



# St Joseph's Catholic Church

SHOOTERS HILL

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## The week ahead

Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	Vigil
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:15am 12 noon	Grazina Mazoniene dead family intentions Kellen Mulvihill RIP
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Mass
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Mass
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:15am	Mass at Notre Dame School
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Holy Souls
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	Anna RIP, Advent Service & Confession
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	Vigil
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10:15am 12 noon	Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Confessions:

Fr Seba is available to hear confessions.  
Please call the Parish office (020 3105 8577) to book your appointment.



### Prayer to St Joseph:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son;

In you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen



### Third Sunday of Advent

During the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in Advent, we spend time thinking about Joy.

From Psalm 5:11, we hear these words

*"But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy.*

*Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you.*

Too often, we think joy is something big. Just as easily and far more often, we can feel joy in a hug or the squeeze of hand, we can see joy in a smile or hear it in laughter. Help us to not overlook the simple joys that peak into our lives daily. This week in our Advent journey, open our eyes to the joy that surrounds us. Amen.



"Advent is a continuous call to hope: it reminds us that God is present in history to lead it to its ultimate goal, to lead it to its fullness, which is the Lord, the Lord Jesus Christ. God is present in the history of humanity.

He is the "God-with-us". God is not distant: he is always with us, to the extent that very often he knocks on the door to our heart. God walks beside us to support us"

Pope Francis

## Liturgy

**First Reading:** - Zephaniah 3:14-18

**Responsorial Psalm:** - Ps 12:2-6, Rv6 – Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**Second Reading:** - 1 Paul 4:4-7

**Gospel Acclamation:** - Luke 4:18 – The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

**Gospel:** - Luke 3:10-18

## Notre Dame School News

**Bless our school as we learn together. Nourish our lives with love and joy. Let this be a happy school always, where all are welcomed and respected. A place where we can pray, worship and work together. Amen.**

This week, Year 5 visited the National Art Gallery in London. They went to the gallery to support their art and RE topic. They looked at the Nativity through art and had the opportunity to learn about and sketch some of the famous pieces. They also had the chance to look at other pieces of art as they ventured through the gallery. They were able to discuss what they had learnt on their return and understand how different artists have different perspectives on the same subject. The children thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

Year 6 visited the Maritime Museum in Greenwich. The children visited the museum to support their art sketching skills. They were able to work with one of the education officers to learn about the selected pieces of art and study them in finer detail. The children enjoyed the trip and on their return were able to make links and connections between the art that they observed in Greenwich to the art that they observed in London on a previous trip.

It was Christmas jumper and Christmas party day at Notre Dame on Friday. It was so lovely to see the children excitedly arrive at the school gates wearing their Christmas jumpers and dresses. All donations will be sent to Greenwich and Bexley Hospice. The children spent the afternoon dancing, playing Christmas games and enjoying party food. A lovely start to the exciting four days next week, which will include the Nativity, Christmas dinner, a Christmas panto and lots more Christmas activities!

## Guidance for Churches from the Archdiocese of Southwark

With respect to the current situation with the omicron variant, it is important to ensure the following points are followed in our churches:

- That people displaying any symptoms of covid-19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person.
- That hand sanitiser is available to those attending the Church.
- That there is a strong recommendation for people to wear a face covering (both nose and mouth) during the act of worship.
- That there is good ventilation and air throughput in the building; in this case, because of climatic conditions, it would be important to remind people to wrap up well in church!
- That a positive message encouraging people to get vaccinated and have the booster jab, when able, is delivered whenever possible.
- That people who are engaged in a form of pastoral ministry which involves ministry to the housebound, sick, and vulnerable, should take regular lateral flow tests to ensure they are safe to do so. These are free from the NHS.

We have been informed that there is now very strong evidence to support that the main mode of transmission is through breath and nasal aerosols, and that the risk from surface and touch transmission is very small indeed. As such, the strict regimes of church cleaning that were recommended at the beginning of the opening of churches for public worship are no longer necessary. General church cleaning is sufficient. If these guidance points are supported, then the churches will continue to be safe places for people to gather for acts of public worship, including over the Christmas period.

## Information

### Holy Communion Programme

Last week we had our session in the church and talked to the children about the items in the church and what they are used for. We also discussed the colours of Fr Seba's garments and what the different colours represent.

