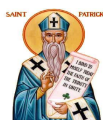


WELCOME TO



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

Holy Cross, 27 The Slade, Plumstead Common, SE18 2NB

www.stpatricksholycross.org.uk

St Patrick's Primary School, Griffin Road, Plumstead, SE18 7QG Tel: 0208 854 3881 www.stpatricksprimary.org.uk

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

SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT YEAR A Ps2 7th December, 2025 (Pg85)

The Gospel reading of this second Sunday of Advent is all about John the Baptist, who warns and exhorts his people, now **us**, not only to prepare a way for the Lord, the promised one and to make his paths straight, but also to repent because the Kingdom of God is close at hand. John the Baptist was an ascetic in the wilderness. He was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist and he ate locusts and wild honey. Certainly, John wasn't a crazy man. But what God wanted through him was to announce the imminence of the Kingdom of God. To warn the people that God is close at hand. And the way of God should be prepared. He preached the urgency of conversion and a baptism of repentance. He didn't want his people to perish.

Thus, the message for this season of Advent is: **to repent and to change**. Change and repentance go together and they are at the centre of the Christian life. Jesus himself demands us to change in almost all his preaching. Therefore, a Christian life involves daily repentance and a change. Repentance is being sorry both for our sinful condition and for our own specific sins; it is the work of the Holy Spirit and is part of sanctification. *Let us always remember that Advent is a time for prayer, especially family prayer.*

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 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 AND Damaciano D'Souza RIP 18.00 David Willis RIP
10.00 Alice Downey welfare & recovery	Mon. 8 th December The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00 Shiroma's intentions 19.00 Mr & Mrs Oyenuga 46 th wedding anniversary IN St PATRICK'S CHURCH
NO MASS	Tues. 9 th December FERIA	NO MASS
10.00 John Colaco RIP	Wed. 10 th December FERIA	9.00 Leonard Plumb RIP AND Welfare of Fr Auson & family
10.00 Birthday Greetings Mary Mulholland	Thur. 11 th December FERIA	9.00 Birthday of Augustine Orenuga
10.00 Rosemary McCabe RIP	Fri. 12 th December FERIA	9.00 Francis E Olude & Livina A Jumo Euba & George O E Phillips AND Eric Horne RIP
17.30 Tony Callan RIP anniversary	Sat. 13 th December THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT	St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr 10.00 Herbert & Florence Perera RIP AND Thomas & Seetus Perera RIP
8.45 Anna de Cristoforo RIP	Sun. 14 th December THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT	10.15 Birthday thanksgiving Elizabeth EURO 18.00 Welfare of Paddy Cullen

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 30th November £1,140.40

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. Donations can also be made by cheque to **RCAS PLUMSTEAD**, banker's order with the reference **CHRISTMAS**, or using the contactless machine at the back of church.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

'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

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

14th December: 10.15 A Sakole/P Fadonugbo 18.00 B Davern

Holy Cross

6th Dec: 17.30 Brian 7th Dec: 8.45 Sam

13th Dec: 17.30 Mike 14th Dec: 8.45 Sheila

The **Sanctuary Lamp** will burn for the Mulholland family RIP at Holy Cross and the Huit family RIP at St Patrick.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY St Patrick children under 10 years

7th December – Fran; Emma, Carlien & Lisa

14th December – Mary/Laura; Olivia & Ebinehitas

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:

***GREENWICH FODBANK**. Tinned & packet foods, toiletries, nappies can be brought to church at any time. We will continue to have our monthly collection of food every fourth Sunday of the month (Youth Sunday). **PLEASE NOTE: 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.

Thank you

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: Margaret Ollin, 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:** Arthur Potter, Brigid Malin, Irene Akehurst, Patrick Linden, Michael Buckley, Esme Prince, Anna de Cristoforo, Frederick Appleby, Constance Clark, Sheila Ulph, Charlotte Moore, Patricia McCartney

Sunday, 14th December 4 – 6pm

**Wesley Hall Methodist Church,
Timbercroft Lane SE18 2SB**

CHRISTMAS MINGLE 25

in aid of Cancer Research UK

**Christmas crafts, carols & songs, games
& quiz, refreshments**

ALL WELCOME

Account details: NATIONAL WESTMINSTER
BANK

Acc Name: RCAS - PLUMSTEAD

Acc No: 79136796 Sort code: 60-50-01

Please make cheques payable to: RCAS
PLUMSTEAD