

St Simon † St Jude

Roman Catholic Church Streatham Hill

Sunday 21st December 2014

4th Sunday of Advent [Year B]

Remembering especially "Expectant Mothers"

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 or hymn book.

Entrance : Hymn: 366

**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, 8-12, 14, 16]
The kingdom of David will always stand secure before the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm [88]

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

A reading from the letter of St. Paul 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: 600

Our sacrificial giving is part of our participation at Mass and a sharing of the blessings God gives us. We take our 1st and 2nd collections one after the other to give time for sharing God's gifts and space for reflection and prayer after Holy Communion. **Our second collection this week is for our Parish Refurbishment Programme.** Thank you for your support.

Communion antiphon:

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

Communion: 360

Closing: 112

Mass details		Intentions
Saturday	6.00pm	Charles & Danuta Okaro
Sunday	10.30am	Thanksgiving 16 th Anniv.
	12.15pm	Peter Veerapen RIP Mary Kelleher RIP
Monday	9.00am	Kathleen Baker RIP
Tuesday	9.00am	Iris Ayres-Borges RIP & Luis Ribero RIP
Christmas Eve	6.00am	Friends & Family of the O'Keeffe Family
	12.00am	For the people of the Parish
Christmas Day	10.30am	Catherine Lonagan RIP
Friday	10.00am	Sr. Christine Gomes RIP
<i>Next weekend</i>		<i>Next Saturday & Sunday</i>
Saturday	6.00pm	Fr. Michael Gibbons RIP
Sunday	10.30am	Michael Hayes RIP
	12.15pm	All Who Have Worshipped Here <i>FM</i>

**On Monday join us, after Morning Prayer and Mass, for
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
With Rosary and our St Jude Novena at 11am.**

Parish Priest: Fr. Habte Ukbay, OFM.Cap

The Priest's House 5 Hillside Road
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Email: st_sj_office@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 see Father Habte to make an appointment.

Collections

Thank you: our collections last week raised:

£592.25 For the running of the Parish

£53.00 For the Refurbishment Programme

£204.35 For our Christmas Flowers

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.

REFLECTION – In the 8th century there was a problem in the Kingdom of Judah regarding the survival of the dynasty. For the small kingdom of Judah was threatened by the kings of Israel and Syria. The repeated attacks of these two neighbours on Judah led King Ahaz of Judah to consider seeking help from the then powerful nation, Assyria. Prophet Isaiah was an advisor to the king, and strongly opposed the intention of the King. The prophet stated that the dynasty could only be preserved through trust in God. The sign Isaiah gave to the king assures the house of David with the help of God: "The maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'". Before the child is out of the nursery the two hostile kingdoms of Israel and Syria will have lost their power. However, King Ahaz refused to listen to the word of God as uttered through Prophet Isaiah. Assyria destroyed the two kingdoms and left Judah provided it shows submission by regular tribute. St. Matthew writing the Gospel adopts that sign given to Ahaz by rendering it a whole new meaning. He celebrates Jesus as the ultimate fulfillment of prophecy, the royal child of the house of David, who will be God-with-us. In Jesus the dynasty of David has its most celebrated son. For the child is both the son of David and Son of God: the virgin birth through the Holy Spirit and after his dream Joseph exercises the right to name Jesus and becomes the legal father and through Joseph Jesus becomes son of David. The unusual circumstances of the virgin birth led some in the first century to bring the charge of illegitimacy by calling Jesus as the "son of Mary" (Mk. 6:3). A virgin mother has no precedence in the religious tradition, and will always shock people who fail to see the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the force that made the beginning of creation, and now through Mary has brought a new creation. Mary's role is also unique, who can say of Jesus "This is my body, this is my blood" in a way that no other person can say of him. Through her, Jesus' presence is known and celebrated as he is the son of David, Son of God and son of Mary whom she will bring forth for the life of the world. Let us ask her intercession as she gently leads us to her Son where we find everything we require, and celebrate his birthday fittingly and prepare ourselves for his Second Coming.

**OUR CRIB OFFERINGS THIS YEAR WILL BE FOR
THE BROMPTON FOUNTAIN FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP**

PARISH MINISTRIES:

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

21 Dec **St. Jude** 28 Dec **Family Mass**
04 Jan **Family Mass** 11 Jan **St. Mary**

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

HOLY COMMUNION 6pm 10.30am 12.15pm

21 Dec	S Smith	Kalimira, Karim, Hayes	R Green
28 Dec	M Esmonde	Abebrese, Donoghue, Karim	E Maria
04 Jan	M O'Keeffe	Kalimira, Karim, Hayes	R Maria
11 Jan	P Hutchinson	Karim, O'Keeffe, Abebrese	R Green
18 Jan	C Menezes	Donoghue, Hayes, Kalimira	E Maria

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

FLOWERS: N.B

All flower teams for the Christmas flowers. 24.12.14 – 9.30 a.m.

