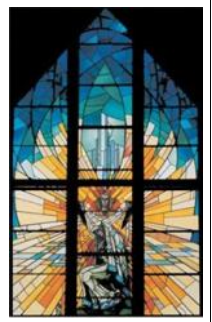


Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Jackson Sebastian
147 Bingham Road, Addiscombe, Croydon CR0 7EN. Phone 020-8654 1709
email: addiscombe@rcaos.org.uk website: www.addiscombecatholicchurch.com
Diocesan website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk
Office Hours: The office is currently closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
By appointment only

29th November 2020 First Sunday of Advent YEAR B



Today we are commencing a new season in the liturgical year of the Roman Catholic Church that is the season of Advent. The word Advent is derived from the Latin word '*Adventus*' which means the glorious arrival of an emperor to his own city. In liturgy it is a period of preparation awaiting the celebration of Christmas. There are three kinds of appearances or coming of Jesus, such as; the first was His coming that took place two thousand years ago in Bethlehem, the Second is his daily coming into our hearts through the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, and the third is His second coming at the end of time to judge and rule as the eternal king. Therefore the preparation at Advent has a very significant start in all the spheres of our life.

The first reading of today is from the third book of the prophet Isaiah, where he speaks about the tragic states of Israelites under the Babylonian exile and at the same time the restoration by Cyrus the Persian emperor and the mixed emotional transitions of them at their arrival on their homeland.

In the second reading St. Paul speaks to the people that they are not worthy to receive the Lord at His eminent coming because they did not use the power and charisma of the Holy Spirit for the building of the Church but only for the destruction. Therefore He pleads to God for all of them.

The gospel of today encourages us not to give up our hope and trust, but alertness and attention is always necessary. Our preparation of meeting Jesus at His second coming would be related to our daily relationship with others. We must be ever eager to help others; all those who are really in need of us. This kind of selfless service and charity would definitely enable all of us to meet him face to face. Therefore this season of Advent is an immediate step in our life to welcome the Lord into our life. And let's try to build a very beautiful cradle in our hearts for the baby Jesus. Let us also pray come lord Jesus come, *Maranatha*.

Mass Intentions This Week

28 November: Saturday

10:00 Wellbeing of Jude Joseph

18:30 Peggy Scanlon RIP

29 November:

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 Betty Judge RIP

12:00 Anne Farrell RIP

30 November: Monday

SAINT ANDREW

10:00 Holy Souls

1 December: Tuesday

10:00 Fr John McKenna's Intentions RIP

2 December: Wednesday

10:00 James O'Sullivan RIP

3 December: Thursday

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

10:00 Martin Whelan RIP

19:30 Nigel Waters RIP

4 December: Friday

10:00 Helen O'Sullivan RIP

5 December: Saturday

10:00 Josef Furrer RIP

17:30 John & Julia Rodrigues RIP

18:30 Martin McCorry RIP

6 December:

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

09:00 All Parishioners

10:00 UCM: Margaret Grimsley's Intentions

11:00 Vivian & Allen Sorrell RIP

12:00 Thanksgiving for Margaret & Alfred Menezes 50th Wedding Anniversary



IMPORTANT REMINDER

Our 10am Mass each Sunday is LIVE STREAMED through our Facebook page.

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, Mary Rayner, Maureen Kearney, Baby Chloe Hui, Teresa Savitri

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Jack Mills, Patrick Cummins, Peter Early, Elizabeth Kennedy, Marie Bond, Shiri Kisunlal Maharaj, Daniel Aherne, Mary McPhillips, Florence Moynihan, Keith Carder, Josefa Martin Muniz, Mary Fernandez, Arthur Halliday, Gertrude Chandler, John William Davis, Eric Hope Smith, Betty Cox, William Conroy, Tom Clarke, Terri (Annie) Knight, Wladyslaw (John) Langowski, Patrick Casey, Margaret Lord, Teresa Cleary, Mary Brown, Joseph Morais, Mary Patterson, Joseph Leaman, Beatrice Michael, Molly Wynne

***** IMPORTANT TRACK & TRACE INFORMATION *****
Please text your name to - [07548 868418](tel:07548868418). Many thanks for your cooperation.

