

“Though we are many, we are one body in Christ”



**St Peter The Apostle RC Church,
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Parish Priest – Fr Michael Branch

Assistant Priests – Fr Graziano de Palma and Fr Anthony Uche OP

Retired Priest - Fr James Hay

Deacon Piotr Ziezio

Week commencing 24th December 2017

**WE WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HOME A VERY HAPPY
CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2018**

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Saturday 23rd

6:00pm

Mass – All Hospital Staff on Duty during Christmas

Sunday 24th

8:30 am

10:00am

11:45am

6.00pm

11.30pm

12.00am

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) CHRISTMAS EVE

Mass – People of the Parish

Mass – Jane Alum and Innocent Ceaser RIP

Mass – Emmanuel Kambala in Thanksgiving

Christmas Children’s Mass – Intention of the Celebrant

Carol Service – Doors open at 11.00pm

Christmas Midnight Mass – People of the Parish

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Once again, we are at the threshold of celebrating the Birthday of Jesus, the Dawn of our Salvation. May we begin by wishing you and your families a Blessed Christmas. At this time of the year we are reminded of the sanctity of every family and that we are called to be one family regardless of colour or creed. With God becoming flesh and so being one with us, our Christian faith teaches us that He is at the very heart of our families! How blessed are we to have the “Christ” in Christmas, it is sad to reduce it to a superficial celebration of “Winterfest” or for it to be simply known as “Holiday Season”.

Pope Francis reminds us that, “Christmas should not be reduced to a noisy party, but for us to use a bit of silence, to hear the Voice of Love made Flesh. Christmas is you, when you decide to be born again each day and let God into your heart. The Christmas Tree is you, when you resist vigorous winds and difficulties of life. You are also a Christmas light, when you illuminate with your life the path of others with kindness, patience, joy and generosity. And the Christmas Star is you, when you lead someone to meet the Lord.” May we all understand just how important we are to Jesus and to each other: we are human beings given a Divine task.

As a Christian family with Jesus as our Head, let us be a gift for Him this Christmas by looking after each other and our environment.

**Thank you for all your love, prayers and friendship. It is our privilege to be your shepherd priests.
God bless.**

**Fr Michael, Fr Graziano,
Fr Anthony OP and Fr Jim**

**WEEKDAY MASSES WILL BE HELD IN THE PARISH CENTRE
THERE WILL BE NO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Monday 25th

8.30am

10.00am

11.45am

**CHRISTMAS DAY – THE NATIVITY OF
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

Mass – Intention of the Celebrant

Mass – Intention of the Celebrant

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NO EVENING MASS



Tuesday 26th

10:00am

St Stephen, the First Martyr

BOXING DAY

Mass – Welfare of Seamus Moran

Wednesday 27th

9:30am

12:30pm

St John, Apostle and Evangelist

Mass – Welfare of Patricia Locking

Mass – Peter Burke RIP

Thursday 28th

9:30am

12:30pm

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Mass – Thanksgiving for Lawrence Dunkwu

Mass – Welfare of Doreen Carver

Friday 29th

9:30am

12:30pm

St Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop and Martyr

Mass – Welfare of Joyce James

Mass – Family Tree

Saturday 30th

11:00am–12 noon

11:00am–12:30pm

12:00 noon

12:30pm

2:30pm

6:00pm

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

Sacrament of Confession

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Mass – Annie Fitzgerald RIP

Wedding of Melissa Audrey Jacques and Raiyan Durbarree

Mass – Thanksgiving to our Guardian Angels

Sunday 31st

8:30 am

10:00am

11:45am

6.00pm

10:00pm-

11:45pm

12.00am

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (B)

Mass – Thanksgiving for Brandon Da Silva

Mass – Thanksgiving for Patrick, Rosemary Okogwu and Family

Mass – People of the Parish

Mass – Deceased Parishioners and family and Friends (2017)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Midnight Mass - People of the Parish

Monday 1st

10.00am

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD NEW YEAR’S DAY

Mass – Intention of the Celebrant

CRIB OFFERINGS

This year, the Crib Offerings will be for the Little Sisters of the Poor at St Peter’s Residence, Vauxhall, who care for the sick, retired priests and lay people. The Little sisters depend totally upon God’s providence to meet all their costs. Thank you for remembering the Little Sisters this Christmas.

