



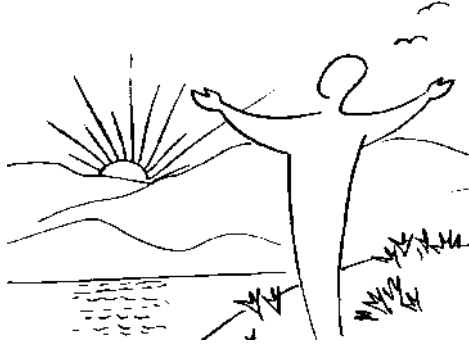
Our Lady of the Annunciation



Parish Priest: Fr. Keith Sylvia **Assistant Priest:** Fr. Tomasz Margol
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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

31st March 2024 Easter Sunday (page 251 of Parish Mass Book) YEAR B

Alleluia Christ is Risen!



He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL,

& thank you to all those who have worked so hard behind the scenes to ensure the celebrations of Holy Week were celebrated with joyful reverence & dignity.

Enjoy the Feast.

Fr Tomasz, Fr Keith, Jacqueline and all in the Presbytery.

Fr. Tomasz and Fr. Keith thank you for your generosity and support spiritually and materially, at this time and throughout the year.

Mass Intentions This Week

30 March: HOLY SATURDAY

10:00 Morning Prayer & First Anointing
11:15 Polish Blessing of Food for Easter

*The Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter
(Page 216 of Parish Mass book)*

21:00 Intentions of Remi-Lou, Leena, Richard, Ryan & William

31 March: EASTER SUNDAY

08:30 All Parishioners
10:00 John Boswood & David Warner RIP
11:30 Birthday Wishes for Lucy Toure

1 April: Easter Monday

10:00 Rosa Lobo RIP

2 April: Easter Tuesday

10:00 Birthday Wishes for Clarina Rodrigues

3 April: Easter Wednesday

10:00 Rosemary Simons RIP

4 April: Easter Thursday FUNERAL MASS

10:00 Antonio Fernandes RIP

19:30 Anne Byrne RIP

5 April: Easter Friday FUNERAL MASS

10:00 Georgina Donoghue RIP

6 April: Easter Saturday

10:00 Anthony Simons RIP

18:00 Joan McHugh RIP

7 April: SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

08:30 All Parishioners
10:00 UCM: José Fernandez & Members Lost Loved Ones RIP
11:30 Jim Clancy RIP

MEETINGS

SVP: Tuesday 2nd at 8pm (PRC)
UCM: Wednesday 3rd April at 8pm (Large Hall)
Padre Pio Group: Friday 5th April at 9.30am (Before Mass in the Church)



Hearing Loop
Switch hearing aid to T-coil

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays: 10.30am - 12pm

In The Sacred Heart Chapel

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY

Will be published next weekend

*** DEFIBRILLATOR ***

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

COLLECTIONS

This Sunday is your personal offering to Fr Keith and Fr Tomasz.

Can I ask all parishioners in the Gift Aid scheme, including those who pay by standing order, to use their Gift Aid envelopes. Many thanks.

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

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: John Groombridge, Brenda Bond, Maria Robinson, Patrick Joseph Carroll, Harold Kelly, Maureen Purcell, Bridget Daly, Bill Cox, Patrick Reddington, Alvaro Pinto, Rosa Lobo, Mary Fitzgerald, Basil Hymas, Paul Franklin, Michael O'Donnell, Bernard Bennett, Michael Semeta, Mark Carter

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club

Sunday evening entertainment commencing at 8.00pm

31st March: **Easter Sunday Special** - Kieran White

7th April: Theresa Rodgers

14th April: Ally Harron & Marian Curry

21st April: TR Dallas

28th April: Cross Keys

5th May: **Bank Holiday Special** - Kenny Paul

12th May: The Duets

- The **Bacon & Cabbage Supper and Dance** takes place on Friday, 26th April commencing at 6:30pm. Entertainment will be provided by **Barry Doyle & Sean Wilson**. All proceeds from this event will be given to the Royal Marsden Hospital, Sutton. **To reserve Tickets at £15.00 each, call Ben Cahill on 07958 903410.**

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 7th APRIL 3 - 4pm

Exposition & Prayers

THE CHURCH'S TEACHING ON CONTRACEPTION

Please see pages 3 & 4 of our newsletter online, for excerpts of documents on the church's teaching on contraception, as spoken about by Fr Tomasz in his Wednesday catechesis.

