

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Andrew Bishop - [andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 24 Nov 2024

Yr B

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver  
020 8313 3915

[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

Second collection for the  
Catholic Youth Service

## Happy New Year – Welcome New Lectionary!

This weekend, Sunday the 24th November, we celebrate the feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the Church year. In the Catholic Church the new year always starts on the first Sunday of Advent, four Sundays before Christmas Day. This is the moment at which we welcome new readings from the three-year Sunday Mass cycle: A, B, C, which allows us to hear a wider selection of readings from the Bible. So, next weekend we move from year B, with readings from the Gospel of Mark, into year C, with Gospel readings from Luke. The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke are of course telling the same narrative of Christ's life, Passion and resurrection; but they were written for different audiences and focus on different aspects of the Good News.

Luke, the Greek physician and companion of St Paul, compiles a carefully researched biography of Christ, he writes to someone called Theophilus, literally 'Lover of God'. No one can say whether Theophilus was an actual person, but I prefer the theory that this Gospel is written for each of us who is seeking God. Here we find the familiar details of the nativity, such as the journey to Bethlehem, the stable birth, and the visit of the shepherds. In this year of prayer before the Jubilee it's also opportune to reflect on the Benedictus and Magnificat prayers, that also come from the pen of Luke. His Gospel overflows with parables, some of the best-known stories from the Bible, such as the Prodigal Son and the Good Samaritan, are only found here. These stories speak to us particularly of God's love for us and of our love for our neighbour. Perhaps most importantly Luke's Gospel provides the most human depiction of Christ, literally the word made flesh. Never more so, than when the resurrected Christ shares a meal with the disciples in Emmaus.

This year on the weekend of 1st December, as we enter the season of Advent, preparing for Christ's arrival into the world, the change in the readings from Old and New Testament is even more marked than previously. The reason for this is that the Catholic Church in England and Wales is bringing a new Lectionary into use. What is a Lectionary? I hear you ask. This is the book which is placed on the lectern from which the reader (or lector) proclaims the word of God. You may remember that we made an appeal a while ago for financial support to purchase the new lectionary and the companion books that go with it: the Chapel Lectionary and the Book of Gospels (which is

carried into Mass by the Deacon). The clergy team thank you for your generosity: our books are ready to be used from next weekend and will be specially blessed at the Masses celebrating the beginning of Advent. Across the country Catholic Churches have ordered their new books from the Catholic Truth Society, which has carefully conceived, printed, and bound these books to enhance our worship. The setting of the text has been designed to be clearer to proclaim than previously.

But why do we need new books? Well, this is the continuation of a process that began at the Second Vatican Council, in the early 1960s, when the Bishops of the Church decided that their congregations would benefit from hearing the readings and prayers at Mass in their own language, rather than in Latin, and to experience a wider range of texts from the Bible. The task of translation was a massive undertaking and was carried out at breakneck speed, and, inevitably, perhaps, there was a feeling that the end result could have been a little better. In the process some of the valuable links between the prayers and the readings had been lost. The new translation seeks to reconnect these different parts of the Mass. In many cases the changes are relatively small and may not even be noticeable to most listeners, but there may be phrases that you have become familiar with over the years that will now sound different. To be compelled to listen more attentively is actually a great opportunity. The 'new' translation is the English Standard Version (Catholic Edition) which is already in use in other parts of the world, such as India, for the past 6 years. This is an opportunity to pause and to hear our readings with new ears, to rediscover the sheer joy of the word of God.

During the baptism service the minister often recites the Ephphatha prayer calling for the ears and mouth of the child be opened to hear the word of God and to proclaim it anew; this Advent should be our Ephphatha moment.

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" (Luke 24:32 .ESV) What a gift!

Deacon Ray

Each year Living Well has a special collection for donations to enable them to give their guests something special at Christmas.

Our planned Christmas collection will be on 1 December and this will go ahead as usual, collecting the basic requirements Living Well always need, but we have also decided to have a second food collection on Sunday 8 December for the special Christmas items they which they have requested for that week.

Tinned Ham/Corned Beef	Hot Chocolate
Tinned Salmon	Jam/Marmalade
Tinned Veg	Rice Pudding/Custard
Tinned Fruit	Festive Biscuits
Tinned Soup	Festive Chocolates
Long Life Milk	Cereal
Coffee	Pasta
Tea bags	Shampoo & Shower gel



Or donate what you can using this QR code and they will do the shopping for you. £40 covers the cost of a full food parcel.



