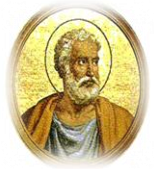




St Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
103 Woolwich New Road, London, SE18 6EF
Tel: 020 8854 0359



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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)
WEEK COMMENCING 24th December 2023
MAY GOD'S BLESSINGS BE YOURS THIS CHRISTMAS
ALL MASSES ARE STREAMED LIVE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT	SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION	ROSARY
SUNDAY 5:00pm – 5:45pm	SATURDAY 11:00am – 12noon	Sunday 8:00am
MONDAY – FRIDAY 10:15am – 12:15pm	5:15pm – 5:45pm	Monday-Friday 9:00am
SATURDAY 11:00am – 12:15pm	SUNDAY 5:15pm – 5:45pm	and 11:30am
		

Saturday 23RD 6:00pm 7:00pm – 8:00pm	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 Nativity Mass – Children of the Parish Carol Service – Doors open at 11.00pm Christmas Midnight Mass – Intentions of the Celebrant
Monday 25th 8:30am 10:00am 11:45am	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Mass – Thanksgiving for Elizabeth Holy Mass – Rev Fr Huebert Miranda RIP Holy Mass – People of the Parish NO EVENING MASS
Tuesday 26th 10:00am	St Stephen, Deacon, the First Martyr BANK HOLIDAY Holy Mass – 60th Birthday Thanksgiving for Edith Orjih
Wednesday 27th 9:30am 12:30pm	St John, Apostle and Evangelist Holy Mass – Thanksgiving for Pax Sakole Holy Mass – Rosemary Obike RIP
Thursday 28th 9:30am 12:30pm	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs Holy Mass – Arunn Marisaleen RIP Holy Mass – Marcellina Ibiyemi Kajero Blessed RIP NO PARISH SURGERY – PHONE THE OFFICE FOR AN APPOINTMENT
Friday 29th 9:30am 12:30pm	St Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop and Martyr Holy Mass – Welfare of Kerry Wyatt Holy Mass – Zsolt Licsauer RIP
Saturday 30th 12:00 noon 12:30pm 6:00pm	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Holy Mass – Welfare of Jhon William Maloch Holy Mass – Christopher Taylor RIP
Sunday 31st 8:30 am 10:00am 11:45am 6:00pm 10:00pm – 11:45pm 12:00 Midnight	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Holy Mass – David Niluy RIP Holy Mass – Birthday Thanksgiving for Nkadi Erokwu Holy Mass – People of the Parish Holy Mass – Deceased (2023) Parishioners, Family and Friends Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Midnight Mass – Intentions of the Celebrant

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Jesus Christ came to us more than 2000 years ago. With his promise, we expect him to come again for the second time. Yet, in actual fact, Jesus comes to us every single day of our life. For that reason, Jesus expects us to welcome HIM. Jesus expects us to be open in mind and heart to welcome him this special season. The grace of welcoming Jesus is the greatest form of gift because we allow him to influence our lifestyle. Meaning our life choices would reflect our intimate friendship with Jesus Christ, this would also imply that our values are identical with the teachings of Jesus Christ. What makes our friendship with Jesus unique is the way we allow him to guide our everyday life.

It will not be easy to open our lives to Jesus because humanly speaking our selfish selves will promote the contradicting values. More often than not our weak character finds it hard to resist the temptations of this world. It takes a lot of self-renunciation for us to remain loyal to Jesus. For that reason, Jesus insists that following him involves a lot of sacrifice. Unfortunately, the last thing we thought of this season is the word sacrifice. However, we cannot keep sacrifice out of Jesus Christ because the word incarnation itself means self-sacrifice and self-emptying. In other words, we are reminded to keep our focus on the real purpose of his coming which is to open to us salvation. The salvation that Jesus offers us is eternal life and that is what we all should care for in life. I hope and pray that the message of eternal life is that one that matters to us all this Christmas season.

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.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Holy New Year!

Thank you for all your love, cards, gifts, prayers, and friendship.
God Bless...

Fr Roy, Fr Joseph & Fr Gerard

CANDLE STANDS

It has been brought to our attention that parishioners are placing
TEA LIGHT CANDLES ON TOP OF THE EXISTING GLASS CONE SHAPED CANDLE HOLDERS.
 A simple question is, **WHY?** when we have candles available which are especially designed and meant to be used in these glass cone shaped holders. There is absolutely no need to use your own tea light candles. **PLEASE**, we ask that, whoever is doing this should **STOP IT IMMEDIATELY**, as this could cause a serious **FIRE HAZARD** if one of these **TEA LIGHT CANDLES FALLS DOWN** onto the wooden floor and cause a fire. **We politely request you not do that in the future.**

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.

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.

LITTLE CHURCH

There will be no Little Church this Sunday 24th December Sunday 31st December and 7th January 2024 during the 10:00am and 11:45am Masses. Little Church will resume on Sunday 14th January 2024.

MASS OFFERINGS

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is very special and sacred; it may be offered for either thanksgiving, welfare or the repose of a soul. It is always important to remember that these special intentions are offered to God as prayers of intercession and thanksgiving, in and through Christ's perfect sacrifice made present to us in the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass. We, as a community pray for the deceased, for those who are ill, for those who face various difficulties or challenges. We also offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the experience of God's loving grace helping us through a particular challenging event or circumstance of life. We are happy to inform you that we no longer have a backlog of Masses and hopefully can accommodate those who wish to request for Mass providing it is not already booked. If you would like to offer a Mass for your family and friends, **KINDLY FILL OUT** an envelope available at the lobby of the church and hand it to the staff in the shop or put it in the collection.



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 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 £1,545.16

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



OBITUARY

We pray for the soul of Chinenye Nina Unaka who died on 5th December 2023. Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 3rd January 2024 at 10:30am. We offer our spiritual support and prayers to her family and friends.

ANNIVERSARIES

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

Alexander Henderson Alfred Hughes Ann Warner Arunn Marisaleen Bridget Brown Bridget Mullane Carol Ifeoma Udogaranya	Catherine Williams Christina Mcgonigle Christina Nolan Delia Budd Des Divine Eileen Shine Elaine Smith	Elizabeth Freeder Ellen Francis Honora Jacobs Hugh Rozario Jacqui Daly John Presley Margaret Kemp	Margaret Mulvihill Mark Turner Mary Ellen White Mary Feeney Mary Osioh Mary Ralph Maureen Atuisaka	Philet Ngasseu-Possi Reynaldo Correa Richard Masterson Rogue Mascarchas Rosalind Abdul Rosemary Hunt Sheila Bateman	Shirley Murphy Stephen Patterson William Curry William McGeoghan William Stanley Meeks Yacob Hagos
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MAY THEIR SOULS AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED REST IN PEACE!

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Nigerian Community meets every 1 st Sunday of the month after 11:45am Mass in Pugin Place	Filipino Community meets every 2 nd Saturday of the month at 4:00pm for Holy Mass in the church thereafter in Pugin Place	Cameroon Community meets every 2 nd Sunday of the month after 11:45am Mass in Pugin Place	Catholic Women Organisation at St Peters (CWO) meets every 3 rd 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 (Spaptan) meets every last Sunday of the month after 11:45am Mass in Pugin Place
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