

# St Matthew's Church Newsletter

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)



Parish Priest : Fr. Anthony Cassidy

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## Father Anthony's Desk

*By now, I am sure that all your preparations for Christmas are well and truly under way. You will find the times of the Christmas Services on the cards at the back of the church. As last year, the children are invited to come to the hall before the 6.00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve and the 1100 Mass on Christmas Day and to dress up as angels and shepherds so that they can take a full part in the procession to the Crib. Against all advice, I shall again be providing the shepherds' crooks for the occasion, but I have learned the lessons of last year about the risks to the vases of flowers – and to myself - from their being wielded and waved about with great glee and enthusiasm!*

**Order of Mass:** Parish Mass Book Page 7  
**Vigil & 9am:** Preface II of Advent Page 66  
 Eucharistic Prayer III Page 28  
 11am Eucharistic Prayer with Children

**Parish Mass Book for Readings:** Page 90

### Response to the Intercessions:

...according to your will.

### Communion Antiphon:

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

### Next Sunday's Readings:

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14  
 Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21  
 Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

### SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

If you have any concerns about safeguarding at St Matthew's please email: [safeguardingstmatthewwn@gmail.com](mailto:safeguardingstmatthewwn@gmail.com)

Confessions: Thurs 10:15-10:45, Sat 5:30-6:00pm & at call  
 Marriage and Baptism Preparation by appointment only  
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Thurs 10-11am  
 Taizé Mass: Last Saturday of the month at 6:30pm

Fr Anthony will be available on Saturday 29th December between 10:30-11am to sign forms for school applications, passports, etc.

| DATE  | MASS TIME     | INTENTION                        |
|---|---------------|----------------------------------|
| SATURDAY (VIGIL)                                | 6:30pm        | Terry & Mary Spaczynski RIP      |
| SUNDAY 23RD DEC                                 | 9:00am        | People of the Parish             |
|   | 11:00am       | Katherine Carter RIP             |
| MONDAY 24TH DEC<br>CHRISTMAS EVE                | 6:00pm        | Gerry Gleeson RIP                |
|   | Midnight Mass | Noel & Valery Guest RIP          |
| TUESDAY 25TH DEC<br>THE NATIVITY<br>OF THE LORD | 9:00am        | Good Estate of Fr David Standley |
|   | 11:00am       | Holy Souls                       |
| WEDNESDAY                                       | -             | No Mass                          |
| THURSDAY  | 9:30am        | Henry Marshman RIP               |
| FRIDAY  | 9:30am        | Good Estate of Patrick Sullivan  |
| SATURDAY (VIGIL)                                | 6:30pm        | People of the Parish             |
| SUNDAY 30TH DEC                                 | 9:00am        | Uche Josephene Ebele             |
|   | 11:00am       | Douglas Matthews RIP             |

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

We remember in our prayers the housebound members of our parish; all those who are sick; those in hospital; those patiently awaiting an operation; those going through treatment and those who are recovering. We trust that God will watch over them all and we continue to hold them all in our thoughts and prayers.

## PRAYER TO OUR LADY

**Mother of Christ, hear thou thy people's cry,  
 Star of the deep and portal of the sky.  
 Mother of him who thee from nothing made,  
 Striving we sink and call to thee for aid.  
 O by that joy which Gabriel brought to thee,  
 Thou Virgin first and last, let us thy mercy see.**

**ROTA 23-30 DECEMBER** More volunteer cleaners are required please—contact the parish office if you can help ☺

**HOUSE CALLS (30th)** Mrs K Guest, Mrs G Grehan, Mr J Hagan-Tetteh, Mrs O Van der Borgh, Miss V Marshman

**READERS (29th/30th)** Ms E Isamah (Sat 6:30pm), Ms B De Souza (Sun 9am) Mrs E Nzekwu (Sun 11am)

**OFFERTORY (29th/30th)** Vickers Family (Sat 6:30pm), Hagan-Tetteh Family (Sun 9am), Petrilli Family (Sun 11am)

**CHURCH CLEANING (24th)** F Rocca, M Oliveira **(29th)** J Nweke, J Ahunanya **(2nd)** K Questelles, T de Bertodano

**FLOWER ARRANGING (29th)** Volunteer required please

**COUNTERS (23rd & 30th)** Mr M Edwards, Mr G Jemmott

**TEAS & COFFEES (23rd)** Gooding Family **(30th)** Volunteers required please

*If you cannot fulfil the above duty please arrange for a substitute to fill your place. Thank you.*

### CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY FEDERATION

The biggest Catholic Youth event in England and Wales is back!  
FLAME takes place on 2nd May 2019 at the SSE Arena, Wembley.

£23 per person.

For bookings and info: <https://cymfed.org.uk/flame2019/>

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019

First Holy Communion classes will resume on Saturday 5th January 2019 at 9.30am. We look forward to seeing you then.

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS APPLYING FOR A CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2019

If you are applying to a Catholic school for your child you are required to complete a **Supplementary Information Form (SIF)** in addition to the online Common Application Form (CAF) to your local council. If you need help in completing the forms please contact the school directly. Your Parish Priest will need to sign a reference form. Forms can be brought for signature on **Saturday morning at 10.30am** or please call the office to make an alternative appointment soon.

Please note that Fr Anthony will not be available to sign forms in the week before the closing date of 15th January 2019.

### SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK

Church Maintenance Fund

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOLUNTEERING COMMITMENT

The new rotas for volunteers will be issued shortly. We are very grateful to all those who share their time and talents to support our parish. If you can no longer volunteer and do not wish to be on the new rota please contact the parish office on 020 8670 1765 or email [norwoodwest@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:norwoodwest@rcaos.org.uk) THANK YOU.

### VACANCY - DATA MANAGER

THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

PEAKS HILL, PURLEY, SURREY, CR8 3YP

Tel: 020 8660 4555

Required from January 2019

Salary scale 4/5 point 18 - 25 £20,667 - £24,999

Required to start in January 2019 or sooner if possible .

Hours will be 36 per week, 52 week contract.

[www.johnfisherschool.org/Career-Opportunities](http://www.johnfisherschool.org/Career-Opportunities)

Closing date noon on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Interviews week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

### CRIB OFFERINGS

This Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the **Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund.**



This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Archdiocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. Every single penny donation to the Crib will be given out via these grants.

### CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

In this country Catholic Priests do not receive a salary but are supported directly by the people they serve in their various parishes. Christmas (and Easter) offerings are the main source of the priests income.

**Christmas Offering envelopes are available at the back of the church this weekend.**

If you **Gift Aid** your offerings to the Church, then the Christmas offerings made to the priest can also be gift aided to the Church.

Those who have standing orders with their bank for their offerings should **write their name clearly** on the Christmas Offering envelope.

Those who gift aid using the envelope scheme please use the envelope labelled **Christmas Offering**. We will then do the rest and claim back 25% from Inland Revenue on these offerings which will go towards the maintenance of the church.

**Thank you for your offerings.**