### A DAY WITH MARY

is taking place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark on Saturday 14 December (10.15 am to 5.15 pm). Mass will be celebrated by the Archbishop of Southwark, John Wilson.

Further information is available at:  
<https://www adaywithmary.org/> or  
<https://eventcatholic.com/>

### WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY 2024

This Sunday is World Youth Sunday. The second collection will support youth work in the Archdiocese and beyond, especially the work of the Southwark Catholic Youth Service, which provides a variety of activities for youth and young adults. For more information, visit [www.tinyurl.com/scys1](http://www.tinyurl.com/scys1) or join the Southwark Catholic Youth network for regular updates at [www.tinyurl.com/scysnetwork](http://www.tinyurl.com/scysnetwork) or via the QR code. Additional World Youth Sunday resources have been produced by the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation (CYMFed) at [www.wys.cymfed.org.uk](http://www.wys.cymfed.org.uk).



### SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH MONDAY 9 DECEMBER

The SVP is taking bookings for their annual Christmas lunch.

Please call Fiona Ross on 07956 516279 to reserve your place(s), to advise of any dietary requirements, or to request help with getting to and from the lunch.

### SVP GIFT CARD APPEAL FOR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

As in previous years, SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsbury's gift card to some of those families in particular need. This year we hope to donate £4,000 via gift cards and would very much appreciate your support in getting to this total.

Donations can be made by bank transfer to Sort code 60-60-04, Account number 46076190, reference gift cards 2024. Cash and cheques can be posted through the parish office door.

### CWL TABLE SALE

Sunday 1 December  
In the Hall after 9.30 Mass

Our CWL is holding a Table Sale, mostly of bric-a-brac items, to raise money for the charities they support.

It could be the perfect place to pick up some Christmas gifts.  
There will be refreshments on sale.



CAFOD (the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) invites you to take part in our Nativity Fun Run on Saturday 7 December at 11.00 am. This event is a festive walk, run or stroll around Clapham Common where you can dress up, have fun, and take part in an exciting family activity as Christmas approaches, while also helping to raise vital funds for overseas communities.

To learn more, sign up, and participate, please visit our website: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Sponsored-challenge-events/Run-for-CAFOD/Nativity-Fun-Run>

We are also looking for volunteers to support us throughout the day – if you enjoy engaging with your local community and have a free morning, we encourage you to sign up on our website: <https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/Volunteering-opportunities/Event-volunteer>

**Being formed in the likeness of Christ we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion**

### **PARISH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE**

On **Saturday, 14th December at 7.15 p.m.** in the Church and online on our Webcam: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net).

Why not come and enjoy Carols and Readings, with all the four Choirs in our Parish, to really get ready for Christmas?

Should you wish to join us online a programme will be made available on the website from 12th December.

We usually raise money at this annual event to support St. Christopher's Hospice and so we will have a collection after the Service.

Should you wish to donate to this charity you can also do so online:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1731069869029>

or you can post a donation through the Presbytery door marked 'St. Christopher's Hospice'.

We do hope you are able to join us in the Church and then for Mince Pies and Mulled Wine afterwards in the Church Hall!

### **SCAM EMAILS IMPERSONATING PARISH PRIESTS**

There has been a worrying rise in scam emails targeting parishioners. These emails impersonate Fr Steve, often using a similar email name and masking the real email address. They typically request the recipient to purchase Amazon or other gift cards as gifts for the priest. Unfortunately, there have been reports of parishioners in some parishes falling victim to these scams, with some individuals losing up to £600 to the fraudsters.

We have been asked by the diocesan ICT department to spread awareness of these emails and what to look out for:

- Never purchase gift cards as gifts for the priests based on an email request, unless you have verified the request directly in person or through a trusted means.
- Double-check any suspicious email by directly contacting the parish office.
- Avoid sharing personal or financial information in response to unsolicited emails.

If you encounter any of these emails, please report them as spam and inform the parish office immediately.

### **READERS FOR ST. EDMUND'S CHRISTMAS VIGIL & MIDNIGHT MASS**

**Tuesday Night - 24th December 2024**

Several Readers are required for this important Christmas Service which starts with the Vigil of Readings at 11.30 pm before proceeding to Mass at Midnight.

If you would like to read at these celebrations, please contact Rosemary by **email only** ([r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk)) or leave a message with the Parish Office by Wednesday 18th December Thank you.

