

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

12th and 13th December 2015

Psalter Week 3

VOL. 4: NO. 54/2015



### THE ANNUNCIATION AND ST AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO CATHOLIC CHURCH

(A member of Churches Together in Bellingham)

**PRESBYTERY:** 88 BECKENHAM HILL ROAD, LONDON SE6 3PU  
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**Parish Website:** www.theannunciationandstaugustine.org.uk  
**Deanery Website:** www.lewishamdeanery.com

**PARISH PRIEST**  
Fr Sam Ofia, MSP  
**PARISH DEACON**  
Rev Jeffrey Singleton

#### MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 9:15am  
Saturday: 6:00pm Vigil Mass with Hymns  
Sunday: 8:30am; Said Mass  
10:30am Family Sung Mass

#### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED

#### SACRAMENT

Mon to Fri (Except First Friday): 8:00am

**1<sup>st</sup> Fri Perpetual Adoration:** 9:45am to  
3:30pm

#### MORNING PRAYERS:

Monday to Friday: 8.45am

**ROSARY:** Monday to Friday: 9:45am

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:15pm

#### WEEKLY OFFICE SURGERY

Every Tuesday 4.00pm to 7.00pm

#### PARISH SECRETARY

Ann Williams

#### PARISH SCHOOL

St Augustine's Catholic Nursery and  
Primary School  
**HEADTEACHER:** Mrs Hilary Jarvis  
Tel: 0208 698 6083 Fax: 0208 461 2131  
admin@staugustines.lewisham.sch.uk

## WE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS AND NEW PARISHIONERS

#### PARISH MASS BOOK

This weekend is the Third Sunday of Advent, Year C. The readings are on page 87 of the Parish Mass Book.

#### RESPONSE TO THE BIDDING PRAYER

**Reader:** Lord in your mercy;

**All:** hear our prayer.

#### REMEMBERING THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Our prayers go out to those who are sick and to those who care for them especially: Frank Holmes, Connie Brewer, Catherine Simmons, Marie Avis, Yolanda Whitcher, Mary Smith, Paul Driscoll, Pat Driscoll, Philys Gray, Benedict Perrier, Tom Geiger, Bernadatte Dowswell, Pamela Williams-Jones, Alan Dorey, Maria Ali, Michael Gill, Charles Manso de Zuniga, Doris Dalylish, Mary O'Regan, Macdara Keane, Peggy Margaret Davies and Deacon Jeff. If you know any parishioner who is ill, please let the Parish Priest know.

#### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES FOR DECEASED RELATIVES

Samuel Weller, Tom Costelloe, Thomas Joseph McMahan, Jane Whitham, Eileen Leavey, Bob Chambers, Irene Kainza-Olwa, Brian McInerney, Kevin Bradshaw and Steve Walton.

#### OUR PARISH PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, look in love upon our homes, our families and our communities. Raise up from among us worthy priests to preach the Gospel to all peoples, to minister at your altar, and to care for your flock. Fill us all with your Holy Spirit and make us faithful and inspiring witnesses to your kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen

#### COLLECTIONS

| COLLECTIONS                              | AMOUNT COLLECTED | AMOUNT GIFT AIDED |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Offertory                                | £387.25          | £220.90           |
| Church Repair Fund                       | £156.08          | £113.30           |
| <b>Thank you all for your generosity</b> |                  |                   |

The second collection this weekend 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December and next weekend 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December is for the Parish Repair Fund. Please be generous.

#### READERS FOR THIS WEEKEND 12<sup>th</sup> AND 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

Saturday 6.00pm Kath Hutton and Teresa Tagg  
Sunday 8.30am Hector Taguiang and Carol Roycroft  
Sunday 10.30am Kwame Oppong Manu and Godwin Benin

#### READERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 19<sup>th</sup> AND 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

Saturday 6.00pm Stuart McLaughlin and Mary Malham  
Sunday 8.30am Gina Percival and Kevin McInerney  
Sunday 10.30am Paul Inyang Henshaw and Fidelis Iwu (Senior)

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND 12<sup>th</sup> AND 13<sup>th</sup> DEC

Saturday 6.00pm Vivien Singleton and Theresa Offor  
Sunday 8.30am Carol Roycroft and Rose Nfonsam  
Sunday 10.30am Fidelis Iwu, Fred Chawe-Nartey, Gloria Ezeonyeasi and Blessing Amiame

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 19<sup>th</sup> AND 20<sup>th</sup> DEC

Saturday 6.00pm Dean Macdonald and Maria Sullivan  
Sunday 8.30am Josephine Oluborode and Anne Noirtin  
Sunday 10.30am Jean Nwankwo, Lumi Henshaw, Paul Henshaw, Liz Humprey

#### CLEANING OF THE CHURCH

##### All the team:

19<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00am

On this day we appeal to all Team Members to help clean the Church before Christmas.

Team B: 30<sup>th</sup> Dec 6.30pm

Cynthia Solomon, Grace McDonald, Maria White and Celine Umeh

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The group is open to all children between 3-8 years.

