

St Simon † St Jude

Roman Catholic Church Streatham Hill

Sunday 18th December, 2011 [Year B]

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Remembering especially our preparations for Christmas

WELCOME TO OUR SUNDAY MASS

Please join in with the words below in bold and follow the prayers of the Mass in the laminated guide.

Hymn no. 503 **O come. O come Emmanuel**

Entrance Antiphon: **Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.**

A reading from the second Book of Samuel [7:1-5.8-16]
The kingdom of David will always stand secure before the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm [88] The Psalm is said this week
I will sing forever of your love, O Lord

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Romans [16: 25-27]
The mystery, which was kept secret for endless ages, is now made clear.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the handmaid of the Lord:

let what you have said be done to me.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke [1:26-38]
Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.

At the preparation of the altar and gifts:

Hymn no. 343 **Holy Virgin by God's Decree**

Communion antiphon:

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

After Communion the Second Collection is **for our Parish Refurbishment programme** [choral music during the collection]

Closing hymn: Closing Hymn no. 646 **The Angel Gabriel**

Mass details		Intentions
Saturday	6.00pm	For the people of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am	Peter Veerapen RIP
	12.15pm	John Arye RIP
Monday	9.00am	Eithne Esmonde RIP
Tuesday	9.00am	James Sullivan RIP (anniv)
Wednesday	9.00am	In thanksgiving for son's exams
Thursday	None	The church is closed today
Friday	9.00am	Mary Whitehead RIP
	<i>Next weekend</i>	<i>Next Saturday & Sunday</i>
Christmas Eve	6.00pm	For the people of the Parish
Midnight Mass	Midnight	Holy Souls
Christmas Day	10.30am	Catherine Lonergan RIP
	12.15pm	John Greene RIP
Wednesday	9.00am	Norman Barnett RIP
Friday	9.00am	Francis Joseph [FM]

Please join us for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass on Monday with Rosary and Benediction at noon

Please note there are CD's on sale for Mary's Meals at the front of the church by the Sacred Heart Statue. For every £10 we raise we help provide a meal a day for a child for a whole year.

Parish Priest: Fr Adrian McKenna-Whyte BTh MSc
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Email: fr_mckenna@btinternet.com
Parish website: www.streathamhillcatholic.co.uk
http://www.justgiving.com/StSimon-and-StJude
Archdiocesan website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk

Weekend Mass:

Saturday 6.00pm Sunday 10.30am & 12.15pm

Weekday Mass:

Morning Prayer at 9.00am with Mass at 9.15 am, but please check the Mass Intention List for details.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mondays after Mass from 9.45am ending with Rosary, Benediction and St Jude Novena at noon.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 5.30 – 5.55 pm and by arrangement.

Baptisms and Weddings by arrangement

Please phone Fr. Adrian to make an appointment.

Collections

Thank you, for our collections last week, we raised **£427.50** for the running of the parish and **£302.86** towards the flowers for Christmas. *These sums include monies given in Gift Aid envelopes. Our thanks also go to those who donate by Banker's Order direct into the parish account.*

Our Jesse Tree symbols this week began with the **Tent** to remind us of God's presence even in difficult times, like those of *Hezekiah*, and the **Ember and Tongs** represent how we too, like *Isaiah*, can be cleansed of our sins by the Lord and speak out his word to others. The **Tears** of *Jeremiah*, represented his grief at how God's people had turned from the Lord; *Habakkuk's Watchtower*, symbolised his waiting in watchfulness upon the day of the Lord's coming; with *Nehemiah's Wall* around Jerusalem standing for how it should be kept a holy place (a sad reference to the division in the Holy Land today and the ever-present security wall around Jerusalem). The next symbol is our first reference to the New Testament, with a **Scallop Shell** symbolising *John's* baptism and our own Christian journey of pilgrimage as we await the Lord's return. The **White Lily** this Sunday symbolises the purity of *Mary*, the Handmaid of the Lord, and our hope in the dawn of life eternal. Monday's symbol will represent the **Motherhood** of *Mary* and her cousin *Elizabeth* and Tuesday's symbol represents how *Elizabeth's* husband, *Zechariah*, used a **Writing Tablet**, to proclaim the name of his son *John*, as he had been initially unable to believe in the Lord's plan of salvation, in which *John* would herald the Lord's coming. The **carpenter's hammer** on Wednesday's ornament represents *Joseph's* profession and his unique role in the story of our salvation; followed by the **white candle**, symbolizing *Christ*, the light of the world and reminding us of the white candle of our Advent wreath which will be lit at the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. The Nativity is represented on our *Jesse Tree* by the **manger** that cradled the infant *Jesus* and on Christmas Day we place the last of our symbols, the **Chi-Rho** monogram, a combination of the first two letters for the Greek word of Christos, *Christ* – the true Light that came into the world on the first Christmas Day.

