



Sunday 15 December 2024

NEWSLETTER

3rd Sunday of Advent

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'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.' (Philippians 4:4)

Dear Parish Family,

A heartfelt thank you to everyone for your wonderful participation and cooperation during the Christmas lights ceremony last week. It was a beautiful moment of community spirit and joy, reflecting the light of Christ.

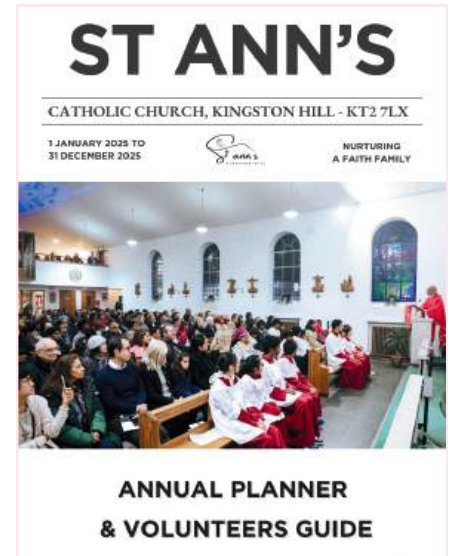
As we hear in the readings, we are called to rejoice in the Lord always, and this Sunday, we extend a warm welcome to Canon Gerald Bradley, our Episcopal Vicar for the Southwest, who will be the main celebrant for our Rejoicing Sunday Mass. Together, as a parish family, we continue to grow in love and deepen our faith, sharing this joy with one another.

I am also delighted to release our annual parish planner this weekend, which outlines the exciting journey ahead for our community in the coming year. Looking ahead, I invite you to next Saturday evening's Reconciliation Service, beginning at 5:15 pm with Adoration and a serene candlelight atmosphere. It promises to be a moving and grace-filled moment for all. Please do not miss this opportunity, and especially encourage children to experience the beauty of reconciliation—it will be a blessing for their hearts and souls.

May we continue to walk together in faith and prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming with great joy and anticipation.

With prayers and blessings,

Fr James Raj, Parish Priest, (jamesraj@caos.org.uk)



Today's mass is offered for the intention of Giancarlo Mazzoni RIP. Poinsettia plants in the sanctuary have been sponsored by the family. As a parish family, we unite in prayer for them. May God bless and guide their family with His love and grace.

Candle Light Adoration and Confession

We warmly invite you to our Reconciliation Service on Thursday, **21 December, at 5:15 PM in our Church.** This special evening will include Candlelight Adoration and an opportunity for Confession, helping us prepare our hearts for the joyous celebration of Christmas. Come and experience the peace and mercy of Christ as we approach the Nativity of Our Lord.



Thank you Canon Gerald Bradley



We are deeply grateful to Canon Gerard Bradley, Episcopal Vicar for South West London, for being the main celebrant at St. Ann's and for unveiling our Annual Parish Planner for 2025. Fr Gerard's vast experience, from his time as a hospital chaplain, Seminary Formator to his current role as Episcopal Vicar, reflects his deep dedication to the Church and its people. His presence and leadership in our parish are a true blessing. Thank You !!!

Great News for St. Ann's Parish

We are delighted to announce that St. Ann's Catholic Church, Kingston Hill, has been designated as one of the Pilgrim Churches in the Archdiocese of Southwark for the Jubilee Year 2025. This is a moment of great joy and honour for our parish as we take part in this extraordinary spiritual journey.



The Jubilee Year Pilgrimage at St. Ann's will begin **with the Vigil Mass on 24 Dec. 2024 and conclude with the 10:30 AM Mass on the Solemnity of Epiphany, 6 January 2026.** Throughout this sacred year, pilgrims will have the opportunity to pass through the Door of Mercy, participate in special liturgies, and experience the grace of plenary indulgences by fulfilling the spiritual conditions outlined by the Church.

To provide a deeper understanding of this Jubilee and the unique role of St. Ann's, we will release a Special Edition Newsletter next week with detailed information and event schedules. Let us prepare our hearts to welcome pilgrims from all over London and beyond, sharing in the blessings of God's mercy and grace.

3rd Sunday of Advent
Liturgical Colour: Violet or Rose Year: C(I).

Entrance Antiphon - Phil 4: 4-5

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

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, {And, striking their breast, they say:} through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Collect:

Let us pray. 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

The Liturgy of the Word

All sit.

