

## 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

Mass Book Page <b>90</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 1: 1-7	Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24	
Hymns for 11 am Mass	Entrance: 873 Post-Communion: 989	Offertory: 339 & 88 Recessional: 329	Communion: 113



### God is with us!

God our Father sent his only Son to be born on earth of human stock. His name is Jesus and his mother's name is Mary. He is the Saviour of all the world, and through him we are called to holiness of life.

Jesus is born of Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For volunteer not-for-profit organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days		Prayer Requests
Sat 17 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Intention of Nardia Darby	If you request for yourself or an immediate family member to be listed in the Parish Newsletter, it will run for a month per request. Send an email to Fr Regis or send a message on the parish mobile number 07857801938.
Sun 18 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)</b> Philip Kiernan and family RIP Rachael Matthews RIP	
Mon 19 09.30	Wellbeing for Chichi Maduaka Rosary	<h3>Sharing the Word</h3> <p><b>First Reading:</b> The prophet is counselling King Ahaz at a time when the dynasty of David was in jeopardy. The king refuses a sign from God. He has no confidence in the help of Yahweh, and has already made up his mind to seek the help of Assyria. But he will have a sign whether he wills it or not. The queen is pregnant with the one who will continue the threatened line. .</p> <p><b>Second Reading:</b> Paul designates himself as "servant" and "apostle", called by God to preach the Good News that God's promises have been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Jesus is a descendant of David through human origin and was proclaimed the Son of God through his resurrection from the dead.</p> <p><b>Gospel:</b> "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God is with us'. Matthew refers to this prophecy from Isaiah. The Child to be born of a virgin, will embody God's promise to be with us and continue David's line for ever. Jesus is the son of David because Joseph, his legal father, was descended from the line of David. But he is more than that. He is the Son of God.</p>
Tue 20 09.30	Wellbeing for Emeka Maduaka Rosary	
Wed 21 09.30	Thanksgiving for graces received Rosary	
Thu 22 09.30	Josey Riley RIP Rosary	
Fri 23 09.30	Wellbeing for Irene Clark Exposition	
🕯️🕯️ <b>THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS</b> 🕯️🕯️		
Sat 24 09.30 18:30 <b>23:30</b>	People of the Parish Vigil Mass - First Mass of Sunday Wellbeing for Mr & Mrs Robert Midnight Mass Wellbeing for Sister Marianne Spiegl	
Sun 25 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b> N'Douffou Kouadjo Michel RIP Tina Maduaka & Onyeji families - Thanksgiving	

### The Collection at the Christmas Masses

Catholic Priests do not receive a salary in the way that ministers of other denominations do. The collections at the Christmas and Easter Masses are the only source of personal income for Priests. This is the system adopted in Catholic parishes in our Diocese. An envelope is attached to this week's newsletter for donations, and if you wish to donate via cheque please make them payable to "RCAS Sydenham". If you are on the GIFT AID scheme please use your Gift Aid Christmas Offering envelope or enter your Gift Aid number on the attached envelope. Thank you.

### Christmas Flowers in the Church

It is the custom of this parish to donate money for the flowers and decorations of the Church at Christmas in memory of the 'faithful departed'. The Mass on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 11am will be offered for them. Please mark your envelope 'Christmas Flowers' - writing name(s) in block capitals - and pop it in through the parish house letterbox. Thank you.

### First Holy Communion Programme 2022-23

We meet in the hall on Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Dec at 10am for, Chapter 4: God helps me get it right (Reconciliation).

### Confirmation Programme 2022-23

We meet in the parish house on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Dec at 5pm for, Session Four: To know the Holy Spirit.

### Manna Society

We have a golden opportunity to increase our funding by 100% this Christmas! The Aviva Community Fund have very kindly offered to match £ for £ on all donations we receive (up to a maximum of £250) until 28<sup>th</sup> December.

We would like to raise one month's running cost £40,800. This figure ties in very nicely as we have been offering our services to the homeless & those in need since 1982 - 40 years.

To donate visit: [www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/p/the-manna-day-centre](http://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/p/the-manna-day-centre).

### A free short reflection for each day of Advent

Advent can be such a busy demanding time, but we encourage you to make some space to reflect and pray this advent. Sign up for our free Southwark Diocesan 'daily advent reflections' to aid your prayer. Every day during advent you will receive an email with a very brief thought for the day based on the daily reading. It is an opportunity to listen to Gods invitation to you this advent. All you have to do is sign up and then set aside a couple of minutes each day to reflect! Sign up via the Commission web site: <http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/>

clicking on the Advent Reflection box. Alternatively, if you are viewing this online, you can sign up directly by clicking here: <https://southwarkdsc.us11.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=a3e1dce7f8f666e9d64edd867&id=4f880b3b9c>

### Parish Secretary

The secretary will be away on leave from Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

#### Last Week

**Offertory:** Gift Aided: £165, Not Gift Aided: £180

**Mass Count:** Sat (31), Sun 09.30 (72), 11.00 (68)

#### Second Collection

**Last week: None**

**This week: None**

**Next Week: Christmas Offering**

#### Donate

**Gift Aid:** Tax payers, please sign up, so we can claim 25p for every £1 donated. Email Treasurer for details.

**Card:** Card Machine in Church Foyer or [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church)

**Standing Order:** Email Treasurer for details.

**Cheque:** Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

#### Contact

**David Simpson,** Treasurer: [sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk)

**Steve Pearce,** Secretary: weekdays 9<sup>am</sup>-12<sup>noon</sup>

[sydenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenham@rcaos.org.uk)

**Margaret Doherty,** Catholic Club: 07930 889632