This weekend 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December children liturgists are:

|                 |                                              |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 6.00pm | Gary and Joanne                              |
| Sunday 10.30am  | Ifeoma/Christine, Gerrald, Bridget and Tanya |

Next weekend 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December children liturgists are:

|                 |                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Saturday 6.00pm | Susan and Malone                  |
| Sunday 10.30am  | Augustina/Lucy, Jemal and Gerrald |

## DIVINE MERCY PRAYER AND ADORATION

There will be a Divine mercy prayer and adoration every Monday to Friday from 3:00pm to 3:30pm in the parish. Interested parishioners are welcome to join in the prayer and adoration.

| DATES                                     | FEASTS                                                             | MASS INTENTIONS                                            |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup><br>6.00pm Mass  | Vigil mass: Third Sunday of Advent, C                              | John Whyte RIP                                             |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup><br>8.30am Mass    | Third Sunday of Advent, C                                          | Moira, Mark and family, God's blessings                    |
| Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup><br>10.30am Mass   | Third Sunday of Advent, C                                          | Mr Edward Amiame special intention                         |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup><br>9.15am Mass    | Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church, Memorial | Chioma Ken special intention                               |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup><br>9.15am Mass   | Feria                                                              | Anne Dennehy – God's blessings                             |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup><br>9.15am Mass | Feria                                                              | Chioma Ken special intention                               |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup><br>9.15am Mass  | Feria                                                              | People of the Parish                                       |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup><br>9.15am Mass    | Feria                                                              | James Patrick Smith RIP and Mr Anthony Konwea thanksgiving |
| Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup><br>6.00pm Mass  | Vigil mass: Fourth Sunday of Advent, C                             | Anthony Konwea thanksgiving                                |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup><br>8.30am Mass    | Fourth Sunday of Advent, C                                         | Frederick Gobel RIP                                        |
| Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup><br>10.30am Mass   | Fourth Sunday of Advent, C                                         | Mr J Onwordi and family                                    |

### \*\*\*YEAR OF MERCY LEAFLET

Please take a Year of Mercy leaflet from the back of the Church.

### \*\*\*NATIONAL NATIVITY SCENE PAINTING COMPETITION

The Knights of St Columba painting competition for 5-11 year olds closing date this year is 17<sup>th</sup> December. Prizes will be awarded to the top three entries. Please see the notice board for further details.

### RCIA PROGRAMME

Forms are available either from Dennis Simmonds or the Parish Priest after mass for Adults who wish to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist or/and Confirmation in the parish.

### \*\*\*FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016

Please could all parents who are interested in registering their children for First Holy Communion next year, pick up a form from the back of the Church after mass?

### \*\*\*FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISTS AND CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We are appealing for new catechists for both Holy Communion classes and the Children's Liturgy; please could anyone interested give their names to Fr Sam after mass.

### \*\*\*CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Any children, who would like to take part in the Christmas Eve family mass, please contact Susan, Michelle or Grace after mass. Rehearsal will take place at 5.15pm on 24<sup>th</sup> December.

### \*\*\*WELCOME

We welcome Joshua Nri into our parish community. He was baptised here on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

### \*\*\*READERS MEETING

Please will all readers come to a meeting on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Parish Room to discuss the readings over Christmas?

### \*\*\*ALTAR SERVER LEADER REQUIRED

We are looking for a dedicated young person who would be able to help lead the young servers in their training. Please see Fr Sam and he will talk you through what is required.

### \*\*\*SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

There will be a Reconciliation Service here on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> December at 7.00pm, followed by individual confessions. There will also be a leaflet made available to help guide you. Priests from other parishes will be here to assist.

### \*\*\*CHRISTMAS DRAW 2015 50-50 WINNERS

|                       |        |                         |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> prize | £90.00 | No. 86 Tucker family    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> prize | £50.00 | No. 92 Carroll Garraway |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> prize | £30.00 | No. 58 Dennis Simmonds  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> prize | £20.00 | No. 181 Driscoll family |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> prize | £7.50  | No. 38 Ann Keegan       |

Congratulations and please see Kath Driscoll to collect your winnings.

### \*\*\*THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism will take place here at 12 noon on 19<sup>th</sup> December. Please will all parents attend the Baptism class on 17<sup>th</sup> December in the Parish room at 7pm?

### CHRISTMAS FILM NIGHT, ST MARY MAGDALEN

Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 18.30, School Hall, St. Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School, Howson Road, Brockley, London SE4 2BB. Everyone is invited to a Parish film night, organised by a group of volunteers from the Parish. There will be a Christmas film showing (*It's a Wonderful Life*) and plenty of food and drink, including hot mulled wine and mince pies. Do bring family, friends, children and anyone you know who would enjoy the night out.

### REFLECTION

#### "John's baptism, where did it come from?"

This Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday, Rejoice Sunday. This comes from the readings we hear today, and it underlines an important point. In the Gospel, we hear John the Baptist telling different groups what to do - they must repent, and change their lives. We might think of this as a rather joyless thing - something which is hard and unrewarding. The message of this Sunday is that repentance and changing our lives to welcome Jesus is something richly joyful. When we are planning to welcome anyone we love to our homes, we set about cleaning and preparing for their visit with enthusiasm - nothing is too much trouble for someone we care for greatly. Even scrubbing the bath or polishing the furniture can be a happy and joyful thing! The message of this Sunday is that preparing to welcome the Lord - even though it may involve hard work - is something utterly joyful, because of our love for Him, and His love for us.