PARISH FILM SHOW

This year's show will take place at **7.30pm on Saturday 20th April**, in the **Small Hall**.

Tickets on sale after all Masses next weekend!

OUR PARISH ASCENT GROUP: Is part of Life Ascending International in England, which is designed to meet the needs of Catholics, especially older members of the Church.

We have been meeting in our Parish, every second Tuesday, after morning Mass, for 21 years. After tea/coffee, between 10 and 20 of our members attend.

We produce a programme for each meeting and pray to our Heavenly Father for an increase in Faith Hope and Charity. Our programme usually includes prayer to the Holy Spirit, prayers of intercession and ends with a hymn appropriate to the focus of our meeting.

We invite a variety of speakers each year, including the Sisters of Mary and Joseph, who all teach and encourage us in an adult understanding of our faith, and in our personal prayer life.

All are welcome!

9th April: Sr. Sheila Moloney- "An hour with our Blessed Lady"

B SYLVIA FITNESS - COMBATX COMING SOON

'CombatX' offers an exhilarating group workout fuelled by martial arts energy, with zero physical contact involved. Engage in dynamic punches and kicks to enhance your fitness level and torch calories effectively. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned fitness enthusiast, you can tailor the workout to suit your requirements. Explore techniques borrowed from Karate, Taekwondo, Boxing, Muay Thai, Capoeira, and Kung Fu. Unwind, enjoy, and experience the empowerment of releasing stress while feeling like a true champion.

CombatX launches on Monday 15th April - more details soon!

JOB VACANCY

Administration role in construction company. Must have experience, knowledge of Excel and a good telephone manner.

Hours 8:30-5:30pm

Please email your CV to lee@lmbgroupstd.co.uk or call **07904 484963**

CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS

There will be a 2 week break in the Catechesis for Adults for Easter. Therefore talks will resume on **Wednesday 10th April**.

DIVERSITY SUPPORT GROUP

Dear Parishioners, our meeting last Sunday was very productive and inspiring as we appreciated our blessings over the years and resolved, with fresh exciting ideas, to keep our flame alight. Many thanks to all who attended and also sent their apologies. More details to follow as soon as possible. **Meanwhile SAVE Sunday 2nd June for our collaborative Big Lunch.**

So start thinking of what dish you will put on the table and the special outfits you and family will wear. Much love and blessings, Sylvia 07870508790

COMMEMORATIVE SOUVENIR 2025 CALENDAR

YOUR PHOTOS & YOUR MEMORIES

We are now asking for any photographs you have that represents the variety and history of our church, sacramental life & parish life including the many groups that have existed and exist from the past 100 years to the present. This could be the buildings, the people and events etc. We know some of our parishioners have photographs of the previous Parish Priests. We would love to see what you have and aim to include a range and variety of them in the calendar. We are hoping to arrange a display of all the photographs submitted for all to see.

We would prefer digital photos which can be emailed to the parish office describing and dating the image. If you have printed copies, please put them in an envelope with your contact details, whether you want them returned and notes describing and dating the image. We are sure we will enjoy looking at the photographs you hand in.

If you have particular memories but do not have any photographs, please write them down, again giving your name and as many details as you can remember.

Thank you! The Calendar Girls

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

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Weekly envelope users - if you have mislaid your set, or no longer wish to use them, please let me know. If lost, I will issue you a new box to keep you going until the 2024-25 boxes are issued in May/June. Anyone whose envelope has not been used since Christmas will not be issued with a new box for 2024/25.

