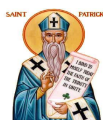


WELCOME TO



Holy Cross & St Patrick Parish

Served by the Society of the Divine Saviour – The Salvatorians

Parish Priest: Father Fortunatus Banzi, SDS Assistant Parish Priest – Fr Floribert Mulikita SDS

Deacons: Rev. Oluwale Alayo & Rev. Anthony Wentworth

The Priests House & Chapel, 1a Conway Road, Plumstead, SE18 1AQ

St Patrick's Church, Hector Street, Plumstead, SE18 1QT

Tel: 020 3722 7573, Email: plumstead@rcaos.org.uk

St Patrick's Primary School, Griffin Road, Plumstead, SE18 7QG

Head Teacher: Miss Mary Murphy

Archdiocese of Southwark is a Registered Charity: 1173050

Salvatorian Trustees Registered Charity No 231410



Parish Office: Tuesday & Wednesday – 9.00 to 3pm. Thursday 9.00 to 2.30pm

FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT YEAR A Ps1 30th November, 2025 (Pg82)

This Sunday we begin the season Advent, a term that comes from the Latin “Adventus” or “advenire,” which means “arrival” or “to come” respectively.” Advent marks the beginning of the Church’s liturgical calendar. It is a four-week period leading up to Christmas. This year introduces us to Year A of the Liturgical calendar.

For us Christians, and Catholics in particular, Advent means a time of expectation and preparation for the Lord’s coming. So, the prophecy of John the Baptist: “A voice of one calling in the desert, prepare a way for the Lord” (Mk 1, 3), echoes loudly to us this season. At this time, we can expect mercy and liberation because our Lord, the King of the Universe, whose solemnity we celebrated last Sunday, comes to reign over his people. So, the Church gives us this time to meditate on our life and try our best to *be* good and to *do* good to our neighbour by avoiding greed, licentiousness, inordinate ambitions, and anger, as well as to prevent malice, backbiting, gossip, abortion, drunkenness, immodesty, and all sorts of vices.

Therefore, in this season of Advent, we have to not only prepare but also to equip ourselves with good virtues and to always be ready as “the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” (Mt 24:44)

CONFESSIONS *St Patrick*: Saturday after 10.00 Mass

Holy Cross: Saturday before 5.30pm Mass

There will be no EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT until further notice

Holy Cross

Mass intentions

St. Patrick

17.30 Anthony & Mona Pinto RIP AND THE HOLY SOULS OF HOLY CROSS CHURCH	Sat. 29 th November FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT	The Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 Shiroma Peiris 75 th birthday wishes & welfare; Shiranthi Fernando birthday intention and thanksgiving AND THE HOLY SOULS of ST PATRICK’S CHURCH
8.45 Welfare and recovery of Jo O’Connell	Sun. 30 th November FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT	10.15 Lady Justina Okwuonu RIP 18.00 Ron Huit RIP
10.00 Recovery of Alice Downey	Mon. 1 st December FERIA	9.00 Shiroma Peiris thanksgiving
NO MASS	Tues. 2 nd December FERIA	NO MASS
10.00 Welfare and recovery of Patrick Campbell	Wed. 3 rd December St Francis Xavier, Priest Day of Prayer for Migrants	9.00 Frances Maud Downey RIP
10.00 Wellbeing of Maureen Cunney	Thur. 4 th December FERIA	9.00 Souls in Purgatory
10.00 Mary Mulholland birthday wishes	Fri. 5 th December FERIA	9.00 Tracey DeSouza RIP birthday remembrance AND Anji O’Connor RIP
17.30 Cornelius & Nellie Dee RIP	Sat. 6 th December SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT	The Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 Joseph Perera, Edison & Kane RIP AND Mathai Joseph RIP
8.45 Mary Whelan Happy Birthday	Sun. 7 th December SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT	10.15 Nik Naçaj RIP 18.00 David Willis RIP

Holy Father’s Prayer Intention for December: For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Please note – notices for the Parish Newsletter, with Father's prior permission, should be sent to the Parish Office by **Wednesday at 12 noon** (by email, 'phone or printed copy). We will do our best to include items, but cannot always guarantee this.
Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

