

St Simon † St Jude

Roman Catholic Church Streatham Hill

Sunday 20th December 2015

4th Sunday of Advent [Year C]

Remembering especially "Our Families"

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 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 prophet Micah [5:1-4]

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

Responsorial Psalm [79]

**God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews [10:5-10]

Here I am! I am coming to obey your will.

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 [1:39-45]

Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

At the preparation of the altar and gifts:

Our sacrificial giving is part of our participation at Mass and a sharing of the blessings God gives us. We take both 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 today is for the church flowers over the Christmas period and next weekend for our Parish Refurbishment Programme.** Thank you.

Communion antiphon:

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

Mass details		Intentions
Saturday	6.00pm	Peter Marshall RIP
Sunday	10.30am 12.15pm	Margo Egan RIP For the People of the Parish
Monday	9.00am	Paul Francis Gomes RIP
Tuesday	9.00am	Private Intention
Wednesday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Christmas Eve	6.00pm 11.30pm	Private Intention Delia Moore RIP
Christmas Day	10.30am	Eileen and James Sullivan RIP
Next weekend		Next Saturday & Sunday
Saturday	6.00pm	Catherine Lonergan RIP
Sunday	10.30am 12.15pm	Michael Hayes RIP The O'Keefe Family

Please join us on Monday directly after Mass, for our final Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in 2015.

Please Note: Exposition will resume again on Monday 11th January 2016.

Parish Priest: Fr. Habte Ukbay, OFM.Cap

The Priest's House 5 Hillside Road
Streatham Hill London SW2 3HL

Telephone: 020 8678 9051 Twitter @StSimon_StJude

Email: st_sj_office@btinternet.com

Parish website: www.streathamhillcatholic.co.uk

Choir: <http://www.worshipandprayer.org.uk/meetings.htm>

<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

£390.40 For the running of the Parish

£100.00 For the Refurbishment Programme

£174.57 For the 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.

Reflections - 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas

In today's first reading, the prophet Micah announces the great promise of God: that the small tribe which settled in the insignificant town of Bethlehem will one day produce the ruler of Israel. This promise has given substance to the hope of the people and a direction to their lives. An elderly couple Zechariah and Elisabeth, the parents of John the Baptist, represent the hope that did not die. And it is the fulfilled hope of that elderly couple which is given to Mary as a sign: "Know this too, your kinswoman Elisabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son...for nothing is impossible to God". Mary hurries to see this sign of a hope fulfilled. It is through Mary that God is seen to keep the promise announced through the prophet Micah. The promise of God will take flesh in her and be formed in the person of Jesus. Mary is blessed for believing "that the promises made her by the Lord would be fulfilled".

At Christmas, we celebrate the event that Jesus is the kept promise of God. Jesus is the son of Mary, the Son of God and he is Christ the Lord. At Christmas, we celebrate the love of God for us which shows itself in the fragile bundle of the child Jesus. We can celebrate our love of God in Jesus. To love, we need a particular name, a particular face, a particular person. We have God's particulars in Jesus. In Jesus, God loves us and proclaims: "I have loved you with an everlasting love". Let us welcome Jesus into our hearts as we share his love with others.

OFFERINGS AT THE MANGER (Crib Offerings).

This year, we shall be collecting for the work of The friends of the Holy land, who are suffering due to poverty and persecution in Palestine and Israel.

Please be as generous as you can be.

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY CHILDREN'S LITURGY PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HELP OUR CATECHISTS

20 Dec **Kakabnova family** 27 Dec **Christmas Holidays**
03 Jan **Family Mass** 10 Jan **Turcovich & Martin families**

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

HOLY COMMUNION 6pm 10.30am 12.15pm

20 Dec	M Esmonde	Karim, Donoghue, Smith	R Maria
27 Dec	P Hutchinson	Karimira, Hayes, Karim	R Green
03 Jan	M O'Keefe	Smith, Donoghue, Hayes	E Maria
10 Jan	M Esmonde	O'Keefe, Karimira, Karim	R Maria
17 Jan	C Menezes	Karim, Donoghue, Smith	R Green

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

FLOWERS: ALL TEAMS FOR CHRISTMAS 24 DEC AT 9.30AM.

26 Dec E. Karim, J.McDonagh & C. Baker
02 Jan T. Dempsey, T. Donoghue & O Lawal
09 Jan J.Sharland, N.Sesay & M.McElhone

REFRESHMENTS (SUNDAY AFTER 10.30 MASS)

20 Dec Karim family
27 Dec Herbert & Clarke families
03 Jan D'Costa family
10 Jan Feasey & Van Spall families
17 Jan Grant & Abebrese 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.

COLLECTION COUNTERS	20 Dec	Hutchinson & Jones
	27 Dec	Karim & Palmiero
	03 Jan	Daniel K & Powell
	10 Jan	Ebite & Kealy
	17 Jan	Hutchinson & Jones

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 M. Knoop / T. Duffy

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER SECRETARY J. Sharland

APF MISSIO RED BOXES Alan Quinn

READERS

20 Dec Micah 5:1-4 Psalm 79
Advent 4 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45

Dominic Van Spall: Kelly Breslin: Victoria Hunt

27 Dec Samuel 1:20-22,24-28 Psalm 83
Holy Family 1 John 3:1-2,21-24 Luke 2:41-52

Paula Wynne: Tony Murphy: Chris Watts

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

Francesca Campbell: Bieneosa Ebite: Ron Leyman

10 Jan Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Psalm 103
Baptism of Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22
the Lord **Dias-Hudspeth Family: Neala Donnelly: Alan Quinn**

17 Jan Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 95
Sun 2 OT Corinthians 12:4-11 John 2:1-11

Teresa Dempsey: Tony Murphy Victoria Hunt

NEWSLETTER

Next week the newsletter will cover two Sundays so please make sure you take a copy home with you. You can also read the newsletter and see other information about St Mary's via our website at www.streathamhill.co.uk.

The Parish Office will be closed between 12noon on 23rd December and will reopen at 9am on Tuesday 6th January 2016.

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.

PARISH DIARY

Monday 21st December at 7:30pm -
choir practice in the church

Sunday 20th December at 2:30pm -
carol singing in Lime Tree care home

Wednesday 23rd December, 11am to 1pm -
confession in the church

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE on Wednesday December 23rd at 11am until 1pm. This is a good way to make you confession before Christmas, if you can't make it on Wednesday please book a date and time with Fr. Habte.

Our Christmas Family Vigil Mass for Children on 24th December at 6pm. Please encourage your children to come to the Children's Liturgy sessions to prepare them for Christmas. Children will be singing carols during Mass.

Preparing our Church for Christmas –

On Wednesday 23rd December at 9.45am all parishioners are invited to help with cleaning the church.

And on Thursday 24th December at 9.30am all our flower arrangers are invited to come and help to make our church beautiful.

PLEASE TAKE A CHRISTMAS CARD so that you and your family will have the Mass times at hand over the Christmas season. In this way we can help our priest by not phoning to check the Christmas Mass times. The Knights of St Columba have provided us with some Christmas Posters - so please take one from the box in the porch. Donations will be greatly appreciated and all proceeds will go to Mary's Meals.

We have a separate Rota for Readers for Christmas.

Please check it and let us know if you need to make any changes.

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 Offering envelopes are available in the porch, the finance committee ask 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 red envelope and put it in the letter box whenever you can.

CAROL CONCERT AND RECEPTION - THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone involved with the planning and preparation, all those who participated and everyone that came along to support these wonderful events last Friday 11th December.