

<b>Third Sunday of Advent (A)</b> <b>Is 35: 1-6, 10; Ps 145; Jas 5: 7-10; Matt 11: 2-11</b>	
<b>Saturday 14th December 2019</b> 5:30-6:15pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) 6:30pm: Gabbi's Intention	<b>Sunday 15th December 2019</b> 8:30am: People of the Parish 10:30am: Bill Redmond RIP
<b>Monday 16th Dec. 2019</b> (Feria) 8:30am: Exposition 9:15am: Paola RIP (Fr. David) 1:30pm: SJS Junior Carol Service	<b>Tuesday 17th Dec. 2019</b> (Feria) 8:30am: Exposition 9:15am: Laurie Goodwin RIP (P. Goodwin)
<b>Weds. 18th Dec. 2019</b> (Feria) 8:30: Exposition 9:15am: Jacelyn Smith—wellbeing (Doherty) Followed by Novena 10:00am: at Shalom Convent	<b>Thurs. 19th Dec. 2019</b> (Feria) 8:30am: Exposition 9:15am: Ian Murrell (Wellbeing)
<b>Friday 20th Dec. 2019</b> (Feria) 8:30am: Exposition 9:15am: Maria Coelho RIP <b>7:00-8:00pm:</b> St. Anselm's, West Hill, Dartford Penitential Service	<b>Saturday 21st Dec. 2019</b> (Feria)  10:00am: at Shalom Convent
<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)</b> <b>Is 7: 10-14; Ps 23; Rom 1: 1-7; Matt 1: 18-24</b>	
<b>Saturday 21st December 2019</b> 5:30-6:15pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) 6:30pm: Sister Catherine Mulcahy RIP (Fr. David)	<b>Sunday 22nd December 2019</b> 8:30am: People of the Parish 10:30am: Deceased Family and Friends of Carlos and Sandra <i>(Winter Solstice: Shortest Day)</i>
<b>Anniversaries of Death</b>	
Leslie Hall, Henry Davis, Joseph Byrne, Vera Loom, Tina Holmes, Annie O'Neil, René Holloway, Mercy Easton, Sister Weseloh, Sister Mary O'Riordan, Winifred Ward, Angel and Jerry McCarthy, Mgr. Joseph Harris, Percy Holmes, Sydney Davies, Esther Bracken, Patrick Davis, Cecilia Trevethan, Maria Coelho, Sister Ada Hudson, Michael Twomey, Kenneth Smith, Neville Pryke, May Callan, F. Bonyngo, Peter Cascarini, Derick Hudson, Henry Gomes, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson and daughter, Jamie Cunningham	
<b>Rejoice, the Lord is coming soon!</b>	
God sends his own Son to save us. Joy and gladness are ours and the time for sorrow and lamenting is over. Christ is standing at the gates and we now he is the one for whom we have been waiting. Do not lose heart. Take courage! Your God is coming!	



**Holy Mass is celebrated**  
**Monday – Friday at 9.15am**  
*(followed by the Rosary)*  
*(Exposition & Morning Prayer: 8.30am;*  
*Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal:*  
*Wednesday, after Mass)*

**Saturday 6:30pm**  
**Sunday 8:30am and 10:30am**  
(with children's liturgy of the Word of God)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)**  
***(Advent Confessions before and after Saturday and Sunday Holy Mass)***  
**Saturday 5:30pm-6:15pm**  
and on request

**Parish Office Telephone**  
**07485 151159**  
(office hours only)

**Parish office**  
8:30am-10:30am,  
Monday, Tuesday,  
Wednesday, Friday

**Telephone:** 01322 523 492  
**Email:** crayford@rcaos.org.uk

St Mary of the Crays  
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(part of the Roman Catholic  
Archdiocese of Southwark)

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01322 523 492

**Parish Priest**  
Fr. David Gummert  
davidgummert@rcaos.org.uk

**Parish Secretary**  
Vanessa Barker

**Parish School**  
**Head Teacher:** Mrs. J. Sinclair  
St. Joseph's Primary School  
Old Road, Crayford DA1 4DZ  
01322 524 162  
www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk

**Parish Hall**  
For enquiries and bookings contact  
01372 457651

### Collections

**Parish Collection:** Gift Aid: £765.00; Cash: £142.00  
**Building Fund:** Gift Aid: £160.00; Cash: £140.00: **Total to Date: £2,114.55**  
**Thank you for your continued generosity and financial support**

### Support your Parish by Patronising Our Repository

Our Repository is now fully stocked with: Christmas Cards, Diaries, Calendars, Candles, Nativity Sets, Prayer Cards, Prayer Books, Catholic Bibles and Rosaries. It is open throughout the week before and after Holy Mass.

