also! We must prepare our hearts as we normally would for the 'Good News' of Holy Week and Easter. Continue to examine our consciences, make an act of reconciliation (as that is something we can still offer the faithful so long as it is in a confessional with grill/curtain). Be ready to spend some time in prayer on Maundy Thursday evening 'in the garden', and to pray for a while, with the rest of the household, before the Cross on Good Friday. At this time, when we seem to have discovered a new collective will for displays of public gratitude, (nothing wrong with that!), be ready to shout ALLELUIA, Christ is risen, from your balcony or bedroom window on Easter morning. In this way the faith, which is our strength and our stay, remains central to our lives as we celebrate at a distance the Paschal Feast.

Continue to pray for the Elect, Miriam, Faith, Alison and John, and for the 1st Holy Communion children. We will be celebrating the sacraments of initiation with them all as soon as we are allowed, with the children hopefully on the weekend previously advertised. WATCH THIS SPACE.

God bless

Fr Keill.

Mass Intentions This Week

28 March: Saturday

10:00 Marshall Weetman & Paddy Dermody RIP
 18:00 Arthur Fairservice RIP

29 March: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

08:30 Bridget Daly RIP 1st Anniversary
 10:00 Wellbeing of Margo Evans

30 March: Monday

10:00 Intentions of Doris Williams

31 March: Tuesday

10:00 Deceased Members of the Leather & English Families RIP

1 April: Wednesday

10:00 Lai Ching Chang RIP

2 April: Thursday

10:00 Birthday Wishes for Clarina Rodrigues
 19:30 Ashley Jacob RIP

3 April: Friday

10:00 All Souls In Purgatory

4 April: Saturday

10:00 Thanksgiving for Indu Alexander
 18:00 Lily & Joe New RIP

5 April: PALM SUNDAY

08:30 Mick Semeta RIP
 10:00 UCM: Catherine Boyle RIP

MEETINGS

J & P Group - Tuesday 31st March at 8pm

Will now be held online via 'Zoom'

Please contact sciberraschris7@gmail.com

OUR LADY'S SAFEGUARDING OFFICER - Ann Marie Christian. Contact email - addiscombesg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

COLLECTIONS: *Both the offertory and all second collections will now cease until public worship resumes, however the church still needs to operate financially, so please bear this in mind and do all you can to support the parish during these unprecedented times.*

We pray for the sick in our Parish: *Geoffrey Bird, Margarette Collins, Phyllis Donnelly, Elizabeth Casey, Jack Burke, Florence Okugbe, Ethan Patel, Rosa Lobo*

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: *Petronilla Molyneux, Stanislaw Stepien, Charles Lancaster, Felecita Johnson, Ryszard Siepka, John Groombridge, Brenda Bond, Maria Robinson, Harold Kelly, Maureen Purcell, Bridget Daly, Bill Cox, Patrick Reddington, Alvaro Pinto, Mary Fitzgerald, Basil Hymas, Paul Franklin, Michael O'Donnell, Bernard Bennett, Michael Semeta*

SOCIAL CLUB
Sunday Evening Entertainment.

The programme at the Social Club has been suspended with immediate effect.

Members of the Social Club are now available to support the Parish Community throughout the current *Covid-19 crisis*. If you need assistance with shopping, lifts to a Hospital Appointment or other basic activities, please call the Parish Office on 020 8654 1709 to register your requirements. The Office Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9am - 3pm. The Office is closed on a Wednesday.

Ben Cahill
Chair: Social Club

ARCHBISHOP PETER SMITH RIP

Given the current situation regarding the Coronavirus outbreak and public attendance at Masses, we advise that you check the Diocesan website for up to date information about the arrangements for Archbishop Peter's funeral.

RECENT DEATH

We are sad to announce the recent death of June Cully on Friday 27th March. Remembrance details will follow shortly. Please keep Lyn, June's daughter, and her family in your prayers at this sad time.

