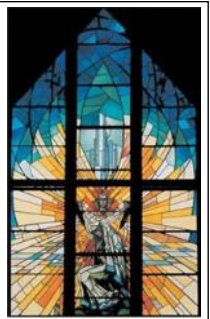




Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Cajetan Dara
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: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9am - 3pm Wednesday: Closed
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Monday - Saturday: Before or After 10am Mass or By Appointment

30th November First Sunday Of Advent (page 82 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR A

The first Sunday of Advent always feels like a threshold moment - a doorway between what has been and what is beginning. Year A, in particular, feels like a deep invitation to start again. Advent begins not with sentimentality or decorations, but with a wake up call: *"Stay awake! You must be prepared, for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect."*

This summons jars me a little each year, almost as though Christ sees me slipping into spiritual autopilot and gently but firmly shakes me awake.

Advent is often portrayed as peaceful, cozy and serene, yet its scriptures begin with urgency. The season is not passive waiting. It is active, vigilant, hopeful preparation.

Year A especially leans into the paradox of Advent! Its softness and its edge. Its promise and its warning, its intimacy and its cosmic scope.

As I reflect personally on this particular first Sunday, I find myself drawn into a deeper awareness of the ways God quietly works in the background of my life.

I wish also to thank you all for the warm welcome given to me when I arrived in this parish, especially to Fr Keith!

Fr Cajetan

+++++
**Canon Gerard will be closing our Jubilee year
with a meditative reflection on Saturday, starting with 10am Mass.
Everyone is welcome!**
+++++

Should anyone want to help lead the congregational singing at the Mid-night Mass this year, do email the parish office.

Alternatively make yourself known to Jacqueline or Fr Keith.

MEETINGS

Diversity Group Meeting: TODAY Sunday 30th at 12.30pm (Large Hall)

SVP: Tuesday 2nd at 8pm (PRC)

UCM: Wednesday 3rd at 8pm (Large Hall)



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm

In The Sacred Heart Chapel

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 499.40
Loose cash	£ 617.07
S/Os (Approx)	£ 1340.00
Total	£ 2456.47

Mass Intentions This Week

29 November: Saturday

10:00 Welfare of Coloma &
All Catholic Education

18:00 Anne Leigh RIP

30 November: 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08:30 Celine & Anthony Carvalho RIP

10:00 Maureen Walsh RIP 4th Anniversary

11:30 Dick Brennan RIP

1 December: Monday

10:00 Fr John McKenna's Intentions RIP

2 December: Tuesday

10:00 Cecil Family Intentions

3 December: Wednesday

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER

10:00 Shirley Gaunt RIP 5th Anniversary

4 December: Thursday

10:00 Birthday Wishes for Kanayo Okeke

**16:30 Reception of the Body of
Mary Farrell RIP**

19:30 Mr & Mrs D'Souza RIP

5 December: Friday

10:00 Arthur Hughes RIP

FUNERAL MASS

12:00 Mary Farrell RIP

6 December: Saturday

10:00 Angelo Perera RIP

Followed by Reflection with Canon Gerard

18:00 Dec. Mems. of the Heskin & Sweeney
Families RIP

7 December: 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08:30 All Parishioners

10:00 UCM: All Expectant Mothers

11:30 Michael Cafferkey RIP

*** 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 **Catholic Youth Services** amounted to £642.35. Many thanks.

Next weekend, will be holding our annual **Toy Collection**. See note overleaf.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Elizabeth Casey, Mary Ariaratnam, Christina Cahill, Mary Jayawardena, Peggy Wall, Joseph Anand, Pat Joyce, Darren Ngasseu, Paddy Ryan, Dave Freegard, Lorraine Quinlivan, Westley Adaken & all others

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Florence Moynihan, Keith Carder, Josefa Martin Muniz, Mary Fernandez, Arthur Halliday, Gertrude Chandler, John William Davis, Eric Hope Smith, Betty Cox, Merley McIntosh, William Conroy, Tom Clarke, Terri (Annie) Knight, Wladyslaw (John) Langowski, Shirley Gaunt, Helen Linehan, Patrick Casey, Margaret Lord, Teresa Cleary, Mary Brown, Joseph Morais, Mary Patterson, Joseph Leaman, Beatrice Michael, Molly Wynne, Darrell Williamson, Maria Hernandez, Ernest La Rue, George Horsley, Maria Tagliarini

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

30th November: TR Dallas

7th December: Shane & Mervyn Owens

14th December: Glen Flynn

21st December: **Christmas Celebration** - Kieran White

28th December: Pat Jordan

4th January: Kieran White

11th January: Sane & Mervyn Owens

18th January: Finbar & Paul

- Thank you to the Parish Community & the Social Club for your very generous support of the **Pyjama Appeal**. **100+ sets of Pyjamas** have been delivered to St Mildred's Church.

- The Social Club's **Christmas Celebration** will take place on Sunday, 21st December at 7:30pm. Entertainment will be by **Kieran White & a Buffet** will be served during the evening.

RECENT DEATHS: We are sad to announce the recent deaths of **Jean Carpenter** and **Agnes Cuffey-Pratt**.

Agnes' funeral will take place her at **Our Lady's** on **Friday 19th December at 10am**. Details of **Jean's** funeral will be published once known. Please keep both them, and their families in your prayers at this sad time. May their gentle souls Rest In Peace.

