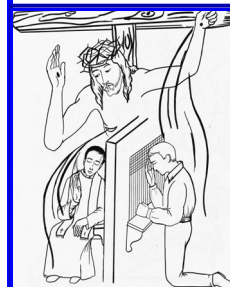


FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) Is. 7: 10-14; Ps. 23; Rom. 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-25	
Saturday 20th December 2025 5:00 - 6:00pm: CONFESSIONS 6:00 - 6:20pm HOLY ROSARY 6:30pm: Deceased relatives and friends of Valerie Hull	Sunday 21st December 2025 8:30am: People of the Parish 10:30am: David Hull RIP FM
Mon. 22nd Dec. 2025 (Feria) 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Wellbeing Matthew Lawless (Francis)	Tues. 23rd Dec. 2025 (Feria) 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Asking for God's blessing (Nwoke)
CHRISTMAS EVE Weds. 24th December 2025 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Private Intention DG n/s 11am: <i>No Holy Mass at Shalom</i> 5pm: Vigil Mass: Holy Souls 11:30pm: Christmas Carols 12:00am: People of the Parish and Donor's Intention	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Thurs. 25th December 2025 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 8:30am: Thanksgiving (Uchendo) 10:30am: John and Teresa Lynch RIP FM
ST. STEPHEN, DEACON, THE FIRST MARTYR Fri. 26th December 2025 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Lee Clark 57th Birthday (Vicky Ellen Clark)	ST. JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST Saturday 27th December 2025 11am: Holy Mass at Shalom
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (A) Ecclus. 3: 2-6, 12-14; Ps. 127; Col. 3: 12-21; Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23	
Saturday 27th December 2025 5:00 - 6:00pm: CONFESSIONS 6:00 - 6:20pm HOLY ROSARY 6:30pm: Victoria de Santana RIP (Vicky Ellen Clark)	Sunday 28th December 2025 8:30am: Deceased members of the McKie and Coligan Families 10:30am: People of the Parish
ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH	
Henry Gomes, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson and daughter, Jamie Cunningham, David Hull, Eloise Wright, Bert Yeo, Michael O'Keeffe, Joseph Birnie, Violet George, Joseph Nicholls, Margaret Whitfield, Marguerite O'Brian, Daniel Raymond Futter, Ivy Haley.	
GOD-IS-WITH-US!	
God sent His only Son on earth to be born of human stock. His name is Jesus and His Mother's name is Mary. He is the Saviour of all the world, and through Him we are called to real holiness of life.	



ST MARY OF THE CRAYS
CATHOLIC CHURCH
 114 Old Road, Crayford DA1 4DZ
www.stmarycrays.org.uk
"Welcome Worship Witness"
(part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark)
www.rcsouthwark.co.uk

'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name **EMMANUEL**' - which means, **GOD WITH US.**



SACRAMENT OF PENANCE - CONFESSION -
SATURDAYS 5PM TO 6PM
 also, WHENEVER THE CHURCH IS OPEN, and ON REQUEST

Postal Address:
 111 Old Road, Crayford DA1 4DN
Parish Website:
www.stmarycrays.org.uk
Parish Email Address:
crayford@rcaos.org.uk
Facebook:
 Stmary Crays
Telephone:
 01322 523 492
Parish Mobile 'Phone:
 07485 151 159
Parish Priest
 Fr. David Gummatt
davidgummatt@rcaos.org.uk
Parish Secretary
 Vanessa Barker
 Monday to Friday: 8am-11am
Parish Office: 01322 551 257
Parish School
Executive Head Teacher:
 Mr. M. Hannon
Head of School:
 Mrs. A. Truss
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 457 651

SUNDAY OFFERINGS 13TH/14TH DECEMBER 2025:

Gift Aid: £228.40; Card: £43; Loose Plate: £141.74 ATTENDANCE: 204
Building Fund: Gift Aid: £252.30; Card: £25; Loose Plate: £129.58
Thank you for your continuing generosity in these difficult times, *Fr. David.*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

Joseph opened himself wholeheartedly to God in quiet faith. No spoken word of his has been recorded but the facts of his life point to a person utterly obedient to the Word of God. He was humble.