Offertory 23rd November £958.80
Catholic Youth Services £342.80 *Thank you*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday, 30th November at 3pm at Our Lady of Grace, Charlton
– Deanery Advent Service with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction & Confession

'A Day with Mary'

10 to 5.30pm

Saturday, 6th December – St John the Baptist, Dale Road, Purley

Saturday, 13th December – St Mary's, Wellesley Road, Croydon CR0 2AR

Please note: due to unforeseen circumstances, we regret there will be no Senior Citizens' Christmas Party this year. We hope to be able to host it again next Christmas

READERS *St Patrick*

30th November: 10.15 O Torrens/E Sakole 18.00 L Keys

7th December: 10.15 S Saliu/A Olaiya 18.00 L Kale

Holy Cross

29th Nov: 17.30 Mike

30th Nov: 8.45 Ian

6th Dec: 17.30 Brian

7th Dec: 8.45 Sam

The **Sanctuary Lamp** will burn for Mark Cadman at Holy Cross and Shiroma thanksgiving at St Patrick.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY *St Patrick* **children under 10 years**

30th November – Laura; Ademiyo & Tohanme

7th December – Fran; Emma, Carlien & Lisa

In Memoriam

The late Eliana Lucas chose to have a direct cremation which has already taken place. Please remember her and her relatives in your prayers. May she rest in peace.

Guides (girls aged 10 – 14)

Brownies (girls aged 7 – 10)

Mondays 6 – 7.30pm

For more information on joining please contact:

Tatayana – 07921500555 Natasha – 07941967414

During December, Christmas cards and gifts will be on sale in the Repository. We are encouraged to send a religious card to friends and relatives to witness to our faith and remind people what Christmas is really about.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns red to remind us that Jesus is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle. Sanctuary Lamp intentions can be requested for many reasons – remembering loved ones, thanksgiving, get well wishes, birthdays/special occasions. The list is now available at the back of church

CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT

This is how we are reaching out to our neighbours in need:

What an amazing response to the Greenwich Foodbank Appeal – WELL DONE & THANK YOU!

****We will continue this collection every 4th Sunday. Tinned & packet foods, toiletries, nappies can also be brought to church at any time.***

Christmas treats should be brought by Sunday 14th December.

****If you would like to support the Christ the King 6th Form Christmas Toy appeal, NEW toys and gifts can be left in the box at the back of church.***

Archbishop John's Advent 2025 reflection. This Advent, Archbishop John is calling us 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, 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.

Please pray for those who are unwell: Pat Cullen, Christopher Nnabike, Yolanda Perera, Norma Barrett, Bridie Maguire, Loretta, Sophie & Pablo Picola, Hana Gjelaj, Bob Kapp, Philomena Flaherty, Jo O'Connell, Dave Kent, Mary Mulholland, Maura Nagle, Chris Britto, Eileen McPadden, Nuala McGovern, Aurora Miranda, Charles, Sarah, Sven & Lloyd, Jimmy Gjelaj, Pressie Fernandez, Betty O'Donoghue, Louise Perera, Marianne Ali, Trevor Brown, John McPartlin, Sarah Young & family, Irene D'Souza, Alex Pollock, Kevin Murphy, Susannah Brown, John Colacco, Henry Agbadamusi, Dave Orrel, Stephen Brown, Erin Johnston, Maureen Cunney, Eddie White, **for those who have die, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Charles White, Pat Nolan, Eileen Guard, Margaret Barry, Joe Synons, Mary Kemp, Cornelius Dee**

*The Christmas collection is your offering for the clergy of the parish. If you are a Gift Aid member, please use the dated Christmas envelope in your box. You can also make donations by banker's order with the reference **CHRISTMAS** or using the contactless machine at the back of church.*

Account details: NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK

Acc Name: RCAS - PLUMSTEAD

Acc No: 79136796

Sort code: 60-50-01

Please make cheques payable to: RCAS PLUMSTEAD

Thank you for your continued support of our parish