

# St Simon † St Jude

Roman Catholic Church Streatham Hill

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

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

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 Isaiah [7:10-14]  
*The maiden is with child.*

Responsorial Psalm [23]

**Let the Lord enter!  
He is the king of glory.**

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans [1:1-7]  
*Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, Son of God.*

Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**The virgin will conceive and give birth a son  
and they will call him Emmanuel,  
a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew [1:18-24]  
*Jesus is born of Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.*

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 our Parish Refurbishment programme. Thank you.**

Communion antiphon:

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

Mass details		Intentions
Saturday	6.00pm	Catherine & Joseph Lonergan RIP
Sunday	10.30am 12.15pm	Tony and Peter Veerapen RIP Holy Souls
Monday	9.00am	Private Intention
Tuesday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday	9.00am	Holy Souls
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	<b>Church is closed today</b>
Friday	9.00am	Holy Souls
<b>Next weekend</b>		<b>Next Saturday &amp; Sunday</b>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	The O'Keefe Family
	<b>11.00pm</b>	Eileen & James O'Sullivan RIP Anniv.
<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	Catherine Lonergan RIP
	<b>12.15pm</b>	<b>NB: No Mass</b>

**Please join us on Monday directly after Mass, for our final Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in 2016. We will be finishing at 10.30am with Benediction, St Jude Novena and Rosary.**

**Please Note: Exposition will resume on Monday 16 January 2017.**

**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

**£342.25** For the running of the Parish

**£71.70** For the Refurbishment Programme

**£136.80** 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 fulfilment 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.

### 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

18 Dec **Godet family** 25 Dec- **Christmas**  
01 Jan **New Year** 08 Jan **Holidays**

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

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

18 Dec C Menezes Donoghue, Hayes, Kalimira R Maria  
01 Jan M Esmonde D Karim, Smith, O'Keeffe R Green

**COORDINATORS - MUSIC:** L. Carke

#### **FLOWERS: - All flower teams on 24 December at 9.30 am.**

31 Dec J. Sharland, N. Sesay & M. McElhone  
07 Jan E. Karim, Erika  
14 Jan T. Dempsey, T. Donoghue & O Lawal

#### **REFRESHMENTS (SUNDAY AFTER 10.30 MASS)**

18 Dec Soto, Carrea & Rodriuez families  
08 Jan Campbell, Adelekan & Adeniji 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**

18 Dec Daniel K & Powell  
01 Jan Ebite & Kealy 08 Jan Hutchinson & Jones  
15 Jan Karim & Palmiero 22 Jan Daniel K & Powell

#### **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**

**18 Dec** Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 23  
Advent 4 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

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

**01 Jan** Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 66  
Mary Mother Galations 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21  
of God **Teresa Dempsey: Helen Dias-Hudspeth: Ron Leyman**

#### **Knights of St Columba Christmas Posters.**

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

**Advent Penance Service:** Will take place on Friday 23  
December at 11am-1pm. I encourage you to come to the  
Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the great feast  
of Christmas. It is a good way to make your confession before  
Christmas, if you can't make it on this day please book a date  
and time with Fr. Habte.

#### **Christmas Rotas.**

To Readers, Greeters, Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors and  
Altar Servers, the Christmas rota is ready, please check your  
names and ministries on the notice board. Many thanks.

**The Catholic Directory for 2017 is now available**  
from the parish office at £3.50 each.

It contains all the liturgical information you will need  
to know for the coming year.

**Sacrament of Confirmation & First Holy Communion.** The  
programme for 2017 details are at the back of the church,  
parents please take a copy. Thank you!

**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. Thank you.

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

Please come on Saturday 23 December from  
10.30 am onwards to help clean the church.

**Christmas Flowers.** All flower arrangers are invited to  
come on Saturday 24 December at 9.30am. Thank you.

#### **Family Vigil Mass of Christmas.**

Our family Christmas Vigil Mass will be at 6pm. Parents  
please dress the children as shepherds and Children  
will be reading scripture readings and the bidding  
prayers during Mass. Our family Mass will be followed  
by drinks, mince pies, Pantone and special Christmas  
gifts for the children in the Parish Hall. Thank you.

#### **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. If you Gift Aid your  
offerings to the church, then the Christmas offerings  
made to the priest can also be gift aided to the church.

**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 December. Thank you.

### PARISH DIARY

**Choir Practice.** Monday 19 December,  
7.30pm in the church.

**First Holy Communion** classes Parents' Meeting.  
Saturday 14 Jan., 10am in the parish hall.

**Confirmation Classes** and parents meeting.  
Saturday 14 Jan., 4pm in the parish hall.

**Confirmation enrolment Mass.**  
Saturday 14 Jan., 4pm in the church.