

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Sunday 30 November 2025 Yr C



Retiring collection and food
collection for Living Well

CHRISTINGLE - A SIGN OF HAPPINESS

Over three hundred years ago, a bishop in Germany gave all the children in his church a gift. The gift was a candle with a red ribbon around it. He wanted to give the children something to remind them that their happiness came from God.

What Does It All Mean?

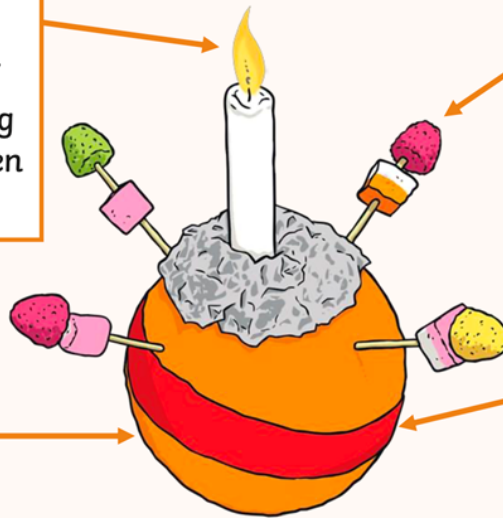
What do you think is the meaning of each part of the Christingle?

The candle
represents Jesus
being the light of
the world, bringing
hope to people when
they are in need.

The sweets/dried
fruit represent
God's creations in
the four seasons.

The orange
represents the
world.

The red ribbon
represents God's
love for the
world and the
blood of Jesus
when he died on
the cross.



You will need

• 4 cocktail sticks • an orange • a red ribbon • some sweets or dried fruit AND a candle

Instructions

Tie the red ribbon around the middle of the orange.

Push the four cocktail sticks into the orange.

Carefully, put the sweets or dried fruit on the ends of the cocktail sticks.

Push the candle into the orange. You might need an adult to make a small hole at the top of the orange first.

We are having a Christingle service at 2.00 pm on Monday 22nd December. Why don't you make one and come along?

Fr Andrew.

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

ARCHBISHOP JOHN'S ADVENT 2025 REFLECTION

This Advent, Archbishop John is calling us on to reflect on the “astonishing truth” that the “Lord Jesus is, and always will be, Emmanuel: God with us, God beside us, God within us”. In a [video reflection](https://rcaos.org.uk/video-reflection), Archbishop John said that: “to say God is with us is not poetry but power. It means that the Lord Jesus stepped into our humanity so that we might step into his divinity. It means that God is no distant deity, but one who draws near; who shares our joys and carries our sorrows; who opens heaven to earth, and earth to heaven”. You can watch his full reflection at rcaos.org.uk/advent2025.

CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT consultation response published

Thank you to the thousands of people who took part in the Called to Bear Fruit Consultation. We are grateful to you all for sharing so openly your hopes for the life of the Church in our Archdiocese.

The consultation response, which includes 15 actions points for renewal, is available at rcaos.org.uk/calledtobearfruit and hardcopies will be sent to every parish. The consultation revealed a burning desire within our parishes to be missionary and evangelising disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, who work together to help people encounter His love.

So, as we move forward on the next steps together, let's build up the Body of Christ in Southwark with faith and confidence, becoming ever more a community of missionary disciples filled with joy and hope for the future. As an Archdiocese, we will continue to discern the process of renewal, and further updates will be provided in due course.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Church Hall, Wednesday 3 December

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant - Fr Boniface

Followed by Lectio Divina

10.00 pm Evening concludes



SVP GIFT CARD APPEAL FOR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsbury's gift card to those families in particular need. This year we hope to donate £5,000 via gift cards and would very much appreciate your support in getting to this total.

Donations can be made by bank transfer to: 60 60 04, 46076190, Ref: gift cards 2025
Cash and cheques can be posted through the parish office door.

SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH Monday 15 December in the Hall at 1.00 pm

Booking is now open for the annual SVP Christmas lunch.

There will be a full Christmas meal and some seasonal entertainment.

No charge for those on a low income but a suggested donation of £15 for all others.

Please email beckenhamsvp@gmail.com or call 07789 497 482 and leave a message or text/WA to reserve your place, to advise of any dietary requirements or to arrange transport.



CHURCH SHOP

The church shop has many Advent and Christmas items in stock.

There are 24-day Advent candles, beautiful Christmas cribs, 2026 diaries, religious Christmas cards, lovely books for children, stocking fillers and all kinds of little gifts.

