

12th NOVEMBER 2023: THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY (A)

Mass book: p152 1st Reading: Wisdom 6: 12-16 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 Gospel: Matthew 25: 1-13

11am Mass
Hymns

Entrance: 720
Gloria: 989

Gospel Accl.ⁿ: 710
Communion: 88

Offertory: 217 & 603
Post-Communion: 965

Euch.^c Prayer: 490
Recessional: 721



The bridegroom is here

We await the second coming of Christ just as the ten bridesmaids waited for the bridegroom. We are called to be awake and patient at all times so that we will be ready when the shout goes up, "He is here!" We have no need to worry about those who have died before us, as they too will rise from the dead with Christ in glory.

The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of Holy Spirit.

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 11 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Kathleen Johnson RIP
Sun 12 09.30 11.00	✠ THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY (A) Thanksgiving - Franklyn & Jane For all the service staff - amazing trip to Sri Lanka
Mon 13 09.30	Renato Baclagan RIP Rosary
Tue 14 09.30	Gerald O'Dwyer RIP Rosary
Wed 15 09.30	Dominic Donnelly RIP Rosary
Thu 16 09.30	Fr Lawrence Bovington RIP Rosary
Fri 17 09.30	Wellbeing - Bridie Hogan Exposition
Sat 18 09.30 18:30	Forgotten Souls in Purgatory First Mass of Sunday Kathleen Johnson RIP (first anniversary)
Sun 19 09.30 11.00	✠ THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY (A) Patient understanding & compassion among all peoples Knights of St. Columba

Prayer Requests

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. Please send an email to: regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk.

Sharing the Word

First Reading - The reading sings the praise of wisdom, and says that it can be found by those who seek it diligently. For Israel wisdom meant an effective knowledge of God and a right relationship with God. This wisdom is exemplified in the five wise bridesmaids in the Gospel parable. The consequence of not seeking this wisdom are seen in the sad fate of the foolish bridesmaids.

Second Reading - Paul, like most of the early Christians, expected the second coming of Christ to happen soon. Here he consoles the Thessalonians who are worried about the fate of their loved ones who have died before the return of the Lord. He tells them that they are with the risen Lord, and that the living and the dead will be reunited at the final showing of the kingdom.

Gospel - The kingdom of God is compared to a wedding in which some young girls are chosen to form part of the bridal party. Like them, we have also been selected by God to prepare for the wedding feast of the Lord Jesus with humility. The bridesmaids were ready for the wedding, but the bridegroom delayed in coming, and time passed by. There was time enough to be prepared for his coming, but sleep overcame them. Like the

bridesmaids, Christian disciples ought to be prepared and watchful as those who are alert to the unexpected. We, likewise, when we began our journey in faith, could not foresee that we would meet trials. We do not believe that someday it will cost us everything to remain faithful to our commitment. We do not realise that, as time goes by, our attitudes and obedience to the faith will undergo change. The foolish bridesmaids did not think of developing their potential and ordering their lives, or of surrendering themselves, nor did they make the commitments that would allow them to endure. The oil for the flame is lacking; so also, is the giving of oneself and of everything one has: faith, hope and love are like the fire that fades away when there is nothing left to burn. The Lord demands faithfulness and perseverance of those he has chosen.

Sick and Housebound

If your neighbour or anyone you know is unable to attend mass because they are in poor health, please let Fr Regis know and he will take Holy Communion to them.

Archbishop's Appeal

This weekend our second collection will be for The Archbishop's Appeal which is a Diocesan collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2023. Every gift is welcome.

Find out more, or donate online: www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal or:



- Scan QR Code using telephone camera (left)
- Telephone weekdays 9am – 5pm: 020 7960 2504
- Cash / Cheque – please use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes at the back of church.

Thank you for your generosity of heart.

CAFOD World Gifts

CAFOD's World Gifts catalogues are at the back of the church. Please do take one. These are a wonderful way to share the hope and joy of Christmas with our global family, and make a unique gift this Christmas time.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

We have all been shocked and saddened by the devastating conflict in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. CAFOD's local partners in Gaza and southern Israel are now [actively responding](#) and providing urgent humanitarian aid to those in need.

- We have sent £100,000 to our local partner, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) who are already supporting 10,000 families with cash vouchers. Families are using these to purchase essentials like food and water as well as mattresses and bedding from wholesale suppliers in Gaza.
- We have committed £50,000 to our local partner, Culture and Free Thought Association, who are sheltering 300 people in their centres in Gaza and are supporting them with cash assistance, food, water and offering counselling to those dealing with losing their loved ones, their homes and their livelihoods.
- We have released £10,000 to our local partner Sadaka Reut, working in southern Israel with local emergency support groups providing psychological support, basic humanitarian assistance and building emotional resilience.

Please donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need.

Thank you for your prayers

Last Week

Offertory: Gift Aided: £222, Not Gift Aided: £388

Mass Count: Sat (53), Sun 09.30 (117), 11.00 (110)

Second Collection

Last week: None

This week: Archbishop's Appeal (Gift Aid)

Next Week: None

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

Standing Order: Email Treasurer for details.

Cheque: Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

Contact

David Simpson

Treasurer: sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk

Steven Pearce

Secretary: weekdays 9^{am}-12^{noon}

sydenham@rcaos.org.uk

Margaret Doherty

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