An early reminder to all Gift Aid scheme members: your Easter offering to our priests is included in the scheme providing it can be identified by envelope number, or full name/number if given by anyone donating their monthly offertory by Standing Order.

Total claims for 2023-24 to date have added £23,800 to the parish bank balance. Many, many thanks.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME: With Father Roy Tablizo from 10th - 19th September. Visiting Pisa, Florence, Assisi and Rome at a cost of £1,795pp. A fair amount of walking will be the order of the day! Flying from Gatwick Airport. For more information email:

g.tomei@btopenworld.com

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

Welcome! Please introduce yourselves to one of our Priests. There are registration forms in the porch on the table and on the shelf besides the water font with gift aid forms.

Our website - **Addiscombe Catholic Church** - has information about groups, activities, current and past newsletters that may be useful to you, or you can call or visit our secretaries, Rachel and Stephanie, in the parish office during opening times (shown overleaf).

For Collection: K Duignan

Baptism certificates: COLLECT FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Rotas: Eucharistic Ministers (April)

Readers (Mar/April)

A Sample from the Magisterium of the Catholic Church on Contraception

Pastoral letter of Bp Glennon Flavin, diocese of Lincoln USA 1991

Today we live in what could be accurately called "a contraceptive culture." The use of contraception is widely practiced. Even some Catholic couples use this method to prevent conception and some Catholic physicians do not hesitate to recommend the use of this means of birth control and even to prescribe contraceptives. To have certitude of faith in regard to use of marriage, and indeed in regard to all teachings of the Catholic Church, we must understand the nature of the Church. Christ, Who cannot be deceived and cannot deceive us because He is God, is still in the world today as He promised, teaching us through His Church what we must believe and how we must live; and the voice of His Church is the successor of Peter, now Pope John Paul II. This is our Catholic faith: We believe that when Pope John Paul II teaches in matters of faith and morals, the Church teaches; and when the Church teaches, Christ the God-man teaches. Therefore, we who have been blessed by God with the gift of the Catholic faith can have no doubt about the immorality of contraception. The Catholic Church clearly teaches that the use of contraception in all its forms, including direct sterilisation, is gravely immoral, is intrinsically evil, is contrary to the law of nature and nature's God. This is and always has been the uninterrupted teaching of the Catholic Church from the beginning.

The ban on contraception is not a disciplinary law of the Church, like abstinence of Friday, which the Church can enact and which the Church can dispense for good reasons. Rather, it is a divine law which the Church cannot change any more than it can change the law of God forbidding murder. Contraception is wrong, not because the Church says it is wrong (it was wrong before Christ established the Church); it is wrong because God Himself, through the revelation of His Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, has declared it to be wrong. Because contraception is intrinsically evil, it may never be practiced for any reason, no matter how good and urgent. A good end never justifies the use of an evil means.

Catholic physicians and others who prescribe contraceptives or recommend their use are cooperators with those who use them. Such cooperation is gravely sinful. The same is true for physicians who advise contraceptive sterilisation, or perform this procedure or refer a person to another physician for this purpose. In doing so they, too, commit grave sin.

It should be obvious that Catholics who practice birth control and those who cooperate with them in their immoral actions may not receive Holy Communion without committing sacrilege. Only the worthy reception of the Sacrament of Penance, which requires genuine sorrow for sin and the sincere intention to discontinue the sinful practice, will bring God's forgiveness, restore grace to the soul and make one worthy to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion. While contraception is always immoral, there is a morally acceptable way by which married couples may space the births of their children. For good and sufficient reasons, spouses may regulate births by abstaining from the marital act during the wife's easily identified fertile periods. This practice is known as Natural Family Planning. Recent scientific research has so refined the methods of Natural Family Planning that today, couples may space their children in ways that are altogether reliable, medically safe, and morally acceptable. Dear Catholic spouses, there can be no true happiness in your lives unless God is very much a part of your marriage covenant. To expect to find happiness in sin is to look for good in evil. Sin is a bane to married life, as it is to all life. Like a cancer, it destroys everything that is good and joyful in your marriage relationship. On the other hand, to keep God in Your married life, to trust in His and love and to obey His laws in the use of the marriage privilege will merit His special graces for you during the difficult times in married life, will deepen your love for each other and will bring to you that inner peace of mind and heart which is the reward of a good conscience. You will find the desire and the strength to follow God's law through the frequent and worthy reception of Holy Communion, the regular reception of the Sacrament of Penance and daily prayer.

