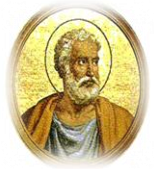




St Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
103 Woolwich New Road, London, SE18 6EF
Tel: 020 8854 0359



E-Mail: woolwich@rcaos.org.uk Website: www.stpeterswoolwich.church
Social Media: Facebook/Twitter/Instagram – username: StPetersSE18
Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Roy Tablizo
Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Ekene Nnalue
Assistant Priest: Fr Gerard Balinnya
Deacons: Rev Piotr Ziezio and Rev Errol Jadoc

PARISH SCHOOL

St Peter's Catholic Primary School
Crescent Road, Woolwich, London SE18 7BN
Tel: 020 8265 0028
Email: sao1@stpeters.greenwich.sch.uk
Head Teacher: Miss M Du Bruyn

The Third Week of Advent



THE MONTH OF DECEMBER IS DEDICATED TO ADVENT AND THE COMING OF CHRIST

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

WEEK COMMENCING 17th December 2023

ALL MASSES ARE STREAMED LIVE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

SUNDAY 5:00pm – 5:45pm
MONDAY – FRIDAY 10:15am – 12:15pm
SATURDAY 11:00am – 12:15pm



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY 11:00am – 12noon
 5:15pm – 5:45pm
SUNDAY 5:15pm – 5:45pm



ROSARY

Sunday 8:00am
Monday-Friday 9:00am
 and 11:30am
Saturday 11:30am



Saturday 16th 6:00pm 7:00pm – 8:00pm	Holy Mass – Yves Boussamba RIP Holy Mass – Filipino Novena Mass	GAUDETE SUNDAY There is an element of spring-cleaning to Advent. Although not quite as penitential as Lent, it is nevertheless a time for taking stock, for preparing a way, for smoothing out the path of our life to let the Lord enter. Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent , publicly marks one of the underlying themes of this season: joy! Coming from the Latin word meaning “rejoice!”, Gaudete is the watermark of today’s liturgy. Joy jumps out at us from today’s prayers, readings, psalms, and no doubt from our songs and hymns. Why be joyful? The sole reason is that the Christ, whose advent we await, is coming not to condemn or call us to task, but to set us free. The Jews longed for the coming of the Messiah; we are encouraged to yearn with a joyful expectation for the coming of Jesus. Jesus is coming not to judge but to save. This caused the psalmist to sing with joy: “God is my salvation, I trust - I shall not fear.” Paul shares in this exuberant joy at the nearness of God and he writes to the Philippians with a recipe for happiness. Indeed, he says that happiness is exactly what he wishes for the Christian community.
Sunday 17th 8:30 am 10:00am 11:45am 3:00pm–3:30pm 6:00pm 7:00pm–8:00pm	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) Gaudete Sunday Holy Mass – Deceased Members of the Clancy Family (Foundation) Holy Mass – Anna Krejcarova RIP - 15th Anniversary Mass Holy Mass – People of the Parish DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS (NO MASS) Holy Mass – Welfare of Geraldine Murphy Holy Mass – Filipino Novena Mass	
Monday 18th 9:30am 12:30pm 7:00pm–8:00pm	Feria Holy Mass – Alan James Stevens RIP Holy Mass – Birthday Thanksgiving for Abraham Ebibgola Holy Mass – Filipino Novena Mass	
Tuesday 19th 9:30am 12:30pm 7:00pm–8:00pm	Feria Holy Mass – Birthday Thanksgiving for Oby Omezi Holy Mass – Birthday Thanksgiving for Karen Gargallo Holy Mass – Filipino Novena Mass	
Wednesday 20th 9:30am 12:30pm 7:00pm–8:00pm	Feria Holy Mass – Welfare of Linda Balwin Holy Mass – Deceased Members of the Lynam Family Holy Mass – Filipino Novena Mass	
Thursday 21st 9:30am 12:30pm 7:00pm–8:00pm	Feria Holy Mass – Birthday Thanksgiving for Kiranjeet Augustine Holy Mass – Celia Mon Rico RIP Holy Mass – Filipino Novena Mass NO PARISH SURGERY – PHONE THE OFFICE FOR AN APPOINTMENT	
Friday 22nd 9:30am 12:30pm 7:00pm–8:00pm	Feria Holy Mass – Carmelina De Sousa RIP Holy Mass – For the Donor - new Job Holy Mass – Filipino Novena Mass	CHRISTMAS ENVELOPES The Christmas Envelopes are used for the collection at Masses for Christmas Day, which is the traditional ‘Thank You’ collection by parishioners to the priests of their parish for their work and service. Priests here receive no salary whatsoever for their work and depend on the generosity of parishioners for sustenance. The money in the Christmas Envelopes and the collection on Christmas Day will be shared equally by the clergy. Please note that those of you in the parish GIFT AID SCHEME should use your Gift Aid envelopes for the Christmas Collection and hand this in. The priests will get your offering and the Parish will benefit from the tax refund on your offering.
Saturday 23rd 12:00 noon 12:30pm 6:00pm 7:00pm – 8:00pm	Feria Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Holy Mass – Francis Akinola in Thanksgiving Holy Mass – Marie Antoinette Mantho RIP Holy Mass – Filipino Novena Mass	
Sunday 24th 8:30 am 10:00am 11:45am 6:00pm 11:30pm 12:00 Midnight	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Christmas Eve Holy Mass – Mariyaranisaleen (Rani) Marisaleen RIP Holy Mass – Birthday Thanksgiving for Chimdiuto Chukwuemeka Holy Mass – People of the Parish Christmas Children’s Mass – Children of the Parish Carol Service – Doors open at 11.00pm Christmas Midnight Mass – Intentions of the Celebrant	

