

# St Simon † St Jude

Roman Catholic Church Streatham Hill

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

**Third Sunday of Advent** [Year A]

Remembering especially "Gaudete Sunday"

**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:

**Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah [35:1-6, 10]  
*God himself is coming to save you.*

Responsorial Psalm [145]  
**Come, Lord, and save us.**

A reading from the letter of St. James [5:7-10]  
*Do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon.*

Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**  
**The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me.**  
**He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.**  
**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew [11:2-11]  
*Are you the one who is to come,  
or have we got to wait for someone else?*

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 will be for our Parish Refurbishment programme. Thank you.**

Communion antiphon:

**Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.**  
**Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.**

Mass details		Intentions
Saturday	6.00pm	Kate Leonard RIP 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.
Sunday	10.30am 12.15pm	Margaret Ebite RIP Anniv. All Who Have worshipped Here FM
Monday	9.00am	Mary Ellen Hutchinson RIP
Tuesday	9.00am	Private Intention
Wednesday	9.00am	Richard Johnson RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	<b>Church is closed today</b>
Friday	9.00am	Dec'd of the Brennan Family RIP
<b>Next weekend</b>		<b>Next Saturday &amp; Sunday</b>
Saturday	6.00pm	Catherine & Joseph Lonergan RIP
Sunday	10.30am 12.15pm	Tony and Peter Veerapen RIP Holy Souls

**Please join us after Mass on Monday  
for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
followed by Benediction, St. Jude Novena  
and Rosary at noon.**

The second collection this weekend will be used for the Church flowers over the Christmas period.

**Parish Priest: Fr. Habte Ukbay**

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](mailto:st_sj_office@btinternet.com)

Parish website: [www.streathamhillcatholic.co.uk](http://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](http://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

**£439.45** For the running of the Parish

**£291.35** For the Refurbishment Programme

*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 today's Gospel, John's voice is questioning from prison if Jesus is the one: the Messiah. When John's disciples arrive to ask Jesus, Jesus does not say to them directly: "I am the Messiah." Instead, he tells them to pay attention to what is happening: the afflicted are healed, the dead are raised to new life, and the good news is preached to the poor. Jesus appeals to the prophecy of Isaiah that we read in the first reading today: 'God himself is coming to save his people'; 'then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy'. Those who meet Jesus must work out from what he does and says, who he is. This is a decision in faith that all people must make for themselves. Jesus cannot make it for John, nor will he do it for others. In Matthew's Gospel version of Jesus' baptism, John does recognise Jesus; but in today's Gospel Matthew presents another tradition where John sends his disciples to our Lord to find out whether Jesus is the Messiah. Perhaps he did that for the sake of his disciples or his disciples did that on their own behalf. The reaction of John the Baptist when he heard the response is not mentioned as the Gospels are primarily about Jesus. Besides, John's time is over. The one for whom he prepared the way has come. As the Chinese proverb says: "When a finger points at the moon, only a fool keeps looking at the finger". Jesus gave a great and unique compliment to John in a way that he never talks about another religious leader for in him the prophecy began to be fulfilled. Jesus also says that the least in the kingdom of God is greater than John the Baptist. One of the basic requirements for entering in the kingdom of Jesus Christ is to recognise who Jesus is. The question of John and his disciples can be our question too from time to time. Is Jesus the One for us or are we waiting for someone else? Perhaps during this Advent we may struggle with questions such as this. Our search will be full of restlessness until we find and recognise Jesus Christ as true God and true Man - who is our saviour. We wish you a fruitful Advent reflection and encounter with the Lord that will lead to the recognition of Christ Jesus our Lord!

### 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

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Parents Are Encouraged to Help Our Catechists

Please see the timetable for Children's Mass and Liturgy

11 Dec Breslin family

18 Dec Godet family

25 Dec Christmas

01 Jan New Year

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

**HOLY COMMUNION** 6pm 10.30am 12.15pm

11 Dec P Hutchinson E Karim, O'Keeffe, Smith E Maria

18 Dec C Menezes Donoghue, Hayes, Kalimira R Maria

**COORDINATORS - MUSIC:** L. Carke

**FLOWERS: - NB: No flowers in Advent**

All flower teams for Christmas flowers  
on 24 December at 9.30 am.