FOODBANK SUNDAY - 14th DECEMBER

Please note that for December only, Foodbank Sunday will be the **2ND Sunday of the month** - 14th December. The Shrublands food bank requires the following:

coffee, tea, custard, instant desserts, marmite, milk, pasta sauces

And Christmas treats:

Chocolate Coins, Christmas Biscuits, Stuffing, Gravy Granules, Sauces - red & brown, Mustard, Mayonnaise, Cranberry Sauce, Mince Pies, Christmas Puddings and Crackers, Small Boxes of Chocolates & Sweets

REPOSITORY: Christmas cards, 2026 diaries and calendars are now available in the repository. **The Christmas cards include Our Lady's design at 50p a card**. OLA tote bags are also available.

DIVERSITY CHRISTMAS BASH 13.12.2025

Hello Parishioners, trust all is well. Our Diversity Christmas Bash is on **Saturday 13th December** in the small hall from 1 - 5pm. Everyone is invited including minors under parental guidance. Bring your favourite dish, mindful of allergies, & drinks to share. Bring gifts costing £5-7, labelled male/female to exchange including for children. Sing favourite carols with accompanying keyboard music and dance to others. Enjoy festive games. Make new friends, celebrate old ones and promote community cohesion. Contact Sylvia on **07870 508790** or **sylviauw3k@gmail.com** for more info.

MASSES IN CROYDON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

The final Mass in the Hospital for 2025 will be on Wednesday 10th December. NO MASSES on 17th, 24th, 31st

WEDNESDAY MASSES resume on 7th JANUARY 2026

at 12 noon in the Hospital Chapel.

All are most welcome

ST THOMAS BECKET SCHOOL OPEN DAY

St Thomas Becket Catholic Primary School have added an additional Open Day Event on **Friday 12th December at 2pm**. Please book in using the following:

<https://www.thomasbecket.croydon.sch.uk/open-events-2/>

PARISH ASCENT GROUP

Our Parish Ascent Group is part of "Life Ascending International". It is a Catholic Movement, a Confraternity, for men and women. The three aims are first, Friendship, then growing in Spirituality, and then finally supporting our Catholic Church's Mission at home and abroad. **All parishioners are very welcome to join us.**

We meet over tea and coffee to share, in different ways, an understanding and experience of our Catholic Faith, in the **Small Hall after 10.00 o'clock Mass on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.**

Diocesan Safeguarding Office: **safeguardingoffice@rcaos.org.uk**

PRIMARY SCHOOL REFERENCES FOR 2026 ENTRY

Priest's reference application forms are now available to download from our website. Please return the completed form to the parish office before ringing to arrange an appointment with Fr Keith.

Appointments will **ONLY** run until **Friday 5th December**.

COFFEE MORNING PILGRIMAGE FUNDRAISER

A group of Coloma 6th form students will be volunteering a week of their 2026 Easter break supporting the HCPT Lourdes pilgrimage. In order to attend, the girls have to raise significant funds to support the pilgrimage. **They will be holding a coffee morning TODAY Sunday 30th November after the 10am Mass.**

Please come along and support the girls' fundraising! Given the large target, Coloma are also looking for sponsorship and partnerships with companies. If you are able to assist in anyway, or have connections, please email **group703@hcpt.org.uk**

*** DATE FOR THE DIARY ***

UCM COFFEE MORNING 7th December

The UCM will be holding a coffee morning after 10am Mass on Sunday 7th December to raise funds for **First Touch**, a charity based at *St George's specialising in supporting sick and premature babies*. Please join us and support this very worthy cause!

CALLING ALL MARYS, JOSEPHS, ANGELS, SHEPHERDS & KINGS!!

You are welcome to Everyone's Nativity!

Come dressed as your favourite Nativity character (which could be the donkey) to celebrate this very special time. Nativity acted in church, followed by Arts & Crafts and refreshments in the large hall.

From 2pm on Sunday 14th December

TOY COLLECTION 6th / 7th DECEMBER

Please start Advent with your offerings of new toys (wrapped & labelled with gender and age) for the many refugee children supported by The Croydon Refugee Project, including hundreds of children living in hotels. *Many thanks!*

AYC: Is delighted to offer a **FREE PARENT & CHILD DRUGS WORK SHOP** to be held on the **24th January 2026 4-5pm in the large hall**. The first half will consist of an interactive presentation with videos, then we have **drunk and drug goggles**, and the second half is trying to complete simple tasks to see how this can impact whilst under the influence. It is also a good opportunity for any questions. There will also be leaflets to take away. *This is for school years 7 & above*. Please email **aycyouthclub11@gmail.com** to express your interest so we can get an idea of numbers.

BEREAVEMENT COUNSELLING TRAINING

www.thelisteningear.org.uk

Do you have a listening ear? Do you have a desire to help others? Do you have some spare time? *Then why not consider joining our 50 hour Bereavement Training Course starting 19th January 2026.*

For an information pack, please email **wbs@thelisteningear.org.uk**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - NIGERIA

6th March 2026

This year, the women of Nigeria invite us to come to our Church and rest in Jesus in our frantic and tired world.

Planning for this annual evening of prayer and music has begun. If you wish to join the service, preparations, use your ideas for promoting this event, sourcing decorations and planning the refreshments, please contact Anne Barcellos via the parish office.

PARISH OFFICE TECHNICAL ISSUES

We have recently had some technical issues around emails in the parish office. Emails with any attachments (of any kind) were not coming through to our main inbox. Please bear with us, if you haven't received a reply to an enquiry yet, as we try to catch up, now that the issue is (hopefully) resolved. Thanks for your understanding.

For Collection: *N Akinyemi*

Baptism Certificates: *Please collect from the Parish office.*

Rotas: *Eucharistic Ministers (November) Readers (Nov/Dec)*