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# ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

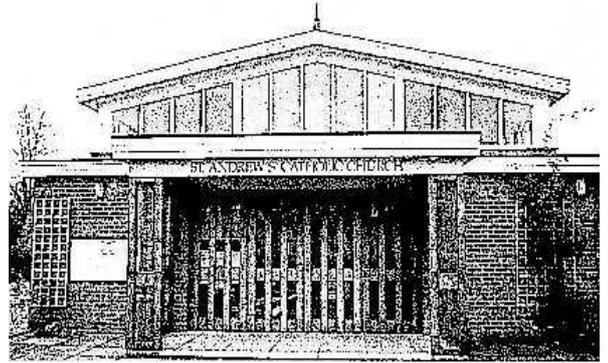
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St. Andrew's Presbytery  
45 Brook Road **Tel:** 020 8684 3013  
Thornton Heath **Fax:** 020 8684 6626  
Surrey CR7 7RD **E-mail:** thorntonheath@rcaos.org.uk  
**Website:** www.standrewsthorntonheath.org.uk

RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

## PASTORAL TEAM

**Priests:** Fr Emmanuel Ahua C.S.Sp.  
Fr Sylvester Adeniyi C.S.Sp.  
Fr Thaddeus Oparah C.S.Sp.  
**Deacons:** Rev. Tony Flavin, Rev. Errol Quagraine  
**Parish Sister:** Sr. Jennie Eldridge DMJ  
**Croydon University Hospital Chaplaincy:** Sr. Sheila DMJ



*Welcome to St Andrew's RC Church. Worship has been offered here since 1905. You are all very welcome to join in the hymns and other parts of the service as much as possible. Please switch mobile phones off and refrain from taking photographs, filming or recording.*

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## 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020 Third Sunday of Advent (B)

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### Message from Deacon Tony

I believe if I had been around at the same time as Jesus I would have found him very challenging. This would be down to my own impatience. I am afraid I get a little irked if I ask someone a question that has a yes or no answer and they reply with 'well.....'. So how I might have responded first hand to Jesus speaking in parables, thankfully, I'll never know.

I suspect I would have found John the Baptist equally irksome. However, he had people flocking to him as they wished to hear the message he had to convey. And that message was to make straight the path of the messiah, who in turn would help them make straight their own path to heaven.

During Advent we are called to reflect on three things, death, judgement, heaven and hell. So let us reflect on heaven.

We all have an image of heaven we all know what we want it to be for ourselves, we all have our own things that constitute heaven on earth,

But what might heaven be like. Let us recall the words of St Faustina:

*... and I saw its inconceivable beauties and the happiness that awaits us after death. I saw how all creatures give ceaseless praise and glory to God. I saw how great is happiness in God, which spreads to all creatures, making them happy; and then all the glory and praise which springs from this happiness returns to its source; and they enter into the depths of God, contemplating the inner life of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, whom they will never comprehend or fathom.*

I have to remember I am not called to understand Jesus, just to follow him, and hopefully this will lead me to heaven.

This Sunday's Readings	
<b>Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11</b>	<b>I exult for joy in the Lord</b>
<b>Psalms Luke 1:46-50, 53-54</b>	<b>My soul rejoices in my God</b>
<b>1 Thessalonians 5:16-24</b>	<b>May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the Lord</b>
<b>John 1:6-8, 19-28</b>	<b>There stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me</b>

## Diary for the Week

<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass	For the People of the Parish Deceased Members of D'Costa Family RIP George Barrett RIP Anniv Lucien Chin RIP
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	For Our Suffering Souls Mrs Assiz De Souza RIP Anniv
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	For Our Suffering Souls D. D'Souza (Thanksgiving)
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Sr. Mary Martin RIP Debbie Diplock (Birthday)
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Paul Etuka RIP
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Brian Hull RIP
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	9.30am Mass <b>10.00 – 10.30am Confessions</b> <b>5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions</b> 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Paul Etuka RIP  For the People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass	Deceased Members of Freeman Family RIP Henry Victoire RIP Anniv Catherine Barrie RIP

Church cleaners: this week: Fifi's Group, next week: Sancho's Dusters

## St. Andrew's Parish Notices

### ADVENT

Parish Penitential Service: Please join us on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

Please take our Christmas booklet home with you with all the details of the services and Mass times over the Christmas period.

Also available are the envelopes for the Christmas offering which is personal to the Priests of the parish.

Christmas carols: Please join us on Christmas Eve at 9.00pm – 10.00pm for some joyful Christmas singing followed by our Midnight Mass.

### THE JESSE TREE

During the season of Advent, we have placed our Jesse Tree on the Sanctuary. The Jesse tree helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The Jesse tree is also our Giving tree and we are asking all our parishioners to donate non-perishable food in the box provided during Advent. The SVP group will use our donations for those in need in the Parish. Thank you for your continued support.

### ST ANNE'S (TOY COLLECTION)

Usually we have a toy collection for St Anne's in Vauxhall every December, but due to Covid19 it is not possible this year, so the Scouts Groups have decided to do a collection for them. St Anne's says that some of the children and families are going to be struggling even more this year, potentially having to choose between food and a present for their children, so if you can help, please can you donate to our collection for them. You can donate via Electronic Banking - **BACS** to: 26th Croydon Scout Group. **Sort Code:** 56-00-46 **Account Number:** 31176380. Please use the Reference: **TOYSUNDAY20**. *Please give by end of Sunday 13th December, thank you all so much for your support.*

### SECOND COLLECTION

The second collection today, 13<sup>th</sup> December, will be for Peter's Pence, for support of poor dioceses and religious institutes.

The second collection next week, 20<sup>th</sup> December, will be for Apostleship of the Sea. This is a Catholic charity supporting seafarers worldwide, providing practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality, belief or race.

### REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open after the 9.30am Mass on Sundays. For access you will need to re-enter the church at the front entrance after exiting through the side doors.

### CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

CAFOD's range of virtual gifts, make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. Please visit [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts) or take one of the leaflets from the porch.