



Sunday 11th January 2025

# NEWSLETTER

Baptism of the Lord

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Baptism is a journey that defines who we become. As we reflect on the Baptism of the Lord, we are reminded that faith is a deep journey of growth, learning, and commitment. Like Jesus, who stepped forward in clarity after years of hidden preparation, we too are invited to renew our calling and live our faith with purpose.

Following the celebration of Epiphany, the outdoor Christmas lights have now been switched off. The indoor decorations will be carefully looked after by Katherine, Susy, and their team. Those who **would like to assist with the outdoor dismantling** are most welcome to join after Mass, following tea and coffee.

We warmly **congratulate Sr Ursula**, Leader of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross for England and Wales, on the renewal of her religious vows at St Ann's this week — a beautiful witness to lifelong faithfulness and trust in God's call.

Due to the growing number of children and different age groups, Sunday Catechism will now take place in two groups:

- **Youth Catechism above 10 yrs of age**— Parish meeting room
- **Children's Catechism 10 and below** – parish hall

Please also keep in mind **our Winter Celebration on Sunday, 1st February**.

Contributions of food or drinks are most welcome, and names may be added at the back of the church.

Thank you for journeying together in faith, generosity, and joy.

Fr James Raj ([jamesraj@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:jamesraj@rcaos.org.uk)), St Ann's Catholic Church, Kingston Hill

## HYMNS FOR THE MASS

<b>Entrance</b>	<b>891 – Christ be our Light</b>	<b>Mem. Acclamation</b>	<b>440c - Save us Saviour</b>
<b>Gloria</b>	<b>1011 - Glory Glory</b>	<b>Agnus Dei</b>	<b>466 - Lamb of God</b>
<b>Offertory</b>	<b>678 – Take our bread, we</b>	<b>Communion</b>	<b>285 – Here I am, Lord 663 – Soul of my Saviour</b>
<b>Santus</b>	<b>439 - Holy Holy Holy</b>	<b>Recessional</b>	<b>859 – As I kneel before you</b>

## Tea and Coffee after Sunday Mass

Everyone is invited to join us for tea and coffee in the church hall near the car park after Sunday Mass. This is a wonderful chance to connect, share, and get to know one another better. Kids can enjoy the Kids' Corner, a fun space to make new friends.

**Entrance Antiphon: Mt 3: 16-17:** After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### First reading

**Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7**

Thus says the LORD: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. 'I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.' **The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 29(28):1-2. 3ac-4. 3b, 9b-10. R11b**

**Response: The LORD will bless his people with peace.**

Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly powers, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; bow down before the LORD, majestic in holiness. **R.**

The voice of the LORD upon the waters, the LORD on the immensity of waters; the voice of the LORD full of power; the voice of the LORD full of splendour. **R.**

The God of glory thunders; in his temple they all cry, 'Glory!' The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits as king for ever. **R.**

#### Second reading

**Acts 10:34-38**

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all - you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.'

**The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation: Mark 9:7

Alleluia, alleluia. The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered: 'This is my beloved Son; listen to him'. Alleluia..

**Gospel****Matthew 3:13-17**

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.' **The Gospel of the Lord. All reply: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**The Creed:** I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

**RENEWAL OF VOWS BY SR URSULA**

We warmly appreciate and congratulate **Sr Ursula, the Leader of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross for England** who renews her religious vows during the Sunday Mass. The renewal of vows is a sacred and prayerful moment in religious life. It is not a new promise, but a renewed "yes" to the same call first received - a conscious **reaffirmation of fidelity to God through the vows of Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience**, lived according to the Gospel and inspired by the spirituality of St Francis of Assisi.

By renewing her vows in the presence of us, Sr Ursula reminds us that vocation is not a single decision but a lifelong journey of faithfulness.

We thank Sr Ursula for **her generous leadership, quiet witness, and faithful service to the Church and to our parish community**. We assure her and the Sisters of the Holy Cross of our continued prayers.



