

A parishioner writes:

### SUNDAY REFLECTION

*It was a cold, wet Friday night. The Northern Line was misbehaving. I'd walked around the Tooting Bec exits. Where was he? The table was booked for 8 pm and we were late I was getting anxious. No messages or texts!! It was now 8.40 pm.*

This scene illustrates an anxious form of *waiting*.

Others create less anxiety - looking forward to a loved relative's visit, a birthday or a new arrival - all fill us with joyful anticipation. There is little anxiety because we know the outcome.

At Advent we celebrate and look forward to the 'Coming'. Like Mark says in the Gospel 'watch' and inevitably wait. This mirrors the Second Coming as referenced in the Old Testament.

Advent should be a joyous waiting period for us in the spiritual sense. There should be no anxieties. It cannot be denied that Christmas intrudes in a material sense and the current financial issues are affecting us all. We need to raise ourselves above the 'day to day' and turn to our Faith for the strength we need at this time. I am not suggesting that we should ignore these responsibilities but rather lean on our Faith community to help us respond. Such strength can be found around you in this place amongst friends.

We should embrace the Advent period as a counterpoint to these anxious times and use it as a time of calm and expectant waiting without any worries which may distract us from God's Grace.

Unlike my unreliable friend we know through our Faith that the Birth of Christ is worth waiting for.

### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am	Pro Pop	<b>Thursday</b>	8.00 am	Emilie Sammut <i>RIP</i>
	10.00 am	Jack Moran <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm	Michael Mannion <i>RIP</i>
	11.15 am	Holy Souls	<b>Friday</b>	8.00 am	Mary Hughes ( <i>Recovery</i> )
	6.15 pm	Jerry & Rose Lobo <i>RIP</i>		3.00 pm	Holy Souls ( <i>Hospital</i> )
<b>Monday</b>	8.00 am	A & C Silveira <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm	Holy Souls
	6.15pm	Gina Hawkins ( <i>Get Well</i> )	<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 pm	Hypolito De Souza <i>RIP</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.00 am	Peggy Myers <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm	For the spread of Faith
	6.15 pm	Jackie Harrison <i>RIP</i>	<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am	Pro Pop
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 am	Michael Jhugroo <i>RIP</i>		10.00 am	Joe Lavin <i>RIP</i>
	2.30 pm	<b>Req Mass</b> M. Gozmao <i>RIP</i>		11.15 am	Rose McCorry <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm	Aiden McLaughlin <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm	Antonio Frascione <i>RIP</i>

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** Last week's collection: £1,050.00 of which £287 was given in Gift Aid envelopes. Anyone wanting to join the Gift Aid scheme should call Paul on 0208 675 2069. Catholic Youth Service £198.00. Thank you.

**Today 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – St George's Cathedral.**

# ST ANSELM'S CHURCH

9 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS Telephone: 020 8672 2179  
www.st-anselms-tooting-bec.org.uk

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008

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#### Parish Team:

Fr William Hebborn,

Fr Oliver Antao & Thelma Lewis

Messages for Fr Gary (resident) 07623 766194

#### Parish Sisters:

The Little Company of Mary

**Mass Times:** Saturday evening 6.15 pm,

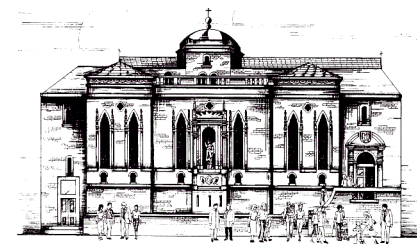
Sunday 8.30, 10.00, 11.15 am & 6.15 pm.

**Mass times during the week:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8.00 am & 6.15 pm.

Wednesday & Saturday 10.00 am & 6.15 pm. (No 8.00 am.)

Holydays: 8.00, 10.00 am & 6.15 pm & 8.00 pm

**Confessions:** Saturday 11.30 – 12.30 pm & 7.00 pm



#### WEEKDAY READINGS

Monday:	Is 2:1-5; Ps 121; Mt 8:5-11	Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 71; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10; Ps 22, Mt 15:29-37	Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 117; Mt 7:21.24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 26; Mt 9:27-31		
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21.23-26; Ps 146; Mt 9:35-10:1.6-8		
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>Is 40:1-5.9-11; Ps 84; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8</b>		

**SICK LIST** Angela Pakium, David Moore, Tom Lacey, Esmeralda Da Costa, Ann Alvarez, Manuel Jurado, Tommy Murphy, Peggy Dorman, Rev Deacon Michael Choppen, Rebecca Hebborn, Iris Kane, Soladad Sanglay, Richard Morris, Harry McArdle, Maisie Cahill, Caroline Anderson, Daisy Jhugroo, Bernadette Burdge, Simon Yorke, Michelle Wade, Lydia Dal Din, Noel Savermuittu, Ino Fernandes, Maria Pinto, Kathleen Hebborn, Glynn Richards, Jonathan Waddington, Christian Born, Vincent Pereira, Gracie Saverimuttu, Hans Van Oordt and Helen Bellman.

#### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1.3-8

The people of Israel have returned from exile in Babylon, but Jerusalem lies in ruins; their hopes for a better future have been crushed and they feel weighed down by guilt. Isaiah implores God to come again as Redeemer in a manifestation even greater than on Mount Sinai.

**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Ancient Corinth had risen from the ashes of destruction and had been rebuilt into an important centre of commerce, but it was also a place of corruption on a vast scale. Paul extols the Christian community for their witness and adherence to God whose faithfulness will sustain them to the end.

**Gospel** Mark 13:33-37

By means of a parable Jesus impresses upon his followers the need to be watchful and ready to meet God on the last day.

### **PARISH MEETINGS DURING THE WEEK**

Monday: Union of Catholic Mothers 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday [Mother Teresa] at 2.00 pm in lower hall.  
Legion of Mary at 7.00 pm.  
St Vincent de Paul at **7.00 pm** (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of month).  
Tuesday: Intercessory Prayer Group 8.00 pm lower new hall.  
Wednesday: Exposition and Benediction after 10.00 am Mass.  
Friendship Club 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm.  
Thursday: R.C.I.A at 7.45pm in lower new hall. Topic: Confirmation

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Requiem Masses for Marie Gozmao on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 2.30pm** and Ossie Barrett on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10am**. Please remember family and friends in your prayers.

**COFFEE MORNING** Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Dec in the lower new hall 9am-12noon. All welcome.

**ST ANSELM'S SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December** From 3pm in school hall. All welcome. Lots to do including special Christmas craft room, cake stalls, gifts, refreshments and our famous bottle and chocolate tombolas.

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER** St. Anselm's celebrates the feast of St. Francis Xavier, the patron of Missions, on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> Dec '08. Mass at 6.15 pm, followed by a get-together, in the old hall. Tickets £5 (12 years and above) including a meal. Drinks, snacks and children's meal will be on sale. For tickets contact: Fr. Oliver on 0208 672 2179 or Claver on 0208 672 4562. **Please book early to avoid disappointment.**

### **ST ANSELM'S CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS – Carol Service & Midnight Mass**

Be a St A's Soprano, on Anselm Alto, a Tooting Tenor or a Bass in the Bec – join the choir as we prepare for the great feasts of the liturgical year. Rehearsals for Christmas: **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 4.45pm** in the upper new hall. **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> & Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 7.45pm** upper new hall.

**UCM – CHRISTMAS FLORAL DECORATION WORKSHOP – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December** Come and join us in the Crypt (old entrance Balham High Road) 7.30pm prompt start. This is a chance to show your creative skills and make a beautiful Christmas table decoration. All materials supplied, to include cheese and wine. To book your place please contact parish office 020 8672 2179 (Tues/Wed/Fri) or Anne on 07813 577853 no later than Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December. £15 per person.

### **COLLECTION OF CHRISTMAS PUDS**

Gentleman, please collect your Christmas puddings this week from the parish office (Tues/Wed/Fri).

**SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 8pm lower new hall. We will be planning our Centenary Celebrations, please make every effort to attend.

**READERS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR** With Christmas and New Year approaching please ensure you have arranged cover should you be away during this period.

**PARISH ANNUAL DIARY** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent 2008 to Christ the King 2009 now available at the rear of the church or parish office.

**SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY - Thursday 18 December 2008** The children of Year 6 request the company of all Senior Citizens within the parish and community to their Annual Senior Citizens Christmas party at St Anselm's School Hall (Entrance in Louisville Rd) on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 2-4pm**. There will be entertainment, bingo and Irish dancing. Refreshments will be available. **Please complete the form available at the back of the church or from the parish office and return to the school or hand to one of the parish team as soon as possible.** Please let us know if you require special assistance on that day. The form will make this quite clear.

**ST ANSELM'S SHOP** The shop has re-opened. Come in and see our full range of Christmas cards, cribs and gifts. **Orders for Christmas of smoked or BBQ salmon from Killala Bay, West Coast of Ireland can be placed. Order forms from the shop or from the parish office. Please return to parish office by Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec.**

**SHOP ROTA (Jan – Dec 2009)** Now ready for collection from the shop or parish office (Tues/Wed/Fri) – would all volunteers collect their copy as soon as possible. Thank you.

### **PARISH PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm** in the church. We encourage you to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the great feast of Christmas 'A pure heart create in me, O God, and give me again the joy of your help'.

### **PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS – RECEPTION 2009**

If you are applying to a Catholic Secondary School for your child, please arrange an appointment to see Fr Will.

**Contact the parish office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday on 020 8672 2179.** Please bring to this appointment:

- **A completed copy** of your school application/religious enquiry form
- **A copy** of your child's baptismal certificate (If you require a copy from St Anselm's please ensure you request this before your appointment with Fr Will)
- A family photograph
- **Closing date for applications is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2009**