Plus XI *Casti Connubii* (1930) 54,56

No reason, however grave, can make what is intrinsically contrary to nature to be in conformity with nature and morally right. And since the conjugal act by its very nature is destined for the begetting of children, those who in exercising it deliberately frustrate its natural power and purpose are acting against nature, and are doing something that is base and intrinsically vicious... Our mouth proclaims anew, any use of marriage exercised in such a way that through human effort the act is deprived of its natural power to procreate human life violates the law of God and of nature, and those who commit such an action are stained with the guilt of grave sin.

Vatican II *Gaudium et Spes* (1965) 51

Sons of the Church may not undertake methods of birth control which are found blameworthy by the teaching authority of the Church in its unfolding of the divine law.

Paul VI *Humane vitae* (1968) 14

Therefore We base Our words on the first principles of a human and Christian doctrine of marriage when We are obliged once more to declare that the direct interruption of the generative process already begun and, above all, all direct abortion, even for therapeutic reasons, are to be absolutely excluded as lawful means of regulating the number of children. Equally to be condemned, as the magisterium of the Church has affirmed on many occasions, is direct sterilisation, whether of the man or of the woman, whether permanent or temporary. Similarly excluded is any action which either before, at the moment of, or after sexual intercourse, is specifically intended to prevent procreation—whether as an end or as a means.

John Paul II *Familiaris Consortio* (1981) 32

When couples, by means of recourse to contraception, separate these two meanings that God the Creator has inscribed in the being of man and woman and in the dynamism of their sexual communion, they act as "arbiters" of the divine plan and they "manipulate" and degrade human sexuality—and with it themselves and their married partner—by altering its value of "total" self-giving. Thus the innate language that expresses the total reciprocal self-giving of husband and wife is overlaid, through contraception, by an objectively contradictory language, namely, that of not giving oneself totally to the other. This leads not only to a positive refusal to be open to life but also to a falsification of the inner truth of conjugal love, which is called upon to give itself in personal totality.

Pope Francis *Message to Participants in the Womb International Congress* (2023)

There is a need always to keep in mind the inseparable connection between the unitive and procreative meanings of the conjugal act. The former expresses the desire of the spouses to be one, a single life; the latter expresses the shared desire to generate life, which endures even at times of infertility and in old age. When these two meanings are consciously affirmed, the generosity of love is born and strengthened in the hearts of the spouses, disposing them to welcome new life. Lacking this, the experience of sexuality is impoverished, reduced to sensations that soon become self-referential, and its dimensions of humanity and responsibility are lost.

Catechism of the Catholic Church 2399

The regulation of births represents one of the aspects of responsible fatherhood and motherhood. Legitimate intentions on the part of the spouses do not justify recourse to morally unacceptable means (for example, direct sterilisation or contraception).

John Paul II *Address to the Bishops of USA* (1987)

It is sometimes reported that a large number of Catholics today do not adhere to the teaching of the Church on a number of questions, notably sexual and conjugal morality, divorce and remarriage. Some are reported as not accepting the Church's clear position on abortion. It has also been noted that there is a tendency on the part of some Catholics to be selective in their adherence to the Church's moral teachings. It is sometimes claimed that dissent from the Magisterium is totally compatible with being a "good Catholic" and poses no obstacle to the reception of the sacraments. This is a grave error that challenges the teaching office of the bishops of the United States and elsewhere. I wish to encourage you in the love of Christ to address this situation courageously in your pastoral ministry, *relying on the power of God's truth* to attract assent *and on the grace of the Holy Spirit* which is given both to those who proclaim the message and to those to whom it is addressed.