## RENEWAL OF VOWS BY SR URSULA

*In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, Sister Ursula, dedicate myself to God in the service of the Church, and at this time especially to the community of St Ann's, as a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross of the Third Order of St Francis. Therefore, before the whole community, for my whole life, I vow Chastity, Poverty, and Obedience in the spirit of the Gospel, according to the Rule of the Third Order Regular of St Francis and the Constitutions and Statutes of the Congregation. You, my Lord Jesus Christ, in whom I believe, in whom I hope, make me strong in love, so that by the faithful fulfilment of my vows I may follow you until death.*

## RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

We are blessed to have eight RCIA candidates in our parish this year. RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the journey through which adults come to know Christ, deepen their faith, and are prepared to be received fully into the Catholic Church.

During the Easter Vigil, our candidates will receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion - the sacraments that welcome them fully into the life of the Church. RCIA is a sacred journey of faith, prayer, learning, and conversion.



As a parish family, we kindly ask you to keep our RCIA candidates in your prayers, that they may grow in faith, trust, and openness to the work of the Holy Spirit as they journey towards Easter. Our meeting will **take place on 23 January 2026 at 5:30 p.m. with the topic 'The Sacraments – Meeting Christ in Our Lives'**

### READERS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION – RETREAT AT ST ANN'S

We will be hosting a Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Retreat on Friday, 31st January, from 10:00 am, followed by Holy Mass at 12:00 noon. The morning will include two reflective sessions, helping readers to deepen their experience of proclaiming the Word and Eucharistic Ministers to renew their understanding of their sacred ministry. All readers and Eucharistic Ministers are warmly encouraged to attend.



## Journeying in Faith Through Scripture, Tradition, and Story



This year, our parish formation team invites us into a deeper journey of faith - not only **learning about the Church, but listening, reflecting, and growing together**. **Inspired by Mary who sat at the feet of Jesus and listened (Luke 10:39)**, we will explore our faith through Sacred Scripture, the living Tradition of the Church, films, shared dialogue, and prayerful conversation.

Through **Bible study, movie evenings, faith conversations, and reflections on Church traditions**, we hope to move from information to formation - **from knowing about God to encountering Him more deeply in daily life**. All are warmly welcome to take part in this journey throughout the year. Tea, coffee, and light refreshments will be available.

### SECOND TUESDAYS' SPIRITUAL EVENING

As part of our Journeying in Faith – **through Scripture, Tradition, and Story**, we will hold Spiritual Evenings **on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30 p.m., except April and August**. These evenings are open to everyone and offer **a gentle space for Scripture, Church teaching, reflection, dialogue, and occasionally film**. The evenings will be led by **Celia, Fr James, and Sr Ursula**.

#### Confirmed Dates

- **Tuesday, 10th February – Spiritual Evening**
- Tuesday, 10th March – Spiritual Evening
- Tuesday, 12th May – Movie Evening Film



Across the year, **three films** are included as part of the reflection.



Some examples of films that may be used include:

- Jesus of Nazareth – reflecting on the words and silence of Jesus
- The Mission – mercy, conversion, and discipleship
- Of Gods and Men – vocation, courage, and faithful witness



Details of themes and films will be shared closer to each date.

### THIRD FRIDAYS' BIBLE STUDY

Following many requests and deep reflections, we will begin a Bible Study Session held on the **3rd Fridays of each month, from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. led by Fr James**. All are most welcome to join as we grow together in Scripture and faith.

**The first Bible Study will take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026 at 7.30 pm to 8.30 pm.**



## YOUTH MEETING

SATURDAY, 17TH JANUARY AT 4:30 PM

The next Youth Group Meeting will take place on Saturday, 17th January at 4:30 pm, led by Celia Hannigan. All youth members are warmly invited. The date for the following meeting will be decided during this session.



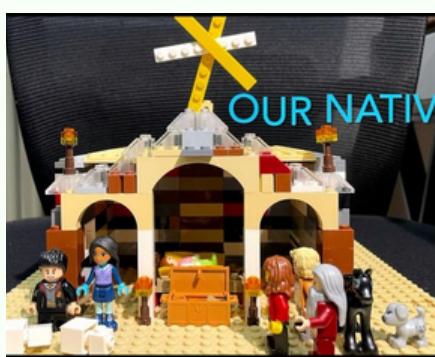
## CRIB COMPETITION

## WINNERS

Congratulations to all who participated in the Crib Competition. Thank you for the creativity, effort.