**Please note your purchases in notebook and deposit payment in Repository Money Box on the wall of the Reception Area.**



### The Season of Advent

This week we enter the second phase from Tuesday the 17th December to the 25th December. Now the Liturgy is more directly addressed to the preparation and the celebration of the Birthday of Our Lord Jesus. Let's look at the events through the eyes of Mary and through the dreams of Joseph. Please read the Infancy Narratives from your Bibles at home the beginnings of Matthew's Gospel: Chapters 1 and 2 and Luke's Gospel: Chapters 1 and 2. Come Lord Jesus!

### Take some time to reflect this Advent

Advent is a very special season of the year—and yet it can sometimes pass us by, because we are so busy preparing for Christmas. For the past couple of years, our **Diocesan Spiritual Commission** has produced a series of short daily emails, to help us focus on the true meaning of Advent. These have been very well received, so we would like to make more people aware of them. To sign up, please visit [www.southwarkdsc.org.uk](http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk).

### Advent Liturgical Programme

**Daily Eucharistic Exposition:** 8:30am to 9:00am: Please come.  
**Confessions:** Father David will be available as often as possible before and after Saturday and Sunday Masses, up to 10 minutes before.  
**SJS Junior Carol Service:** Monday 16th December at 1.30pm. Parents and parishioners are invited followed by tea, coffee and mince pies in the school hall.  
**Penitential Service: Friday 20th December, 7-8pm at St. Anselm's, 89 West Hill, Dartford DA1 2HJ. Please come. (Buses: 96, 428 and 492).**

### Christmas Masses Schedule

<b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>(Tues 24th December)</b>	5:30pm	Carols
	6:00pm	Vigil Mass (Children)
	11:30pm	Carols
	12:00am	Midnight Mass and Reception
<b>Christmas Day</b> <b>(Wed 25th December)</b>	8:30am	Mass
	10:30am	Mass
<b>St. Stephen's Day</b> <b>(Thurs 26th December)</b>	9:15am	Mass



### Carol Singing

Join **Life Charity** for Carol Singing on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 6pm–8pm**, at Sainsbury's, Crayford. All children must be accompanied by an adult. **Life Charity** provides Mother and Baby supported accommodation in Dartford. Feel free to wear your Santa hat and tinsel scarf! Join for a Hot Chocolate afterwards in KFC opposite.

**Please call Rebecca 07956 11909.**

### Decorating the Church for Christmas

We are looking for volunteers to decorate the Church for the Christmas season on **Monday 23rd December at 10:30am**. Everybody welcome. If you have any greenery such as holly, ivy or any other evergreens that we can use, please leave it in the Church reception area for the 21st December. Please could you bring scissors or secateurs and gardening gloves as these may be very useful. If you have any enquiries, please contact Liz Doherty (0208 311 2319) or Josie Coward (01322 272934). Thank you.

### Christmas Crib Offerings

This year our Christmas Crib Offerings will be collected and shared between: -

- ◆ **The Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund** which provides immediate support to those children and families in the Diocese who are most in need.
- ◆ **Friends of the Holy Land** for the poorest Christian families in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel.

**Gift Aiders can use one of the spare envelopes, but please add your Gift Aid number.**

### Social Club Opening Times for Christmas

Club will be closed Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th December. It will be open, as usual, on Friday 27th December to Sunday 29th December. The club will open on New Year's Eve from 7.30 pm to 12.30 am. Everyone welcome - please bring your own nibbles.

### Gift Aid

If you are a Tax Payer, you need only fill in the form available in the Church entrance with a few details. Please place the form in the Sacristy or the Parish Office. Please note every £5.00 you give in Gift Aid is worth £6.25 to St. Mary's. Thank you. **Richard Gillespie** (Gift Aid Co-ordinator).

### 100 Club

**Winners: 39:** Antoinette Trombetti; **68:** Bernadette Hughes: **£50 each**  
 Please join our 100 Club. Please contact Jim Saunders. It is a great way of raising funds for the Parish and the Building Fund. Your continued support is very greatly appreciated. Thank you.

### Please pray for the members of our Parish family who are sick:

Alan Wall, Anna Idahosa, Anne McGagh, Chandra Rawal, Chloe Mutimer, Clare Cooney, David Hull, Eva Austin, Felicity Dyer, Ivor Harper, Jackie Dawson, James Farrelly, Linda Rawlinson, Lucy Kiernan, Marie Rogerston, Maureen Sheldon, Renee Rae, Tommy Cox and Veronica Francis