CHRISTMAS POSTERS

The Knights of St Columba have provided us with Christmas Posters which are left at the back of the church for you to take home. The Knights are asking for donations in aid of the Seminary Fund. This will assist a Seminarian with his studies and daily cost of living. We would be grateful for whatever you can give.

Thank you.

FLOWERS

During the Advent Season we will not be displaying any flowers in the church in accordance with the church norm. If you would like to make a donation to decorate the church for Christmas, it will be greatly appreciated.



MASS FOR DECEASED (2023) PARISHIONERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Please note the **6:00pm Mass on Sunday 31st December** will be offered for the **Deceased of 2023**. Many families have faced bereavement when **close members** of their family have died either in this country or abroad.

We ask you to give us their names so they can be remembered on the last day of this year 2023.

Please email or hand in your list to the parish office.

FILIPINOS NINE DAY MASSES (NOVENA)

Catholics in the Philippines have celebrated their own pre-Christmas novena for 600 years. *Simbang Gabi* (Tagalog for "Night Mass") is a series of nine Masses traditionally celebrated in the pre-dawn hours each day from December 16 to December 24. It is a series of nine dawn masses on the days leading up to Christmas. It begins on December 16 and ends at midnight on the 24th of December, when a midnight mass is held. This tradition was introduced by the Spanish friars to allow the farmers to hear mass before going to the fields early in the morning. The masses can start as early as 4 in the morning. *Simbang Gabi* is also known by its popular Spanish name, *Misa de Gallo*, or "Mass of the Rooster."

Here at St Peter's Church, we will introduce the nine day masses but it will begin on Friday 15th December –

Saturday 23rd December from 7:00pm – 8:00pm. Please let your family and friends come to this special mass before Christmas.

Simbang Gabi is not just a tradition that is celebrated because it is necessary; it is the spiritual preparation for Christmas and commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. The celebration is also seen as a way of requesting blessings from the Lord.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents wishing to have their children baptised in **FEBRUARY 2024** should attend the Pre-Baptism Programme on **Tuesday 30th January 2024**. This programme will **start at 7pm and end at 9pm** and will be held in Pugin Place.

Please note: Parents should submit the Baptism Form and other relevant paperwork to the Parish Office before attending the programme.