NO PARISH SURGERY THIS THURSDAY UNTIL 11th JANUARY 2018

Sick and housebound



Please continue to keep in your daily prayers the sick of our parish family. We pray especially for the following: Lily Beavis, Annie D'Sa, Emmanuel Meshe, Margaret Jeffrey, Joe D'Souza, Francis Ayodele, Barry Newton, Catherine Garraway, Patrick Duffy, Adriene Kelleher, Dave Hawkins, John Branch, Danny Dyer, Sheila Edwards, Sheila Lee, Nina Donovan, Joe and Theresa Devoy, Frater Jeneita, Marie-Anne Collins, Kate Dooley, Joseph Tommy Le, Jo O'Connell, Merlie Perera, Maureen Brazier, David Orell, Francis Matajo, Tomisin Iddrisu, Tomosina Gloria Watkins, Eli Ladislaus Otto Cox, Jayne Shoboiki, Helen Dickens, Noone Dunlevy, Margaret Dickens, Miroslav Krejcar, Sandy Bamotra, Jacqueline Demar Richards, Michael and Shirley Corcoran, Antoine Libanje, Georgina Ferrier, Joyce James, Veron McNair, Dinky Gennon, Evelyn Martin, Cesil Ryan, Cynthia Boltador, Cecilia Egbujin, Hugh Rozario, Mary Healey, Eileen Whyte, Collen Surin, Michelle Morris, Caitlin Connors, Lizzy Connors, Christopher Browne, Mary Angela McInerney, Dudley Simmonds, Patricio Fernandes, Marie Manning, Sister Annunciata, Sick Priests of the Diocese and please continue to keep Bishop Pat Lynch in your prayers.

OBITUARY

Let us pray for the following souls:

Lena Rozario-Martin RIP who died on Friday 8th December 2018. Her funeral will take place on Thursday 28th December at 11:45am at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Highgate Hill, Highgate, London N19 5NE.

Please see the noticeboard for further details and directions.

Anne Gilbert who died recently. Her funeral will take place here at St Peter's on Tuesday 2nd January 2018 at 11am followed by Committal at Shooters Hill Cemetery (Greenwich).

We offer our prayers and spiritual support to their families and friends.

ANNIVERSARIES

As you can see below, we have many whose anniversaries occur during these coming days. To each one we commend God's mercy and remember them in prayer - Norah Earle, Margaret Scott, Sheila Spooner, Catherine White Sean Nolan, Pat Sullivan, William Brennan, Robert McKinsley, Ann Jones, Ann McCarthy, John Collins, Reginald Edwards, Peter McKiernan, William McCarthy, Michael Parry, Joan Higgins, William Meaney, Patrick O'Callaghan, Mary Lansdowne, Geraldine Meehan, Arthur Smith, James Johnston, Sean Wheatley, Mary Clancy, William Gallagher, Patricia McCartney, Susan Campbell, Lorna Pendigrast, Elizabeth Dinan and Catherine Izard.

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents wishing to have their baby baptised in **FEBRUARY 2018** should attend the following Baptism Catechesis Programmes

Session 1 is on Tuesday 9th January 2018

Session 2 is on Tuesday 23rd January 2018

These programmes will start at 7pm and finish at 9pm and will be held in the Parish Centre. You are reminded that you need to meet with one of the parish clergy before attending these Sessions. You will find them available on Thursday evenings during Parish Surgery.

Holy Baptism will be on Sunday 11th February 2018 and Sunday 25th February 2018 at 1:15pm after the 11:45am Mass.

Learning from past experience, we request ALL PARENTS, who wish to get their child baptised in the future, to bring their own baptism certificates along with their request form as proof that they are Catholics when they attend Parish Surgery. GODPARENTS will need to get a letter from their parish priest to say they are practicing Catholics.

First Holy Communion Programme

Classes commence on Saturday 13th January 2018 at 9:45am.

Please make sure your child is on time for these classes.

CONFIRMATION 2018

Confirmation programme commences on Saturday 13th January 2018 at 10:00 am at the Parish Centre.

Bishop Pat Lynch will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 5th May 2018 at 6.00pm.

CHRISTMAS HELPERS

We would like to offer our grateful thanks to all who helped in getting the church organised for Christmas. It is always a busy time of the year and your help is much appreciated. May our Lord send down his blessings upon you all.

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 their personal income. 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.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The RCIA, Bible Study, Friends in the Holy Spirit Group, Legion of Mary and Prayer Group will be on a short break during the Christmas period. Please see below when these sessions resume again.

Bible Study Group session will resume back on Tuesday 2nd January 2018.

PRAYER GROUP – ASSOCIATION OF THE SACRED HEART AND IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY will resume on Thursday 4th January 2018

Friends in the Holy Spirit (Charismatic Renewal prayer group) will resume on Friday 5th January 2018.

Legion of Mary will resume on Friday 5th January 2018.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) will resume back on Monday 8th January 2018

Mass for Deceased (2017) Parishioners, Family and Friends

Please note the **6:00pm Mass on Sunday 31st December** will be offered for the **Deceased of 2017**. Names of those who have died in the parish during this year, will be called out. Many families have also faced bereavement when **close members** of their family have died either in this country or abroad. If you would let us have their names, we will be happy to offer you the chance to have them remembered on the last day of the year 2017. Please hand in your list to the parish office.

Fr Henry's Mass of Induction will take place on Thursday 18th January 2018 at 7:00pm at St Pius X Catholic Church, The Triangle, Norbiton KT1 3SB

We are going to arrange a coach for parishioners who would like to attend. Please note that this is mainly for those who don't have any transport of their own. Further details to follow shortly.

**Last Week's Collection was £1,008.89
Gift Aid of £585.08**

**giving us a parish total of £1,593.97
MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HOME**