

*A parishioner writes:*

### SUNDAY REFLECTION

Waiting can be a rather linear concept, the longer we consider it, the longer it takes. At best it can be a frustrating experience and at worst a despairing one. Firstly it is passive, assuming as it does that we have either surrendered or been deprived of any control over the occurrence of the expected event which will bring the wait to an end. Secondly those who wait live a life of emotional ambivalence, living each day in a half world suspended between two differing but distinctly possible realities where hopes are either warmly fulfilled or cruelly dashed. Time itself seems to be suspended, as Saint Peter states in his letter “a day” can mean a thousand years and a thousand days can seem like a day.

There are some who have waited in triumph like Nelson Mandela, but for most there is just the waiting; the falsely imprisoned, those who are abducted, those who are abused, the parents and friends of our forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, those looking for a job, those who are suffering and in pain from illness or loss or even from starvation. The season of Advent gives us a chance to pause and reflect on the waiting experience; to consider times in our own lives when we may have existed only in the anxious moment of today, refraining from looking beyond the present, and to then empathise with and pray for those for whom the bustle and noise of Christmas will be but the dull toll of a distant bell as they continue to wait, like John The Baptist in today’s Gospel, for their own personal redemptions.

### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am Pro Pop	<b>Thursday</b>	8.00 am Mary O’Shea <i>RIP</i>
	10.00 am Joe Lavin <i>RIP</i>		10.00 am <b>Req Mass</b> H Delahunty <i>RIP</i>
	11.15 am Rose McCorry <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm Louis Folivi <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm Antonio Frascione <i>RIP</i>	<b>Friday</b>	8.00 am The Burns Family <i>Intention</i>
<b>Monday</b>	8.00 am Lynette Gozmao <i>RIP</i>		3.00 pm Holy Souls ( <i>Hospital</i> )
	6.15pm Pedro & Ana Maria <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm Marcus Fernandes <i>RIP</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.00 am Rev Fr Arthur Moraes <i>RIP</i>	<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 pm J, L & Louis Furlong <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm Int of Alexio Francisco		6.15 pm Mr & Mrs RR Alfonso <i>Int</i>
	Martha & Lucinda	<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am UCM <i>For the homeless</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 am <b>Req Mass</b> O Barrett <i>RIP</i>		10.00 am John Conroy <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm Rev Fr Arthur Moraes <i>RIP</i>		11.15 am Lynette Gozmao <i>RIP</i>
			6.15 pm Patrick Walsh & Neil McCafferty <i>RIP</i>

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** Last week’s collection: £1,352.00.  
St George’s Cathedral £155.00. Thank you.

# ST ANSELM’S CHURCH

9 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS Telephone: 020 8672 2179  
[www.st-anselms-tooting-bec.org.uk](http://www.st-anselms-tooting-bec.org.uk)

2nd Sunday of Advent 7<sup>th</sup> December 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,

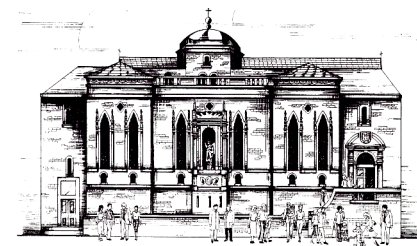
Sunday 8.30, 10.00, 11.15 am & 6.15 pm.

**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:	Gen 3:9-15:20; Ps 97; Eph 1:3-6:11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11; Ps 95; Mt 18: 12-14
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 102; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 144; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4:9-11; Ps 79; Mt 17:10-13
Sunday:	Is 61:1-2:10-11; Lk 1:46-54; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8:19-28

**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 Savermittu, 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 40:1-5. 9-11

Isaiah is called to console the people by announcing the coming of God. He calls them to prepare a way in the desert.

**Second Reading** 2 Peter 3:8-14

For God time is not measured in days. Although we wait we are called to trust that God is coming and live good lives based on hope.

**Gospel** Mark 1:1-8

In the wilderness, John the Baptist calls the people to prepare the way of the Lord.

### **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 Mass for Ossie Barrett on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10am** and Requiem Mass for Mrs Helen Delahunty **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 10am.** . Please remember both families and friends in your prayers.

### **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.

**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**

Open as usual on Sunday mornings as well as the **three Saturdays leading up to Christmas, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> December 5.45 – 7.15 pm.** Come in and see our full range of Christmas cards, cribs and gifts. All welcome!

**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'.

### **CHILDREN OF THE PARISH – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Holy Hour 21<sup>st</sup> December**

The children of the parish will lead the Holy Hour 'The Christmas Story' a short play by mime with readings carols. If you would like to be involved, please come to the upper new hall at **3.45pm for a dress rehearsal prior to the service at 5pm.** This is a lovely service for all the family as we prepare for the great celebration of Christmas, so do come and join us. All welcome.

### **CHRISTMAS FAIR EVENING**

Thank you to everyone, the social events committee, helpers, stall holders and the parishioners who supported the Christmas Fair two weeks ago. It was a really enjoyable evening and we raised £1800. All proceeds to the general parish funds.

### **FAMILY FOLK CHOIR**

We will be singing at the 10am Mass on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December. We shall meet to rehearse on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December in the lower new hall at 11am. Please meet at 9.30am prompt on Sunday morning in the Sacred Heart Chapel. All welcome.

### **PARISH CHRISTMAS FILM**

We will be showing the film 'Scrooge' on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December** in the upper new hall from 7.30pm. Refreshments including mulled wine and mince pies will be served. Please sign the sheet at the rear of the church to help us with numbers for the evening. Come along and be part of this year's Christmas Story. See posters at the rear of the church for full details.

**TUESDAY INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP** will **NOT** meet until after Christmas, date to be confirmed in the New Year. Thank you.

**GREEN FOLIAGE** to decorate the church for Christmas would be very welcome by **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December.** Thank you.