THE KENT CATENIANS 2020: Heat of the sixth form public speaking competition took place at St Gregory's Tunbridge Wells despite appalling weather, traffic holdups and worries about coronavirus. 5 schools were represented by 10 speakers and the standard of speaking was once again very high. The judges Sharon Grange, Barry Mizen and Brendan Ducey had a difficult task. The winner is Connor Watkins from St John Fisher school, Chatham who spoke on "The education system". He will go to the national final in Manchester in September. The runner-up is Tamara Rachel from St Thomas the Apostle school, Nunhead who spoke on "Young people and knife crime". Margaret Mizen spoke about the Jimmy Mizen fund and there was excellent support from Kent Catenian circles.

BINGHAM PARK
A CORRECTION FROM CROYDON COUNCIL

We have recently been contacted by Croydon Council to state that the information previously given in the newsletter regarding Bingham Park was incorrect. They have stated that *'no one is planning to build on Addiscombe Recreation Ground, and that it will be protected no matter what in the council's Local Plan. The e-mail we sent about Local Green Space was asking for more information about why Addiscombe Recreation Ground might merit even more protection than it currently has, such that we could designate it as Local Green Space, which is in effect, the 'gold standard' of protection for parks in national planning policy'* Their full email is available to read in the porch, if you wish.

SVP COFFEE MORNING
Sunday 29th March after 10am Mass

Unfortunately, we are **postponing** our SVP fundraising coffee morning until further notice, as a precaution for our members and parishioners. Many thanks.

LENTEN MASSES - CROYDON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
The remaining Lenten Masses in Croydon University Hospital are cancelled.

GAELIC FOOTBALL TASTER SESSIONS

The Gaelic Football Taster Sessions at St Mary's high school **have been suspended until the end of March**. We will notify you when they recommence.

CAN YOU HELP IN THE PARISH OFFICE?

As the parish office is now closed to the public all week, the phone is very busy and vital at this time. Rachel and Stephanie will continue to work their days, however it would be helpful to have a volunteer for a couple of hours on a Wednesday, when the office is not usually manned, to answer the phones whilst it is the only way of communicating with the office. If you think you may be able to help in this way - please contact Fr Keith to discuss it. Thank you.

DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES

We currently have two job opportunities available.

Marriage Tribunal Administrator:

Full time based in Tooting Bec, London SW17

Safeguarding Office Administrator:

Based on the Cathedral site London SE1

If you would like more information about either of them, please look on the Diocese's website www.rcsouthwark.co.uk

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (WDP) 2020: Many thanks to all who contributed and attended the WDP for Zimbabwe on Friday 6th March. Your presence and participation made the evening a wonderful sharing of prayer, music and fellowship with fellow Christians around the world and in particular the people of Zimbabwe who will hopefully be strengthened by our support. Anne Barcellos

ALL COFFEE MORNINGS: Are obviously suspended until public Masses resume. Hopefully these can be rescheduled soon.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

Thank you for your Christmas Crib offerings of £465, which contribute to our work supporting school fees, medical expenses, family and community support. Your help is so important as there is no social care system or foodbanks in the Holy Land. Currently Bethlehem is in lockdown due to the Coronavirus, with holy sites closed and restrictions on movement. Christians (and all residents) are unable to work and have no source of income. This will tip many families into financial crisis. Your help shows them that they are not alone.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER NEEDED FOR OUR LADY'S

Ann Marie Christian is stepping down as our lead safeguarding officer. **If you are experienced in this field** and think you would like to take up the role, please speak to Fr Keith. Many thanks.

28th CROYDON SCOUT FAMILY BINGO EVENING
Saturday 28th March

Unfortunately, this event has been **postponed** until further notice. Thank you for your understanding.

Items for collection: Sr Celia, S Turner

Baptism certificates: V Conkova, L Taggart, Adams-Grace, G Stevens, A Lawrence, H Carney Garcia, Pires x2