

A parishioner writes:

SUNDAY REFLECTION

“All that is required for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing.”

These words, attributed to the 18th century politician Edmund Burke, are particularly unsettling for us as Christians. Watching the news, evil seems to be all around us yet, for most of us in this parish, life is ordinary and peaceful. What can we do?

Recently, a friend who is a parish priest gave me hope. He told how a Kosovan refugee once came to him and asked to become a Catholic. The man had fled his homeland during the civil wars of the 1990s and was now settled in London. However, this man’s request was particularly unusual as he was a Muslim. “Ever since I came to this country,” he told my friend, “the Catholics have done more than anyone to make me feel welcome. Their hospitality, their acts of kindness, have been so important to me.”

Over the next few weeks, my friend instructed him in the Catholic faith. When winter arrived, their conversations began to turn to Christmas. “This will be a special time for you,” my friend said, and was surprised to see the man’s face cloud with sadness. “Christmas can never be a happy time for me,” he said. “In Kosovo, on Christmas Day, the Orthodox Christians came out of their churches and attacked my people. They killed my friends and family.”

The pain and tragedy of this man’s life is almost beyond comprehension. Yet, listening to this story, I realised it contained two very profound lessons. The first was the incredible, cumulative power of those tiny acts of kindness. The fear and hatred this Muslim must have felt for all things Christian had been transcended by the accumulated, small gestures of ordinary people who had genuinely cared about him.

The second was that those people had found space, in their busy, settled lives for a stranger, an outsider. The complacency that Edmund Burke was condemning was not just about political apathy. It is also about that frame of mind which keeps us too content within our comfortable circles of family and friends, precious and wonderful as they are.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday	8.30 am	UCM (For Parish during our Centenary Year)	Thursday	8.00 am	Private Intention
				6.15 pm	Georgina Kemp RIP
	10.00 am	Margaret, Michael & Mary E. Shaughnessey RIP	Friday	8.00 am	Foundation Mass
	11.15 am	Salvatore Altarilla RIP		3.00 pm	Holy Souls - Hospital
	6.15 pm	Szilagyi Terazia RIP		6.15 pm	Andrew Healy (Get well)
Monday	8.00 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Saturday	10.00 am	Amelia Jhugroo RIP
	6.15pm	Mrs Maisie Rooney RIP		6.15 pm	James Dalton RIP
Tuesday	8.00 am	Jim Dowling RIP	Sunday	8.30 am	Pro Pop
	6.15 pm	Andrew Jhugroo RIP		10.00 am	Rita Ryder RIP
Wednesday	10.00 am	John Buston RIP		11.15 am	Intention of Steven Kabba
	6.15 pm	A Kaeena (Get well)		6.15 pm	Daisy E Bourner RIP

ST ANSELM’S CHURCH

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

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Parish Team:

Fr William Hebborn,
Fr Oliver Antao & Thelma Lewis

Parish Sisters:

The Little Company of Mary

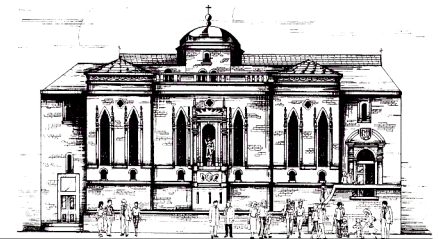
Mass Times: Saturday evening 6.15 pm,
Sunday 8.30, 10.00, 11.15 am & 6.15 pm.

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:	Heb 1:1-6; Ps 96; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday:	Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	Heb 2:14-18; Ps 104; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday:	Heb 3:7-14; Ps 94; Mk 1:40-45
Friday:	Heb 4:1-5.11; Ps 77; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday:	Heb 4:12-18; Ps 18; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday:	1 Sam 3:3-10.19; Ps 39; 1 Cor 6:13-15.17-20; Jn 1:35-42

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading Isaiah 42: 1-4. 6-7

God announces the coming of the Messiah and his work of reconciliation and redemption.

Second Reading Acts 10: 34-38

Peter recalls that Jesus’ baptism was the beginning of his ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Mark 1: 7-11

Jesus shows his humility by being baptised, and his unity with the Father and the Holy Spirit is revealed.

PAX CHRISTI – THE PEACE OF CHRIST – Sunday 18th January

The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear or violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice. Envelopes are available at the rear of the church and to be returned in the retiring collection next weekend. Thank you.

PARISH MEETINGS DURING THE WEEK

Monday: Union of Catholic Mothers 2nd and 4th 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** (2nd & 4th 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: The Papacy and authority of the church.

ALTAR SERVERS' TRAINING

There will be a three-week training programme for altar servers on Sundays 25th January, 1st and 8th February. The sessions will take place in the church from 3-4pm. **ALL** servers who have been serving less than one year and any others who need further training are required to attend all three sessions.

WELCOME GROUP We will meet again TODAY in the lower new hall.

JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

No JYC Saturday 17th January due to parish event. Meet again Saturday 24th January 10.30am – 12 noon.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUPS will recommence TODAY. Please note there will be an Over 5's Liturgy Group Meeting in the upper new hall following the 10am Mass today.

FAMILY FOLK CHOIR – Sunday 18th Jan 10am Mass.

If you would like to join us please come to a rehearsal on Saturday 17th Jan at 11am in the lower new hall. Please meet on Sunday morning in the church at 9.30 am.

SHOP ROTA Sunday 18th January: Maeve, Patricia & Helen Lyons. Would all volunteers please collect their copy of the rota from the shop or parish office (Tues/Wed/Fri). Thank you.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

If you are planning to get married this year, please contact the parish office (Tues/Wed/Fri) to make an appointment to see Fr. Will.

LITTLE ANGELS TODDLER GROUP

We shall re-open on **Wednesday 28th January 2009** 9.00 – 11.00 am in the old hall, Balham High Road entrance.

CENTENARY LAUNCH WEEKEND

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th January 2009

It is with great pleasure we invite you to attend an evening celebrating our past, embedding our present and shaping our future, including an exhibition of our past which will be part of our Centenary celebrations through the year of 2009.

We acknowledge our responsibilities with the Covenant with the Poor and the Parish has committed to supporting 'The Nest Children's Home' in Nairobi, where mothers and babies are cared for and rehabilitated back into normal life. For more information please visit their website:

<http://uhuru.de/thenesthome/the-childrens-home-das-kinderheim/>

This event will take place on **Saturday 17th January 2009** in the Crypt, Balham High Road entrance commencing with a Reception at **7.45pm**.

This is an adult only evening and limited tickets are available (first come, first served) for this 'Once in a Century Event'. **Parishioners are invited to purchase tickets from the parish office (Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday) at £15 per person.** All funds raised throughout this evening and Centenary Year will be used to provide necessary building projects equipment/general funding at the Nest Children's Home.

Sunday 18th January

There will be an opportunity to view the exhibition and make a donation to the Nest Children's Home following all the Masses. Entrance from Balham High Road.

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS – RECEPTION 2009

If you are applying to a Catholic Primary 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 23rd January 2009**

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2009

Confirmation Catechist's Meeting	Tuesday 13 th January 7.30pm upper new hall
1 st Holy Communion Parents' Mtg	Tuesday 20 th January 7.30pm upper new hall
UCM (Evening Foundation)	Wednesday 21 st January 8pm upper new hall
Liturgy Committee	Tuesday 27 th January 8.00 pm upper new hall
Confirmation Registration	Monday 9 th February 7.30 pm upper new hall
Parish Pastoral Council	Tuesday 10 th February 8.00 pm upper new hall.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Last week's collection was £1,119. Thank you.