***** POLITE REMINDER *****

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING WHILST IN CHURCH. OUR SEATING IS CLEARLY MARKED TO INDICATE WHERE IT IS SAFE TO SIT. **DO NOT SIT WHERE THERE IS RED TAPE ON A PEW UNLESS YOU ARE IN YOUR FAMILY BUBBLE.** THANK YOU.

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

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!
Thank you for your support of the Christmas Raffle. We are supporting three local charities; *The Lily Pad Appeal* (Children with Cancer) at Croydon University Hospital, the *Woodside Bereavement Service* and *St Mildred's Church* (Women's Refuge Project).

To date, we have already raised in excess of £4,100.00; *our Target is £5,000.00+*. To order Books of Tickets send an email to:

patrickwinston@yahoo.co.uk or bernardcahill2004@yahoo.co.uk

With the current Covid-19 restrictions, all counterfoils, monies and unsold tickets are to be returned to the Presbytery.

Additional information on the Raffle is available on the Parish website:

<http://www.addiscombecatholicchurch.com/grand-christmas-raffle>

The *Anerley Across 200-Club* Christmas Draw will take place on Sunday, 6th December; the first prize will be £200.00.

More News from *the Social Club* is available on the Facebook site.

If the Social Club Committee can help you in anyway, please make contact with the Parish Office. You may need assistance with shopping, collection of medication, transport to a hospital appointment et al. *No task is too small - please make contact.*

RECENT DEATH: We are sad to announce the recent death of Rose Holmes (of Woodside Avenue). Please keep Rose and her family in your prayers at this sad time.

***** IMPORTANT NOTICE *****

The First Holy Communion Parents' meeting is postponed until Tuesday, 8th December, at 8pm to take place in Church. Also, please email the parish office with your email address and permission to add you to a First Holy Communion Monday or Tuesday Group via email and / or WhatsApp. This will make communication between parents and priests so much easier. Thank You.

ST THOMAS BECKET SCHOOL ANNUAL RAFFLE: Has gone online only this year. The link to purchase tickets is: <https://raffall.com/142575/enter-raffle-to-win-lots-of-christmas-goodies-hosted-by-stbsa>

Everyone entering the draw has to answer a simple question. Tickets are £1 each and prizes include Love to Shop vouchers, a portrait by a local artist, hampers, and lots more! Please share this link. Thanks!

SO, WE GO BACK TO 'COVID NORMAL' ON WEDNESDAY 2nd!

That is to say, Mass is open to the public and the Covid timetable is restored for Sundays. Mass will be celebrated with restrictions and Communion distributed as the faithful leave the building. The cleaning regime between Masses will be as rigorous as before, masks must be worn, one way system and social distancing guidelines must be observed at all times.

What to do about Christmas? It is a difficult one to call, as under normal circumstances, we might have 16-18 hundred people through the building with family guests and 'once a year' worshippers etc. To accommodate such numbers we would need something like 13 Masses with the church at full capacity and that is not practical. At the same time numbers returning to Mass after the first lockdown are just over a third of our normal attendance.

The Bishop has issued some guidelines on the subject. He asks us to remember that we celebrate the **Octave** of Christmas. To attend any time during the octave would fulfil one's obligation. He then asks us to remember that the obligation remains **rescinded** at this time and will not be restored before the festival or indeed until the pandemic is over and it is safe to do so. Remember also that there continues to be a ban on congregational singing, so the Masses will not be the celebrations we have come to love and cherish as part of our Christmas routines.

However, as Baldrick might say, "I have a cunning plan". The **6pm Mass on Christmas eve**, which is by far the most populated Mass of the festival will be a **'SING-A-LONG' from home celebration**. Mass will be private in church but live streamed with all the Carols and music we will not have the opportunity to sing in church over the feast. So you can 'let rip' in your lounges with as many family and friends as you are legally allowed to gather, and as loud as you can get away with before the neighbours start knocking on the wall. In this way I hope we will be able to control the numbers of people who might be attending Mid-night Mass and the 9am, 10am, 11am and 12pm on Christmas morning. The last thing we want is to be turning people away. Fr Jackson and I look forward to celebrating Advent and Christmas with you, and thank you for your patient understanding as we continue to consider how to do so under these challenging circumstances. God bless. Fr Keith.