**REFRESHMENTS (SUNDAY AFTER 10.30 MASS)**

11 Dec Hayes & Knoop families

18 Dec Soto, Carrea & Rodriuez families

25 Dec Christmas Day

**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**

11 Dec Karim & Palmiero

18 Dec Daniel K & Powell

01 Jan Ebite & Kealy

08 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, S. Hayes, P. Hutchinson,  
E. O'Keeffe & M. Ryan

**GIFT AID** J Fraser, R Ebite, M Veerapen

**WEBSITE MATERIAL** M. Knoop / T. Duffy

**APF MISSIO RED BOXES** Alan Quinn

**READERS**

11 Dec Isaiah 35:1-6,10

Psalms 145

Advent 3 James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

**Paula Wynne: Kelly Breslin: Victoria Hunt**

18 Dec Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalms 23

Advent 4 Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24

**Francesca Campbell: Neala Donnelly: Chris Watts**

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** Early notice.

Family Vigil Mass of Christmas: 6 pm;

Christmas Carol and Christmas Mass

During the Night (Midnight Mass): 10:30pm

with Carol service and Mass at 11:00pm.

Christmas Day: Mass in church

at 10:30 am with no 12.15 pm Mass.

**Please be sure to take a Christmas card so that you and your family have the Mass times at hand over the Christmas season.**

**Knights of St Columba Christmas Posters.**

Please take one of the Christmas posters from the box in the porch. Donations will be greatly appreciated and will go to Missio. Thank you.

**Advent Penance Service.** Will take place on Friday 23 December between 11am and 1.00pm, and is a good way to make your confession before Christmas. If you can't make it on this day please book the date and time with Fr. Habte.

**Christmas Rotas.**

Readers, Greeters, Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors and Altar Servers: Please sign up on the list at the back of the church for any ministry you can perform. Many thanks.

**Parish Christmas Bazaar.** Thank you very much all who came and supported St. Simon and St. Jude's parish Christmas Bazaar last Sunday. Our special thanks goes to this year's organisers, helpers and donors. A very, very special *Thank You* goes to Renata Poulter who spearheaded the collection of donations, organising and decorating of the hall and the stalls. It was great to see many parishioners and others really enjoyed this event.

**We raised over £ 2115.90.** God bless you all.

**Christmas Cleaning of the Church for Christmas.**

All parishioners, especially those who help with cleaning on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, are invited to come to help with the cleaning of our Church at 10.30 am onwards on Saturday 23 December.

The Catholic Directory for 2017 will be available from next week from the parish office at £3.50 each. It contains all liturgical information you will need to know for the coming year.

### PARISH DIARY

**Choir Practice.** Monday 12 December,  
7.30pm in the church.

**Family Vigil Mass of Christmas.**



Our family Christmas Vigil Mass will be at 6 pm, parents please dress the children as shepherds and Children will be reading scripture readings and the bidding prayers during Mass. If you wish your child to take part, please fill-in the sign-up sheet at the back in the church/Hall after the 10.30am Mass today and enrol your child.

**Offerings at the Manger.** This year, we shall be collecting for both the work of the **Catholic Children's Society**, (who support disadvantaged children and families in need within our schools and parishes in our diocese) and the **Friends of the Holy Land**. (Who help the poorest Christian families, especially in an around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing initiatives.)

Please be as generous as you can be.

**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 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.

**LONDON PROBATION SERVICE.**

Once again, we will be collecting non-perishable food for distribution to those in need at Christmas. Probation Officers work directly with offenders, enabling them to turn their lives around and rehabilitate them back to the community. Please box up non-perishable items of food so that our church can show the gospel values of care to turn wayward lives around. Please bring your donations to any of our Masses until **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**. Thank you.

