

6. **THE ANGELUS:**

**V:** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary;  
**R:** AND SHE CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

**V:** Hail MARY, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, JESUS.

**R:** HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, PRAY FOR US SINNERS, NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH. AMEN.

**V:** Behold the handmaid of the Lord;

**R:** BE IT DONE UNTO ME, ACCORDING TO THY WORD. HAIL MARY, ...

*(Please, if you can, try and genuflect, kneel, or bow deeply, for this next verse...)*

**V:** AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH;

**R:** AND DWELT AMONGST US. HAIL MARY, ...

**V:** Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God;

**R:** THAT WE MAY BE MADE WORTHY OF THE PROMISES OF CHRIST.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord.

**R:** AMEN.

*(Please, pray this at 6:00am, 12 noon, and at 6:00pm, or at least, when you rise in the morning, at your midday, and early evening, to sanctify and make your day holy, in remembrance of Christ's Incarnation.)*

**SOUTHWARK ARCHDIOCESE  
ROSARY PRAYER PROJECT**

*Everyone is warmly invited to join this Archdiocese-wide prayer initiative,*

**PRAYING A DECADE OF THE ROSARY EACH DAY FOR PRIESTS AND PARISHES IN THEIR DEANERY.**

*For details see the poster on the noticeboard, pick up an invitation leaflet at the back of church or email:*

[southwarkrenewal@gmail.com](mailto:southwarkrenewal@gmail.com)

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE  
TOWARDS 7TH JUNE 2025**

**HOLY MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL,** defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**GUARDIAN ANGEL PRAYER:**

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day (or night) be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule and guide. Amen.



3.

**+ J. M. J. + JESUS, + MARY, and + JOSEPH +  
Newsletter Supplement: 19th January A. D. 2025  
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE LORD (C)**

**SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY 2025  
9.30AM – 4.30PM  
BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE**

Treat yourselves to some time together! This day, held at **ST STEPHEN'S PARISH HALL, WELLING**, starting at 9.30am until 4.30pm, is a day in which married couples can privately explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into the communication and the call of the Church to the married. There is no charge for this course.

**Booking is essential -** please contact Carole on [mflkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflkent@rcaos.org.uk) or phone **07983 524 727**

Refreshments will be provided but please bring a packed lunch.

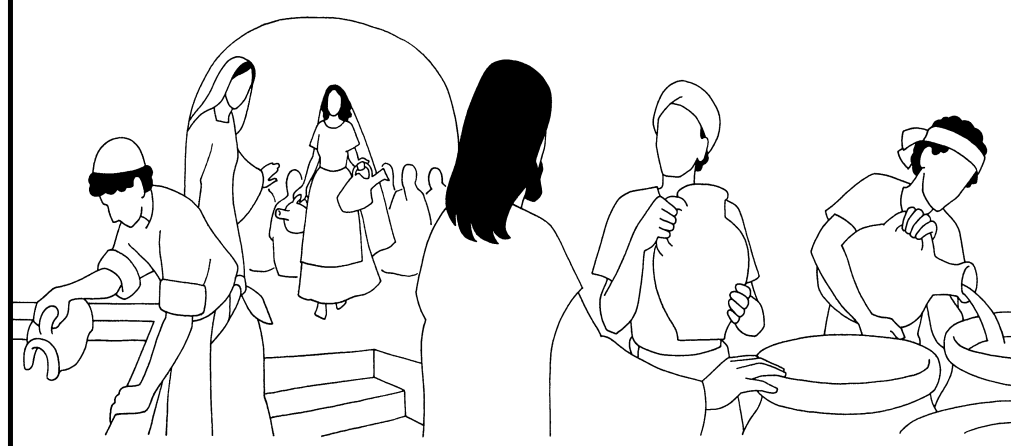
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*Below: The Marriage Feast of Cana., John 2*

**YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE** – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped because it only makes it worse?

**RETRouvaille** has helped 10s of 1000s of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the next programme which will be presented on Zoom ...

**27 February to 2 March 2025 .**  
Email: [info@retrouvaille.org.uk](mailto:info@retrouvaille.org.uk)  
Call or text **0788 7296 983**  
[www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

Also:  
**Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ retreat** for the bereaved - Aylesford Priory 21-23 March 2025 and 10-12 Oct 2025



4.