First reading

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

'The Lord will exult over you with loud singing.'

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgements against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: 'Fear not, O Sion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

The word of the Lord. All reply: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm**Is 12:2-3. 4b-d. 5-6.****The rejoicing of a redeemed people****Shout aloud and sing praise, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

Behold, God is my salvation! I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD is my strength and my praise, and he has been my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the springs of salvation.

Shout aloud and sing praise, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Give thanks to the LORD, invoke his name; make known among the peoples his deeds; proclaim that his name is exalted.

Shout aloud and sing praise, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Sing to the LORD for he has wrought wonders; let this be known through all the earth. Shout aloud and sing praise, you who dwell in Sion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Shout aloud and sing praise, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**Second reading****Philippians 4:4-7****‘The Lord is at hand.’**

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord. All reply: Thanks be to God.**Gospel Acclamation****Isaiah 61:1 (Luke 4:18)**

Alleluia, alleluia.

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

Gospel**Luke 3:10-18**

“And we, what shall we do?”

At that time: The crowds asked John, ‘What, then, shall we do?’ And he answered them, ‘Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.’ Tax collectors also came to be baptised and said to him, ‘Teacher, what shall we do?’ And he said to them, ‘Collect no more than you are authorized to do.’ Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what shall we do?’ And he said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.’ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, ‘I baptise you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’ So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All reply: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Nicene Creed: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

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

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Mystery of Faith: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again..

The Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Is 35: 4 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

You Are Welcome to Sponsor

We invite parishioners to consider sponsoring the following items recently acquired for the church:

New Lectionary (4 volumes) £695 (£176 each volume)

Altar Servers' Albs (17) £850 (£50 each Alb) (already sponsored 3 sets)

You can choose to sponsor an item entirely or contribute partially. Your generosity ensures we can continue to enhance our liturgical celebrations and parish resources.





Christmas Preparations



Christmas season at St. Ann's is filled with many meaningful events:

- a. **Fourth Week Saturday:** A time for reconciliation and spiritual preparation, readying us for Christmas joy.
- b. On **Christmas Eve**, we will gather for carol singing by our parishioners, followed by a heartwarming nativity play by our children, bringing the story of Christ's birth to life.

Blessing of Homes for Christmas: If you would like your home to be blessed for the Christmas season, please let me know. I will be happy to visit and bless your household.

Sick and Housebound Parishioners: If you know of any parishioners who are housebound or unwell - whether a family member, friend, or neighbour - please share their details with us. You may leave the information in the designated box at the back of the church or email.

Carol Singing: We are welcoming new singers to join our carol singing. If you're interested, please add your name to the sign-up list provided. Carol singing will take place before the Mass at 6:30 pm on Christmas Eve.

Children's Crib Competition: Children aged 15 and under are invited to create a Christmas crib at home. Homemade designs will be given special consideration. Submit pictures via email to kingstonhill@rcaos.org.uk by 22nd December, 7:00 PM. The top three will win prizes, and the winner's name will be inscribed on the Rolling Trophy. We look forward to your creative entries.

1.

Reaching Out This Christmas

.Thanks to the youth of our parish, we've sent **318 Christmas cards** with a letter from the Parish Priest. This is also an attempt to reconnect with past and present parishioners, inviting everyone to celebrate Christmas and beyond with us. If you receive a card, we wish you a very Happy Christmas.



Mass Timing

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday - 10 am, Tuesday - 7 Pm, Saturday - 6 pm (Vigil Mass) & Sunday - 10.30 am
Thursday: Day off



Support during Christmas “Bethlehem Box”

This Christmas, let’s bring joy to the less fortunate with gifts that embody the festive spirit. We warmly welcome contributions of **wine, chocolates, and gift vouchers**. Please place your donations in the “Bethlehem Box” placed near Mother Mary’s Chapel. These gifts will be distributed to the poor, needy and deserving, helping everyone feel the warmth and joy of the season.



Christmas Preparation Donation

Please use the QR code to donate for the preparation for the Christmas especially for decoration indoor and outdoor, gifts for the poor and needy and gifts for the kids and altar servers of the church



Donate - St Ann's

For St Ann’s Church Offering

Account Name: RCAS Kingston Hill

Account Number: 79124429

Sort Code: 60-50-01, Bank: NatWest

Thank you for being part of our St. Ann's family.
Let's pray for one another and for the growth of our parish family.