• **First Prize: Allmina and Iliyana**

**Second Prize: Olivia & Oliver, Tom and Benny.**



## SUNDAY CATECHISM

## TWO GROUPS

Due to the growing number of children and varying age groups, Sunday Catechism will now be divided into two groups:

- **Youth Catechism (< 10 – held in the Parish meeting room)**
- **Children's Catechism (>10) – held as usual in the hall**



We are blessed with more catechists and joyful participation. Thank you to all catechists and parents for your dedication. This growth truly reflects God's blessing upon St Ann's, as we continue to be instruments of joy, peace, and love in our parish.

## FAMILY MASS

25TH JANUARY AT 10.30 AM

We will have our Family Mass on Sunday, 25th January at 10.30 am. All altar servers are requested to come to the sacristy 15 minutes earlier. Let us come together in prayer and thanksgiving as one parish family.

# Well-being

ST ANN'S CAMPUS

A SPACE FOR HARMONY OF  
BODY, MIND, AND SPIRIT



St Ann's Campus Well-being: A space for harmony of body, mind, and spirit

## OUR HOLISTIC APPROACH



### 60+ Club

A place of support, fun, joy, and companionship.

**Wednesdays**  
**10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**  
**Parish Hall**



### Reflexology & Healing Touch

Koffi offers restorative sessions designed to bring calm, comfort, and inner harmony to your body.  
📞 07365 387 299



### Meditation, Breath & Yoga Exercise

Christian meditation, breath work for focus and renewal, & guided movements to support mobility and well-being.

**Wednesdays 6 pm - 7 pm**



## Winter Celebration at Holy Cross Prep School Campus

📍 **Address: Holy Cross Preparatory School, George Rd, Kingston upon Thames KT2 7NU**

As mentioned in our Annual Planner, we are excited to host a Winter Celebration and Mass at Holy Cross Preparatory School on Sunday, **1st February 2026**.

- ⌚ **10:30 AM** – Fun games for kids, couples, seniors, **followed by Holy Mass**.
- 🍽️ **Shared Meal** – Bring a dish to share and enjoy fellowship.
- 📌 **Please note:** There will be no Sunday Mass at St. Ann's Church on Feb 1st

We encourage all to join us at Holy Cross Prep School campus for this joyful celebration. This event is a wonderful opportunity to connect as a community before the start of the Lenten season, similar to our summer outdoor days.

- ◆ Sign-up forms are available at the back of the church and in the hall.
- ◆ **If you would like to bring a dish, contribute food items, or volunteer, please provide your details on the sign-up sheet available at the back of the church or in the tea area at the hall.**

### ST ANN'S READING ROTA FOR SUNDAYS

Role	11th January	18th January	25th January
1st Reading	Margret	Immacula Benedict	Jose Diaz
Psalm	Alin	Joseph Beim	Yasmin D'Souza
2nd Reading	Volunteer	Ann Titus	Augustin Shaju
Bidding Prayer	Volunteer	Adriana Jimenez	Martin Gilhooky

### ST ANN'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR WITH MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Time	Intention	Celebration
Sunday 11/01	10.30 am	Ellen Ward B/D Cecilia & Tere RIP	Baptism of the Lord
Monday 12/01	10 am	Intention Available	Ordinary Time
Tuesday 13/01	7.00 pm	Victor Ramanan Int.	Ordinary Time
Wednesday 14/01	10 am	Intention Available	Ordinary Time
Thursday 15/01		No Mass	
Friday 16/01	7.00 pm	Intention Available	Ordinary Time
Saturday 17/01	12 Noon	Maurice Hababou RIP	Pilgrims Mass
	6 pm	Max Cockings RIP	Vigil Mass
Sunday 18/12	10.30 am	Rebecca Pinghe W/B	Baptism of the Lord



Donate - St Ann's

Loose Collection: £ 343.28

**FOR ST ANN'S CHURCH OFFERING**

**Account Name: RCAS Kingston Hill**

**Account Number: 79124429**

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

Contactless Collection: £ 125

& Standing Order Income

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.