Please take a look.

WALKING GROUP

All members, past and present, are invited to coffee, mulled wine and mince pies at Margaret's house on Friday 12 December. Michael will lead a walk through Kelsey Park after 10.00 am Mass or just come to 69 Kenwood Drive, BR3 6QZ at 11.15 am

Margaret 07880 793175



**Saturday
6 December
11- 4.00 pm in
the Church Hall**



Just a reminder that the parish Christmas Fair is only a week away. All are very welcome, doors open at 11am

Bring your family and friends. Visit the stalls, stay for lunch. We are even expecting a visit from Santa.

Fun for everyone.
Entry £1.00 (children free)

Thank you for all your generous donations
- we now have enough.



ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Saturday 13 December
in the church at 7.15 pm

Everyone is invited to join our parish choirs to sing carols and listen to Christmas poetry and readings.

Join us afterwards in the Hall for mince pies and mulled wine.



LAW SURGERY

The final Law Surgery this year is on
Monday, 1 December

Please come to the side door of the Hall at
6.00 pm and you will be seen in turn.

LIVING WELL

We haven't had a food collection for Living Well for quite some time so this weekend we will have one for the essentials they always need and also for items to help their families celebrate Christmas. They are in urgent need of:

- UHT milk
- Tinned vegetables/meat/fruit/soup/tomatoes
- Rice
- Pasta
- Biscuits
- Cereal
- Toilet rolls
- Cooking Oil
- Shower gel and shampoo
- Sanitary towels
- Pet food (dogs and cats)

They have also requested ham/corned beef, salmon, fruit, hot chocolate, festive biscuits and chocolates and treats for the young people.

We will have a retiring collection at our Masses but if you use this crowd-funder link to make your donation <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/lw-winter-crisis-appeal-> or this QR code your donation will be doubled!

This link takes you to Living Well's website where you can find out more about their activities <https://www.livingwell.life/>



MASSES

Sun 30 Nov	First Sunday of Advent
6.00 pm VIGIL	Rita Costelloe RIP
8.00 am	Margaret Paes RIP
9.30 am	Ints of the Johnson Family
11.00 am	Donovan Martin RIP (1st anniv)
5.30 pm	For the people
Mon 1 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Eugene Kelly RIP
Tues 2 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Requiem for Michael Waldron
Wed 3 Dec	St Francis Xavier
10.00 am	Alicia Krivicky RIP (20th anniv)
8.00 pm	Charismatic Mass in Hall
Thurs 4 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Howard Long & his parents RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration & Benediction
Friday 5 Dec	Feria
10.00 am	Benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
6.30 pm	Rosary & Confession
7.00 pm	Jubilee Mass
Sat 6 Dec	St Nicholas
10.00 am	Ints of Phil Lennon
12.30 pm	Marriage of Liam & Georgina
6.00 pm VIGIL	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
Sun 7 Dec	Second Sunday of Advent
8.00 am	For the people
9.30 am	Private intention in thanksgiving
11.00 am	Victor Castelino (4th anniv)
5.30 pm	Ints of the Fitzgerald Family

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm, and usually during Adoration

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

We pray for all who have died: Michael Waldron, Rowena D'Souza, Ilean Curry, Eileen Cammiade, Elizabeth William, Marie Alford, Edwin Voss, Eva Maria Knapp.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Mary Porter, Anthony Leonard, Barbara Poltera, Jeanne Ingram, Margaret Cantwell, Maria Etheridge, Evelyn Keeley, Bella Walter, Veronica Lambert.

We pray for all who are in ill health, for their families and for their carers: Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Paul Hixson, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Zygmunt Sobolewski, James Creedon, Sarah-Marie Kench, Duncan, Grace, Nora Haugh, Sue Shaw, Linda Magness, Charles, John Warren Dene.

DIARY

December

Tues 2	Requiem for Michael Waldron at 10.00
Sat 6	Christmas Fair 11-4.00
Sat 13	Advent Carol Service 7.15 pm
Mon 15	Requiem for Eileen Cammiade -11.30
Mon 15	SVP Christmas lunch
Fri 19	Requiem for Marie Alford -1.00
Mon 22	Christingle Service - 2.00

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month and bank holidays.
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence

SOUTHWARK SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Southwark Spirituality Commission will be sending daily reflections during Advent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers. Sign-up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning via tinyurl.com/SSCAdvent2025. These reflections are a great way to keep your mind focused on the Lord Jesus during the busy Advent season.