**Pastoral Letter on CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT**

To be read at all Sunday Masses on  
Saturday 18th / Sunday 19th January 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

This Jubilee Year calls us to remember that we journey together as ‘Pilgrims of Hope’ who look to Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life. At the wedding in Cana, Our Lady spoke words that are addressed to us today: ‘Do whatever he tells you.’ (Jn 2:5) Trusting in the Good News brought to us by the Lord Jesus we are encouraged to look to the future with confidence. God keeps his promises and can make all things new. Therefore, we place our hope in God’s Word. He asks us to be ‘tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.’ This means we each have a part to play in building up the Church’s life of faith and fulfilling the Great Commission to ‘**make disciples of all nations.**’ (Mt 28:19)

The Jubilee Year offers each of us, and all of us, a profound opportunity to reflect prayerfully on the future of our Archdiocese. We face some significant challenges - nearly half of our diocesan priests will reach the canonical retirement age of 75 by the end of 2025; Mass attendance has declined by a third over the past 25 years; and many parishioners have yet to return to parish life since the pandemic. But – and importantly - these realities do not need to define us. Financial uncertainties in many of our parishes may feel daunting, but they are also an invitation to rediscover our mission, and to dream boldly about what God can achieve through us.

Pope Francis, in his letter **The Joy of the Gospel**, shared a vision that resonates deeply with the challenges we face: “**I dream,**” he said “**of a ‘missionary option,’** that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language, and structures can be suitably channelled for

the evangelisation of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.” (**Evangeli Gaudium, 27**).

I have the privilege to serve as your Archbishop, and I want to say to you that I share this dream. A dream of an Archdiocese where every parish embraces this missionary spirit, becoming evermore vibrant communities where new people are continually encountering the Lord Jesus. My hope is for our parishes to be places of profound joy and healing, where lay men and women experience the transformative love of Christ; where they are equipped to carry forward the Church’s mission with renewed purpose. I invite you to dream with me and to make this dream a reality.

In 2023, we embarked on a process entitled **Called to Bear Fruit**. It’s a journey of listening, collaboration, and renewal in a spirit of synodality. We began by listening to the hopes and concerns of our clergy. Now, I would like also to hear from you, my sisters and brothers in Christ. What signs of vitality do you see flourishing in your parish? Where do you perceive the challenges to be? How can we work together, as clergy, laity and consecrated people, and neighbouring parishes, to make the Church’s mission more effective in our local communities?

**Today, I would like to ask for your help in two ways:**

**First of all, please pray for the renewal of our Archdiocese.** Let us ask the Holy Spirit to illumine our hearts and minds with fresh possibilities during this Jubilee Year of Hope. Together, let us pray for the courage and wisdom to discern the path ahead.

**Secondly, to engage in the Called to Bear Fruit consultation.** A booklet is available at Mass today which outlines six key themes for reflection. I encourage you to gather in small groups, as works best in your community. Come together prayerfully to reflect on these

5.

*Pastoral Letter on  
CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT continued:*

themes, and share your insights with the **Called to Bear Fruit** team. The booklet explains everything about how to do this.

When I began my ministry as your Archbishop, I said that **I did not come to the Archdiocese to manage decline, but to lead with hope. This Jubilee Year of Hope is our chance to open ourselves to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and to work together towards a revival of Christian life, witness, and mission in our Archdiocese.** For this, I humbly ask for your prayers, your ideas, and your active participation. Together, we can re-imagine our parishes as thriving centres of faith, healing, and evangelisation.

As Pilgrims of Hope, therefore, let us walk this journey together with faith, courage, and joy.

With every blessing and with the assurance of my prayers and gratitude

Yours devotedly in Christ

+ John Wilson



**A WEEK OF PRAYER  
FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:**

**Thursdays: 18th-25th January 2025**

**CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE at  
Crayford Baptist Church at 6:30pm  
Sunday 19th January 2025.**

+ **J. M. J.** +

**Jesus, Mary and Joseph.  
The Second Sunday  
in Ordinary Time B  
19th January 2025**

*In “Old Epiphany-Tide”*

**20 + C + M + B + 25**

*Remember your Baptism and  
your noble & yet humble dignity in Christ  
with the gifts of*

**GOLD,  
for the King of kings;**

**FRANKINCENSE,  
for priests to burn to the hon-  
our, glory, and worship of  
Almighty God;**

**MYRRH,  
for the healing of mortal bodies  
and embalming them in death.**

**In your Baptism, YOU were  
“CHRIST-ened” in JESUS  
CHRIST:**

**ANOINTED with  
the OIL of CHRISM and gifted**

**as ROYAL:  
you became a member of  
King David’s Royal Family  
and  
a sibling of JESUS CHRIST;**

**as PRIEST:  
consecrated and set apart  
to offer daily worship and  
Prayer to Almighty God  
and intercede for His people;**

**and as PROPHET:  
to give witness to GOD and  
to proclaim JESUS CHRIST:  
THE WORD-MADE-FLESH  
THE GOOD NEWS,  
THE GOSPEL OF GOD!**