Joseph was a man who gave everything in the service of Christ. His example gives us courage to face problems in a similar spirit and to keep on believing when all seems hopeless.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS IN CHURCH

We are planning to prepare the Church for Christmas on **TUESDAY 23RD DECEMBER at 10AM**, and would appreciate help from anyone who can join us. The preparation will include Church Cleaning, Christmas Decorations and Flowers, any suitable greenery would be appreciated. Also, as last year, we invite parishioners to donate poinsettias to decorate our Crib and Sanctuary. Cards will be available by the Crib to leave a message of dedication with your poinsettias. For any further information, please contact Josie, Bernice or Bernadette.

Our **PARISH REMEMBRANCE CHRISTMAS TREE** is our own personal reminder of our loved ones who are no longer with us and who we would love to spend time with this Christmas, and so, we commend them to the Lord. Please complete a star with the name of your family member or friend and hang it on the tree.

CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS

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.

CHRISTMAS HOLY MASSES

Christmas Eve: Wednesday 24th December	5pm Christmas Vigil Mass
	12am Midnight Mass
Christmas Day: Thursday 25th December	8:30am and 10:30am
St. Stephen's Day: Friday 26th December	9:15am

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

The collections on the **24th and 25th DECEMBER** for Christmas offerings are by custom given for the support of Priests in parish ministries. Together with the Easter offering, it forms the main source of income of parish clergy within the Archdiocese who do not receive a wage throughout the year.

Of your Charity, please pray for the repose of the Soul of

RITA MARY PEARCE, who died on the 30th November 2025 aged 93 years.

FUNERAL: Friday 9th January 2026 at 1pm.

COMMITTAL: Eltham Crematorium at 3.30pm.

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO HER, O LORD, AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON HER. MAY SHE REST IN PEACE. MAY HER SOUL, AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD REST IN PEACE. AMEN.

ST. MARY OF THE CRAY'S COMMUNITY SOCIAL CLUB

Please note: the Social Club opening hours for Christmas and the New Year are:

THIS WEEKEND 19TH, 20TH AND 21ST DECEMBER: open normal hours.

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER: CLOSED.

CHRISTMAS DAY THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER:

12noon to closing sharp at 2pm.

BOXING DAY FRIDAY 26TH DECEMBER: CLOSED.

SATURDAY 27TH AND SUNDAY 28TH DECEMBER: open normal hours

NEW YEARS EVE WEDNESDAY 31ST DECEMBER: 8pm to 12.30am.

NEW YEARS DAY THURSDAY 1ST JANUARY: CLOSED.

Then back to normal opening hours.

Join us this **SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER** with your Christmas shirt/jumper for a **BEETLE DRIVE**, and to see the **NEW YEAR** in on the **31ST DECEMBER**.

Don't forget **BINGO** on **SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY** with the Snowball starting again.

The club is usually open 7.30pm to 11pm on Friday and Saturday nights and 12noon to 4pm on Sunday. We look forward to seeing you and your family there.

CHRISTMAS POSTERS

Please take a Christmas Poster for your window and share the Joy and Peace of Christ in the Christmas Season.

POPE LEO XIV's PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

invites us to pray for Christians in Areas of Conflict
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Happy and Holy Christmas and New Year Wishes to you all.

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

Anita Claridge, Anna Idahosa, Barry Alfred Colville, Bernard Glazier, Bernie Francis, Bridget Whitaker, Carmella "Nina" Stafford, Catherine Edmeades, Chandra Rawal, Chloe Mutimer, Christina Redmond, Clare Cooney, Erin, Felicity Dyer, Jackie Dawson, Joan Veronica McCormack, Linda Rawlinson, Liz Algar, Luc Fitzpatrick, Margaret Harrington, Marie Rogerston, Pat Goodwin, Pat McGrory, Patrick Taylor, Pauline White, Richard Hilsden and Sean Tansey.

PLEASE, DO YOU KNOW OF ANY ONE ELSE WHO, WITH THEIR PERMISSION, OUGHT TO BE ON THIS LIST?