Those attending the above Session will have their children baptised on the following dates:

Sunday 11th February 2024 and Sunday 25th February 2024 after the 11:45am Mass.



Catholic Gift Shop



Please pay a visit to our shop as we have many new items available and also wonderful gifts for the festive season of Christmas.

THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Here is an interesting explanation of that well loved Christmas carol "The 12 days of Christmas". From 1558 to 1829 Roman Catholics in this country were not allowed to practice their faith openly. During this time someone wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics!

The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ

2 Turtledoves were the Old and New Testament

3 French Hens stood for faith, hope and love.

The 4 calling birds were the 4 gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The 5 golden rings recalled the Torah – the first 5 Books of the Old Testament.

The 6 geese-a-laying stood for the 6 days of creation.

The 7 swans-a-swimming represented the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The 10 Lords-a-leaping were the 10 Commandments.

The 11 pipers piping stood for the 11 faithful disciples.

The 12 drummers drumming symbolised the 12 points of belief in the Apostles Creed.

Now when you hear this carol this Christmas you will think of it in a different light.

ST PETER'S FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will resume on Monday 15th January 2024.



The Youth of St Peter's Church aged 11 – 17 years are welcome to join the Youth Ministry.

The Youth Ministry is looking for new Youth Leaders to join. If you are interested, please contact Cyril on 07843 814274 (Youth Ministry Coordinator)

Friends in the Holy Spirit



Friends in the Holy Spirit (FitHS) Catholic Charismatic Renewal prayer group will resume on Friday 12th January 2024 at 7:00pm. All are welcome to join in the fellowship.

May we be encouraged to continue in our good spirit of Christian charity, to support the works of evangelisation through our Parish Ministries as we continue to make our donations as follows:

OPTION 1

OPTION 2

OPTION 3

Online donations

BANK DETAILS:

NatWest Bank: RCAS Woolwich

Sort Code: 60 24 26 Account Number: 16163400

Please use your name as a reference (gift aiders please add their envelope number).

Contactless Giving – these machines are situated in the church lobby.



You can also donate by scanning the QR code.

Thank you for last week's Offertory Collection of £1,686.64

Advent Appeal – Little Sisters of the Poor - £1,147.84

GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please continue to keep in your daily prayers the sick of our parish family.

Annie D'Sa
Emmanuel and Florence Meshe

Francis Ayodele
Francis Matajo

John Branch
Juliet Townsend

Maggie Dempsey
Mary Odih
Myriam Achille

Sheila Lee
Sick Priests of the Diocese



ANNIVERSARIES

Let us remember our departed brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again:

Ann McCarthy
Arthur Smith
Catherine Izard
Catherine White
Elizabeth Dinan

Geraldine Meehan
James Johnston
Joan Higgins
John Collins
Lorna Pendigrast

Margaret Scott
Mary Clancy
Mary Lansdowne
Michael Parry
Norah Earle

Pat Sullivan
Patricia McCartney
Patrick O'Callaghan
Peter McKiernan
Reginald Edwards

Robert McKinsley
Sean Nolan
Sean Wheatley
Sheila Spooner
Susan Campbell

William Brennan
William Gallagher
William McCarthy
William Meaney

MAY THEIR SOULS AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED REST IN PEACE!

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Nigerian Community meets every 1st Sunday of the month after 11:45am Mass in Pugin Place

Filipino Community meets every 2nd Saturday of the month at 4:00pm for Holy Mass in the church thereafter in Pugin Place

Cameroon Community meets every 2nd Sunday of the month after 11:45am Mass in Pugin Place

Catholic Women Organisation at St Peters (CWO) meets every 3rd Sunday of the month after 11:45am Mass in Pugin Place

Ghanaian Community meets every last Sunday of the month after 10am Mass in Pugin Place

St Peter the Apostle's Professionals & Trades Network (Spaptn) meets every last Sunday of the month after 11:45am Mass in Pugin Place