### **THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING**

invites you to join them in the Hall on Wednesday 27 November

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass - Celebrant is Fr David Gummett

Followed by Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament

### **NEW LECTIONARIES**

Deacon Ray explains on the front page how changes to the Lectionary mean that our Missals have now been revised. The Catholic Truth Society Sunday Missals are now on sale in the Church Shop which is open after all Masses.

### ***300 Club***

Congratulations to the winners of the November draw :

Melanie Beechinor-Collins - £100.00

Sean Lacey - £50.00

Andrew Watt - £25.00

Please contact the Office if you would like to join the 300 Club.

Numbers are £39 each

**The Christmas draw will take place after the Advent Carol Service on 14 December**

ST MARYS SCHOOL  
**CHRISTMAS FAIR 2024**  
**Saturday 30 November**  
11.00 am - 3.00 pm

BISHOP CHALLENGOR SCHOOL  
**CHRISTMAS FAIR 2024**  
**Sunday 1 December**  
12.00 - 3.30 pm

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 24 Nov</b>	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</b>
6.00 pm VIGIL	Alek Pasiniewicz RIP
8.00 am	Michael Stannard RIP
9.30 am	John Crouch RIP
9.30 am FAMILY MASS	For the people
11.00 am	Journey mercies for Daniel Christopher Conner
5.30 pm	Gretta Colonnese & Ron Renton RIP
<b>Monday 25 Nov</b>	<b>St Catherine of Alexandria</b>
10.00 am	Crescenzo Panetta RIP
<b>Tues 26 Nov</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Paulo & Armando Cogoni RIP
<b>Wed 27 Nov</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	John Murnane's Medjugorje pilgrim friends, living & deceased
<b>Thurs 28 Nov</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Giovanni Campanaro RIP
<b>Friday 29 Nov</b>	<b>St Cuthbert Mayne &amp; Companions</b>
10.00 am	Welfare & intentions of Rae Fleming
<b>Sat 30 Nov</b>	<b>St Andrew, Apostle</b>
10.00 am`	Robert Swan RIP & intentions of Colleen Swan
6.00 pm	For the people of the parish
	<b>Faith in Action Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 1 Dec</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
8.00 am	Tony Leonard RIP
9.30 am	Ints of the Ross family
11.00 am	For the generous sponsors of our new Lectionary
5.30 pm	Claudette Seeboruth

Confessions are every Saturday from  
10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm.

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

## CONFIRMATION CLASS 2025

Registration for Confirmation classes will be open on 1 December and a link will be in next week's newsletter.

OFFERTORY WEEK ENDING 17.11.24	
Plate Collection	859.44
Contactless	244.06
Bank Standing Order	928.50
Church Suite Regular Giving	930.47
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2962.47</b>

**We pray for those who have died:** Bernadette Murray, John Moylan, Carmel Fahey, Rachel Cain, Elizabeth Rourke.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time:** Maureen Bentley, Crescenzo Panetta, Gretta Colonnese, John Doyle, Pauline Tolhurst, Sally O'Shea, Epiphany Fernandes, Louise Hitchcock, Giovanni Campanaro, Roisin Acquah, Henry Alfred Jones, Ernest Galea, Eileen Macey, Ivy Ballard, Siobhan Carly Smith, Mary Porter, Agnes Michell, Anthony Leonard

**We pray for those suffering from ill health, for their families and for those who care for them:** Hedwig Harper, Keith Kench, Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna Sookram, Anne Flynn, Hans Halpin, Paul, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Kathleen Hayes, Marie Rennie, Fitzroy Maxima Saunders, Paul Hixson, Susan McWilliams and Mary-Jo McCarthy.

Meditation every Monday in the Hall (not bank holidays) from 5.30 - 6.20 pm. except for the first Monday of each month and 25 November when it is in the Lady Chapel.  
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence.

## DIARY

<b>Nov</b>	
Sat 30	St Mary's Christmas Fair 11am to 3pm
<b>Dec</b>	
Sun 1	CWL Table sale in Hall after 9.30 Mass Sale of calendars for Claver Sisters charity outside church Bishop Challenor Christmas Fair 12 noon to 3.30 pm
Mon 9	SVP Christmas lunch
Sat 14	Advent Reconciliation Service at 3.00 pm  Advent Carol Service at 7.15 pm followed by reception in the Hall

### Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

Account name: RCAS Beckenham  
Sort Code: 60 02 12  
Acc No: 14282887

Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>