PARISH MINISTRIES:

CHILDREN'S LITURGY CHILDREN'S LITURGY *has begun again for all children aged 6 and under, with those aged 7 and above staying in the church. If you haven't registered your child for our children's group please see Fr. Adrian.*

[Hall key-holders: Dias-Hudspeth, Karim & Murphy Families]

	<u>HOLY COMMUNION 6pm</u>	<u>10.30am</u>	<u>12.15am</u>
25 Dec	Volunteer Volunteer	Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer	Volunteer Volunteer
01 Jan	Volunteer Volunteer	Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer	Volunteer Volunteer
08 Jan	M. Gonzy M. Esmonde	D. Abebrese B. Beech T. Donoghue	T. Ofoagu J. La'val

READERS: D Abebrese **MUSIC:** L. Clarke

FLOWERS: 23 Dec **decoration of the church at 7pm**

31 Dec T. Dempsey, O. Adelekan, T. Donoghue
07 Jan S. Hayes, C. Baker & M-M. Ovonlen [Epiphany]
14 Jan R. Ebite, E. Karim, J. McDonagh & M. Ellis [*Gaudete*]
21 Jan J. Sharland, N. Sesay, M. McElhone

REFRESHMENTS (SUNDAY AFTER 10.30 MASS)

Please note: we have no refreshments on 25 Dec & 01 Jan

08 Jan Grant & Abebrese families
15 Jan Murphy families
22 Jan Herbert, Clark & Donnelly families
29 Jan Hayes, Knoop & Okaro families
05 Feb Campbell, Adelekan & Adeniji families
12 Feb Karim family
19 Feb Feasey & Van Spall families

Please note: If you are unable to make a particular Sunday please exchange with another group so that we can continue to offer refreshments after the Family Mass. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING

Will everyone who's able to help clean please stay behind after the Tuesday morning Mass. Thank you.

COLLECTION COUNTERS

01 Jan K. Gernon, L. Ungaretti
08 Jan R. Ebite, B. Kealy
15 Jan A. Abel, J. Sullivan
22 Jan P. Hutchinson, M. Gonzy

CHILD SAFEGUARDING DETAILS: Childline advice 0800 1111

Local Advisor: Teresa Dempsey 020 8670 7565

Diocesan Advisor: Helen Sheppard 020 7960 2504

SACRISTANS M. Abreu, R. Green, P. Hutchinson, M. Ryan, K Gernon & L Ungaretti **GIFT AID** J Fraser, R Ebite

WEBSITE A. Agbueze, B. Chivers, T. Duffy, M. Knoop, J. Kyaluzi, S. McCorry

READERS

25 Dec Isaiah 62:11-12 Psalm 96
Christmas Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:15-20

See sign-up sheet in the sacristy to volunteer please

01 Jan Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 66
BVM Galatians:4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21

See sign-up sheet in the sacristy to volunteer please

08 Jan Isaiah 60: 1-6 Psalm 71
Epiphany Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6 Matthew 2: 1-12

Dominic Van Spall: Diana Abebrese : Victoria Hunt

15 Jan 1 Samuel 3:3-10.19 Psalm 39
2 Sun OT 1 Corinthians 6:13-20 John1:35-42

Paula Wynne: Dias-Hudspeth family : Chris Watts

22 Jan Jonah 3:1-5.10 Psalm 24
3 Sun OT 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

John Fraser : Bieneosa Ebite : Lydia Ungaretti

29 Jan Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 94
4 Sun OT 1 Corinthians 7: 32-35 Mark 1: 21-28

Paul Hutchinson : Feasey Family : Alan Quinn

News this week:

In our day so many things can take the place of God, not least our material comfort. Each Advent as a Parish we take time to think of the needs of others and this year our Christmas Appeal is to help our local Probation Office by providing food parcels for ex-offenders on very low incomes so they can have a little extra help and support at Christmas. Probation officers work with offenders to turn their lives around and rehabilitate them back into the community. Thank you for providing gifts of **non-perishable** food so that our church can show the gospel values of care that can turn wayward lives around. If you weren't able to bring your gift box or donation this weekend please bring them between 8am and noon this Monday as we take our gifts to the office on Tuesday.

"Back to Basics" – if you have questions about our faith or what the Church teaches, please come along to a discussion in the Parish Office from 7.30-9.30pm on Tuesday 20th. This will be an open chat over refreshments and all are welcome as we explore what it means to live our faith as a Christian in the world today: see Fr. Adrian for further details.

Do please consider joining us to help with the festive flowers and decoration of the church from 7-9pm on Friday 23rd December. All are welcome.

At this busy time of year there are lots of work parties, but thank you to those parishioners who were able to join us for our pre-Christmas celebration in the Parish Hall on Friday. We had some festive-fun and refreshments and prize gifts for those who came but I'm sorry that more people were not able to join us to celebrate together.

Thank you, as always, for your contributions to the Parish collections. **Our second collection next week is for our Parish Refurbishment Fund.** Please remember if you contribute via the Gift Aid scheme to use the envelopes provided at the entrance to the church. To help plan your giving please take enough envelopes home for the month so that you can complete the details of the envelope beforehand and bring them with you to church.

PRAYING FOR THE SICK

Please remember that there is a file in the porch where you can request prayers for those in need: the sick and housebound are very much at the heart of the church and support us in their prayers as we do them.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH

Please give what you can to the parish collections as we receive less money each week than is budgeted for our needs. To help meet our costs please give the equivalent of at least one hour of your weekly income and consider if you are able to help join one of our parish groups, e.g. counters, cleaners, refreshment team, etc. If you are a UK tax payer please also consider setting up a Gift Aid payment direct to the church bank account. To give by credit/debit card please go online and visit our JustGiving page <http://www.justgiving.com/StSimon-and-StJude> To give by phone text **JUDE 77 £10** (for example) to the number **70070**. You'll receive a text back with a link to how you can Gift Aid to boost your donation at no extra cost. Thank you for all your support and for considering making a donation this way. God bless.