AYC: Is doing a *Christmas Themed Zoom Quiz and Bingo!* This is a great opportunity to welcome our Year 7's (age 11-12) for an evening of fun and festivities with prizes galore!

To register your interest please email:
Addiscombeyouthclub@gmail.com

CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES 2020

Confirmation certificates for 2020 can now be collected from the Parish Office. Please ring to let us know when you will collect. Many thanks.

HM Government

**WASH
HANDS**



**COVER
FACE**



NHS

**MAKE
SPACE**





OFFERING A MASS INTENTION: If you wish to offer a Mass intention at this time, please either use an 'Intentions' envelope located in a tray by the church exit, or complete the form on our website under the **COVID 19** tab. You can print this off and return it via the parish office letterbox with stipend enclosed, or email it to us directly at addiscombe@rcaos.org.uk. If you choose to email the form we will then contact you once lockdown is lifted regarding the stipend.

PURCHASING MASS CARDS: The parish office remains closed to the public. If you wish to purchase a Mass card, *please visit the Repository shop at the weekend, or see Fr Keith or Fr Jackson who can assist you with this.* Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Unfortunately we have not been able to hold Children's liturgy for some time, but wanted to remind you of the *Colour and Shape Children's Liturgy* that are available each week on YouTube for young families

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdJNyn5xOrOB5634uplhcQg>

Also, don't forget to print off the weekly children's liturgy page that is uploaded to our website every week.

TOY SUNDAY - 12th / 13th DECEMBER

Our annual Toy Collection will take place a little later this year, on 12th/13th December. Please wrap your gifts and use a tag to indicate the age range and gender for which the gift is suitable.

Please place your gift in the appropriate age & gender sacks, which will be located at the back of the church. Many thanks for your continued support.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

World Gifts, CAFOD's range of virtual gifts, make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. While we have the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown here, we can still be good neighbours to our sisters and brothers overseas by giving World Gifts as Christmas presents to family and friends. The Keep Clean Kit gift for £6 and the Vegetable Garden gift for £10 are just two gifts that will help vulnerable families affected by the pandemic to protect and feed themselves. Let's spread joy and hope around the world this Christmas.

Visit cafod.org.uk/worldgifts.

GOOD SHEPHERD MISSION TO THE HOMELESS

Sadly, due to restrictions imposed on our older members by the COVID pandemic and lack of further volunteers, the Good Shepherd Mission To the Homeless (GSMH) are no longer able to continue our work in distributing food, clothing and toiletries to homeless people in Lincoln's Inn and Waterloo. *Now seems to be a natural ending to nearly forty years of GSMH ministry inspired by Sr. Joan, DMJ, for which we are truly grateful.*

Our remaining funds and assets will be shared amongst other charities that support people who are homeless.

On behalf of GSMH. I would like to thank you for your generous support over the years. Without your contributions, the work could not have continued. *Sr. Sheila Barrett for GSMH*

FRATELLI TUTTI: The new encyclical of Pope Francis, is a message for everyone, not just Catholics or people of other faiths. The Holy Father argues that at a time of pandemic we cannot just return to politics as normal, but need to show fraternity and social friendship to build a better, more just and peaceful world. To find out more about Fratelli Tutti, please follow the links on the parish website.

How can you show fraternity and social friendship in our Parish?

Please contact one of the following groups in our Parish: the Saint Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), who visit and befriend parishioners; the Refugee Support group, who are preparing to bring a vulnerable family for resettlement in the UK, and the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation group, who campaign on social issues in line with Catholic social teaching. Details of how to contact these groups can be found on the website or you can contact the parish office.

THE PASSAGE: Is raising funds through the Big Give from 12pm Tues 1st December – 12pm Tues 8th December to support its work Helping Homeless People this winter. **Double your Donation, Double your impact.** This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. If someone (can be company, individual or trust) gave £10 online matched giving of £10 would bring the Gift up to £20 (and for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 7592 1886 andrew.h@passage.org.uk

Please generously give online at <https://tinyurl.com/PassageBigGive>

