

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE

A member of the Churches Together in Nunhead and Hatcham



NEWSLETTER

Presbytery: 81 Evelina Road Nunhead London SE15 3HL
Parish Team: Fr. Fergal Maguire SSCC • Fr. Eddie Higgins SSCC • Rev. Alan Bond • Sr. Maureen
MASS TIMES: (Vigil Saturday 6.30pm) - Sundays - 9.00am, 10.30am, 6.30pm
Weekdays - 9.30am Every Sunday - 1.30pm: Mass in Spanish

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Sunday 21 December 2008

No. 52 of 2008

Confessions: Saturdays 10.00am to 11.00am

Mass Intentions 20 December – 28 December 2008

Sat	20	9.30am	Baltasar Pena ANN
		6.30pm	John Joseph Cronin 5th ANN Mary Murphy and Family
Sun	21	9.00am	Bartley Dean RIP
		10.30am	Ashley Kumate RIP
		1.30pm	Misa en Espanol
		4.00pm	Carol Service (Churches Together)
		6.30pm	Mary and Paddy Hooban
Mon	22	9.30am	Katie and Edward O'Sullivan ANN
Tue	23	9.30am	Mrs. Owens RIP
CHRISTMAS EVE			
Wed	24	9.30am	Kit Murphy RIP
Childrens' Vigil Mass		6.00pm	Pat and Bridie Connolly's int
		8.00pm	Misa en Espanol
		11.30pm	Carol Service
Midnight Mass		12.00am	Deceased members of the Dean and Murphy families
CHRISTMAS DAY			
Thur	25	9.00am	Gerry Maguire 5th ANN
		10.30am	Erika Curtin RIP, Maureen McGarvey RIP
ST. STEPHEN'S DAY (all Altar Servers invited to this Mass)			
Fri	26	12.00pm	People of the Parish
Sat	27	9.30am	Cox and Sullivan Families int
		6.30pm	Thanksgiving Mass for Irene Kemple and Baby Thomas John Kemple Teresa and Ted Maher's int
Sun	28	9.00am	Sr. Margaret Mary Special int
		10.30am	Mr and Mrs Dunn Thanksgiving
		1.30pm	Misa en Espanol
		6.30pm	Mrs Bridie Kelly RIP

Last Days of Advent

In these final days of Advent as we journey closer to the joy of Christmas we hope that amid the business of it all, you will be renewed in grace and faith as we come closer to welcoming anew Christ into our hearts and homes.

Christmas trees on the Altar

Again this year we have our two Christmas trees on the Altar. One is our giving tree which this year we will use to support the good and important work of the Manna Centre. We are asking people to bring in non perishable food items such as soup, tins of tomatoes, beans, sugar, tinned meat, ham or corned beef etc... NEW socks or underwear. When you place your gift under the tree please add one of the Christmas decorations to the tree. We also have the Christmas tree of Stars. If you would like to dedicate a star to someone or in memory of a loved one please write their name on the card provided and return it to the box on the altar. Your donation will go to the fund for the sick and retired priests of the Sacred Hearts Congregation. Many thanks for your kind support.

The Advent Wreath

Made of a circle of evergreens, reminding of God's everlasting love, His eternity, His endless mercy which has no beginning and no end. The green also speaks of the hope Christians have in God, the hope of new beginnings, or renewal and eternal life. The candles, one lit on each Sunday of advent so that in the last week before Christmas all four candles are lit, the last central white candle representing Christ, being lit at the Midnight Mass of Christmas these candles symbolize the light of God coming into the world through the birth of His son, Jesus. The four traditional themes for the four Sundays of Advent are: 1. Gods people - the Candle of Hope. Hope is like a light shining in the dark. As we light this first candle let us be reminded of the hope we have in Jesus Christ. 2. The Old Testament prophets. The candle of

Peace: Peace is like a light that shining in the dark. As we light this candle we are reminded of the peace we find in Jesus Christ and pray of peace between all peoples. 3. John the Baptist. The candle of love: Love is like a light shining in the dark. As we look at the light of this candle we are reminded of the love we have in Jesus Christ his love of us and our love for one another. 4. Mary the mother of God. The Candle of Joy: Joy is like a light shining in the dark. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the joy in find in Jesus Christ. The fifth candle represents Christ, the light from this candle reminds us that he is the light of the world and if we follow him we need never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

Christmas Offering Envelopes

There is a printing error of the date on the envelope. Please ignore this and use the envelope as normal. A Happy Christmas and New Year to all the Giftaiders.

Support for your Priests

As you know your weekly donations to the Church go to the up keep and maintenance of the Church and our Diocese. There are only two collections each year that go directly for the support of the Priests. These are the Christmas and Easter Dues. We are very grateful for your support throughout the year and we would like to thank you again for your kind support this Christmas.

Nigerian Catholic Association end of year Christmas Party

21 December after 10.30 Mass in the big hall. All welcome.

Churches together Carol Service

This year it is our turn to host the Annual Churches together Carol service we are delighted to welcome the good people of St. Catherines to the Parish for this prayerful occasion. The Carol service will take place on Sunday 21 December at 4.00pm. Please do come along, coffee and mince pies afterwards.

Don't be Home Alone on Christmas Day - Christmas Dinner

1.00pm on Christmas day at Bacon's College Timber Pond Rd. Rotherhithe, open to all residents of Southwark. To book, call John on: 020 7703 2163. Volunteer helpers/drivers also needed.

Please Pray For

Please remember to pray for those people who have been bereaved and all who have died recently, including: Prince Ajoypong RIP, Sr. Teresa's brother John, Joan Green, Frank Fancett, Peggy Simpson, Bailey Thomas Loader, Julie Shelton, (Breda's Niece), John Irmiger, Mary Horsnell, Anne (Nan) King, Margaret Dillon, Kit Murphy, Emma Reidy, Bartley Dean, Hudson Green, Frank Hayes.

Sick

Please remember to pray for all who are sick in our Parish, including: Mrs Angela Roberts, Betty McClain, George Kirby, Alma Fernandez, Margaret and Tom Wyse, Mary Rellis, Caroline Knight, Carline Onyekwere, Sarah Kayaga.

Anniversaries

Rose Asfour, Annie Dixey, John Cronin, James Elliott, Frank Conrad, Joseph Chetouli, Lydia Adlan, Mary Diamont, Vincent Rooney, Jovito Athaide, Comfort Timothy-Lupembe, Frances Ricketts, Helen Vidovic, Harry Mills, Gerard Maguire, Sandra Griffiths.

Secretary – Maureen	020-7639-3724
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