27 Dec T. Dempsey, T. Donoghue & O Lawal
03 Jan J. Sharland, N. Sesay & M. McElhone
10 Jan E. Karim, J. McDonagh & C. Baker

REFRESHMENTS (SUNDAY AFTER 10.30 MASS)

21 Dec Murphy & Lehane families
28 Dec Hayes, Knoop and Okaro families
04 Jan Soto, Carrea & Rodriguez families
11 Jan Campbell, Adelekan & Adeniji families
18 Jan Karim family
25 Jan Herbert & Clarke 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 is everyone's business: please take litter home with you rather than leaving it in the church as we have only a small group of volunteers who help clean after the Tues. morning Mass. If you see litter please clear it - thank you ☺

COLLECTION COUNTERS

21 Dec. Karim & Merceica 28 Dec. Ebite & Kealy
04 Jan. Hutchinson & Jones 11 Jan. Karim & Merceica

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 **GIFT AID** J Fraser, R Ebite, D Karim

WEBSITE MATERIAL PP / M. Knoop / T. Duffy / C. Murphy

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER SECRETARY J. Sharland

APF MISSIO RED BOXES Alan Quinn

READERS

28 Dec Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3 Psalm 104
Holy Family Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19 Luke 2:22-40

Paula Wynne: Tony Murphy: Alan Quinn

04 Jan Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 71
Epiphany Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6 Matthew 2:1-12

Francesca Campbell: Diana Abebrese: Amanda Tyler

11 Jan Isaiah 55:1-11 Psalm (Isaiah) 12
Baptism of St. John 5:1-9 Mark 1:7-11

Our Lord **Dias-Hudspeth Family: Bieneosa Ebite: Victoria Leyman**

18 Jan Samuel 3:3-10,19 Psalm 39
Sun 2 Corinthians 6:13-15,17-20 John 1:35-42

Theresa Dempsey: Kelly Breslin: Chris Watts

25 Jan Jonah 3:1-5,10 Psalm 24
Sun 3 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

Paul Hutchinson: Neala Donnelly: Ron Leyman

01 Feb Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 94
Sun 4 Corinthians 7:32-35 Mark 1:21-28

Dominic Van Spall: Tony Murphy: Alan Quinn

DEANERY RECONCILIATION SERVICE: - Our deanery reconciliation service is being held **today (Sunday 21st December) at English martyrs at 6pm.** The service will be led by Bishop Pat Lynch. We encourage you to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the great feast of Christmas. **This is a most important sacrament as we renew our relationship with God and one another. 'A pure heart create in me, O God, and give me again the joy of your help'.**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: For those who cannot go to the Deanery Penitential Service we will be holding reconciliation here on Wednesday 24th December at 11:00am. Thank you

Prayer for Expectant Mothers: O Good Saint Ann, who had the incomparable privilege of bringing into the world Our Lady who was to become the Mother of God, I come to place myself under your special care. I confide myself to you, together with the child I am carrying. I place my whole confidence in you. Make me keep in mind the precautions I need to take so as not to endanger in any way the health, good qualities or the eternal salvation of the child whose very existence God has placed in my care. Obtain for me the virtues you taught to Mary, so that I may afterwards instil and develop them in the heart of my child. O Good Saint Ann, protect me today and always. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING TO THE PARISH PRIEST:- Traditionally, the offering at Christmas is your gift to the Parish Priest. This offering forms a good part of the money that goes to make up his stipend over the year. The **Christmas envelopes are available in the porch**, the finance committee asks you to be as generous as possible to our parish priest Fr. Habte at Christmas. It is our way of supporting his expenses and saying thank you for his ministry among us. If you are going to be away at Christmas please use the green envelope and put it in the letter box whenever you can.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA CHRISTMAS POSTERS:- Please collect a Christmas poster from the box in the porch. Donations will be greatly appreciated with donations to Mary's meals.

REMINDER - Christmas is fast approaching and we still need volunteers to read, be Eucharist ministers, ushers and for Alter servers. **For all those who are able to help clean our church ready for Christmas please come this Tuesday after Mass from 9.45am. Also all our flower arrangers are asked to come on Wednesday 2^{4th} Dec. at 9:30am.**

CALLING ALL SINGERS FOR ST. SIMON AND ST JUDE'S SERVICE ON WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER. Singing is a great way to participate in parish life and joining us for the Carol service requires only a light commitment practicing session during Advent and a love of singing! If you want to join us, please email Lynette Clarke on libralyne@aol.com or sign up on the paper prepared in the porch. **Our final rehearsal will be on Monday 22 December at 7.30pm.**

PLEASE TAKE A CHRISTMAS CARD so that you and your family have the Mass times at hand over the Christmas season. In this way we render great help to our priest by not phoning to check for Mass times.

VACANCIES etc. – Please see the noticeboard in the porch for all vacancies and other items. **This is the last weekend to bring in your donation for the London Probation Trust.**

THANK YOU, as always, for your contributions to the Parish collections. **Our Second collection next week, is for our Parish Refurbishment Programme**, please be generous. Please also remember if you contribute via the Gift Aid scheme to use the envelopes provided. If writing a cheque, **please make out a separate cheque for each collection**, payable to 'St Simon & St Jude RC Church'. Thank you.