### Confirmation 2022

We will be Confirming our young people at the 6.30pm Mass on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022** - Pentecost weekend. Any young people (or not so young) of school Year 8 and above are most welcome to join us. **We will need to see a CATHOLIC Baptism Certificate along with proof of receiving 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion.** Details of the course and registration will be available throughout **December** after 10.15am Mass or contact Father Seba for a registration form. Dates of the programme will be available soon. The first session will be on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022** in the parish hall at 7.00 for **Confirmandi only.** **It is vitally important that all the programme is completed.** The sessions will not be every week so there will be plenty of time to fit it in between exams and schoolwork. As normal, we are asking people for help to enable us to provide this programme. Pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament and listen to see if the Lord is calling you for help, if so please contact Mary 07985 360960 or Fr Seba. Whilst recognising the important of parents and relations on a young person faith journey it is not suitable for them to be engaged as catechists in the programme. Their role is to journey with their young people and to continue their calling as the first educators of the faith. There will be 3 sessions for parents/guardians during the programme.

### Advent Reflections

Over the weeks of Advent the Archdiocese of Southwark's Stewardship Team, in collaboration with the diocesan Spirituality Commission, will send daily reflections featuring thoughts, Scripture and prayer direct to your email inbox - <http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk> - sign up for free

### International Mass and Reception

Thank you to everyone who helped set up, donated food and attended our International Mass and Food Reception last week. It was amazing to see so many people come together in celebration of our differences but joined in our faith. We managed to raise just over £1000! Look out for pictures on the website.

### Saint of the day

Our Lady of Guadalupe



### Patroness of the Americas

Mary is the woman who, under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, spoke with Juan on the Hill of Tepeyac. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the woman whose image is impressed upon Juan's poncho. And it is that very same poncho which hangs to this day in the shrine built for and at the request of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. The miracle first unfurled in the Bishop's office in 1531 has been frozen in time. It is perpetually 1531 in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Everyone who gazes on the image stands in the shoes of Bishop Zumárraga. The image teems with mysterious symbols and meanings. The wholesale conversion of the tribes of old Mexico, a missionary effort that until 1531 had been a struggle, was directly attributable to Mary's miraculous intercession. It was the greatest and most rapid conversion of a people in the history of the Church. It is Mary to whom we turn on this feast. She made herself a humble, indigenous, local, expectant mother to bring a good but pagan people into the embrace of her Son and His Holy Church. She models the precious gift of life and the costs required to protect it from harm.

Liturgical Colour – White

## General Information

### Sick, Housebound, Anniversaries and Funeral Services

Please continue to keep the sick of our parish family in your daily prayers. We continue to remember those who have died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

*May all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

### Mass Intentions

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention, please write your intention down with all the details, together with the Mass stipend, and put it through the Presbytery door. Alternatively, you can contact the parish office on 020 3105 8577 or email [shootershill@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:shootershill@rcaos.org.uk) – Mass intention envelopes are available at the back of the church.

### Collections

5 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	
First Collection	£411.41
Second Collection (Hall Fund)	£1081.50
Hall Hire	£200
Flowers Box	£20
Candles	£141.76
Raffle	£495
Gift Aid	£154
Donation	£38
Total	£2514.67

This week's second collection is for the Hall Fund.

If you cannot attend mass, please visit our [website](#) and click the **Donate** button. If you are a taxpayer, please remember to tick the 'Gift Aid' box. God bless, Ave Maria.

Thank you to Angelo for his donation and thank you to Ms Thi Bich Ngoc Nguyen and Mr Hiep Ngoc Nguyen for their very generous donation towards the hall fund

### Holy Michael Prayer



St Michael the Archangel. Defend us in the day of our 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 Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell satan, and all the evil spirits who wander around the world seeking the ruins of souls.

### Hiring our hall

If you would like to hire our hall, on Paget Rise, SE18 3QQ, please contact Maggie Rea: Tel: - 07885 353 105

Email: -

[maggie.rea@talktalk.net](mailto:maggie.rea@talktalk.net)

### Parish School

#### NOTRE DAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher – Mrs. N McNelis

169 Eglinton Road  
London SE18 3SJ

Tel: 020 8 854 0585

Web: [www.notredame.greenwich.sch.uk](http://www.notredame.greenwich.sch.uk)



#### St Joseph's Catholic Church, Shooters Hill

135 Herbert Road  
SE18 3QE

Tel: 0203 105 8577

Email: [shootershill@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:shootershill@rcaos.org.uk)

Web: [www.stjoseph-shootershillrcaos.org.uk](http://www.stjoseph-shootershillrcaos.org.uk)

Diocesan website: [www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk)

