

14h December 2025: © 3rd Sunday Of Advent

Mass book: P88

Preface: I, P 65

Eucharistic Prayer II P24

9.30am Hymns at the back of this Newsletter: Entrance: Offertory: Post-Communion: Recessional

11.00am Hymns: please listen for announcements during Mass

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

SAT 13th St Lucy Virgin and Martyr

09.30 Mass: Josephine Galea RIP

10:00 Rosary

18.30 Mass: First Mass of 3rd Sunday of Advent

Martin & Nona Connelly RIP

SUN 14th Third Sunday of Advent

9.30 Mass: Annie William Elizabeth Duran RIP

11.00 Mass: Rachel Matthews RIP Richard Marbaix RIP

MON 15th

09.30 Mass: Vivian Ball RIP

10.00 Rosary

TUES 16th

09.30 Mass: Bridie Mealey RIP Frank Cairns RIP

10.00 Rosary

WED 17th

09.30 Mass: Rose & Tim Murray RIP Myra Donnellan RIP

10.00 Rosary

THURS 18th

09.30 Mass: Mary O'Driscoll - Well being

10:00 Rosary

FRI 19th

09.30 Mass: Mercy Afrifa RIP

10:00 Rosary

SAT 20th

09.30 Mass: Sally Kennedy- Well being

10:00 Rosary

18.30 Mass: First Mass of Fourth Sunday of Advent

Margaret Healy RIP

SUN 21st Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.30 Mass: Heather Browne: Welfare

11.00 Mass: Noel Howe-Well being

If you request for yourself or an immediate family member to be listed in the Parish Newsletter, please send an email to: gregoryackron@rcaos.org.uk.

Please Pray for the wellbeing of:

Ann Baker, Henry & Philomena Hutcheon, Nkechi Roberts, Margaret Doherty, Kathleen Edkins, Germani Vemalaragni, Steven Pearce, Carol Bonehill, Kamila Silke, Elizabeth De Masi, Matilda Ogutu, Irene Clark, Heather Browne

Please Pray for those who have died recently:

Francis Ighodard Okoh, Fr Michael Kouadjo (Pauline's brother), James (Jim) Darmody, Ann Manly-Rollings, Giorgina Mabea, Albert James McElroy, Etelvina Rodrigues, Ann Maria Jalees, Sam Lowell, Tony Rawsthorne, Adam Taylor, Iris Scott

Sick & Housebound

If your neighbour or anyone you know is unable to attend Mass because of poor health, please inform Fr Gregory and he will take them Holy Communion.

Catholic Women Praying Together (CWPT)

Join **CWPT Group** at **Our Lady & St. Philp Neri Church** every 4th Sunday of the Month, after 11 am Mass. See you all there.

Dates are as follows: December (No meeting)

Catholic Institute Training and Workshops

Every parishioner, as well as teachers and parents in our school, has free and unlimited access to the workshops created by the world-renowned Catechetical Institute. From Scripture to parenting workshops, to catechetical training and mentoring, there is something for everyone. For information on how to register your free account visit: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/franciscan>

Dates & Events

14th December - Christmas Festive Feast after 11.00 Mass

14th December- Christingle 3pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

There will be confessions before and after each Mass (except on Sundays) throughout Advent.

Christmas Flowers

It is customary in this parish to make donations for the Christmas flowers and decorations in memory of the "faithful departed".

The 9.30 mass on Sunday 11 January - The Baptism of the Lord - is dedicated to them. Please mark your envelope "Christmas Flowers" and write the name(s) of those being remembered in block caps. Please post your envelope through the door of the parish house.

Sydenham Catholic Social Club

Just nearby in Watlington Grove - 2 minutes walk.

Available for hire at weekends, during the week for celebrations, funerals, any special occasions or business use.

Call Mags on 07930 889632

The Club opens for drinks and socialising with friends at weekends. Come and join us on Fridays at 7-11pm, Saturdays 4pm to 12.00am (live music) and Sundays 12.00 noon - 11pm

WALK WITH ME

A journey of Prayer for the Advent Jubilee 2025.

These booklets (£1.50 each) are available at the back of the Church in the CTS stand.

WOODEN LOGS

Do you need any logs this winter? There is a small supply of them in the front garden of the church. Please help yourself. First come first served!

CHRISTMAS FEAST

All tickets for this event on Sunday 14 December @ 12.30pm are now sold out!

HELPERS REQUIRED TO SET UP THE HALL and CLEAN UP AFTER THE FEAST!

We require help to set up the hall for the Christmas Feast. This will take place on Saturday 13 December starting @ 8.30pm. And after the Feast we will need help clearing up! Please email: roberthero1@hotmail.com if you can help.

Offertory:

Cash collections

Gift Aided: £138, Not Gift Aided: £369

Second Collection: £.00 Gift Aided

Second Collection: £.00 Not Gift Aided

Standing Orders Gift Aid Av week £433

November Card Donations

Gift Aided: £181, Non Gift Aided: £154

Mass Count: Sat 6.30: 45

Sun 09.30: 80, 11.00: 95

Second Collection

Last week: None

This week: None

Next week: None

Gift Aid: Tax payers, please sign up, using the white envelopes at the back of the church, so we can claim 25p for every £1 donated.

Card: Card Machine in Church foyer or www.olspn.church

Standing Order: Payable to RCAS Sydenham, Acct no; 37298445, sort code 60-21-12

Cheque: Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

Contact

David Simpson

Treasurer:

sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk

Steven Pearce

Secretary: currently on sick leave

sydenham@rcaos.org.uk

Margaret Doherty

Catholic Club: 07930 88 9632

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

COLLECT

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen

FIRST READING – Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, 'Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Sion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM – Psalm 145

R. Come, Lord, and save us.

1. It is the LORD who preserves fidelity for ever,
who does justice to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the LORD who sets prisoners free.

R.

2. The LORD who opens the eyes of the blind,
the LORD who raises up those who are bowed down.
It is the LORD who loves the just,
the LORD who protects the stranger.

R.

3. The LORD upholds the orphan and the widow,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The LORD will reign for ever,
your God, O Sion, from age to age.

R.

SECOND READING – James 5:7-10

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is

standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor. Alleluia.

GOSPEL – Matthew 11:2-11

At that time: When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'

And Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

'What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for the coming feasts. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**