**CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2023**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Mass Readings 09:30am & 11:15am Page: 90**

**Christmas Eve: 24th Dec**

**Mass Book readings - 6pm & 9pm, page: 97**

**Christmas Day: 25th Dec**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**Mass Book reading for 09:30am, page: 101. 11:15am, page: 103**

**OUR LADY OF PITY AND ST SIMON STOCK CHURCH**

**PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS**

If you require a priest reference, please give them into the parish office. Application forms for Wandsworth and supplementary forms must be received by the 15th January 2024. **……..…………..……………………………….…….………**

**PLACES AT OLV SCHOOL**

There are currently vacancies at OLV in all year groups. Email admissions@ourladyofvictories.wandsworth.sch.uk or phone 020 8788 7957 if you are interested. **……..………………………………………….…….………..**

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

It is traditional at Christmas to make an offering to your Parish Priest, this forms part of his income for the year. Please use the envelope provided in the porch or use the contactless devices. Many thanks for your support and generosity. **……..………………………………….…….………………..**

**OFFERING AT THE CRIB**

The friends of the Holy Land have been giving hope and providing practical help to the most vulnerable Christians in and around Bethlehem for over 10 years. Their work is dependent on crib offerings. Many are desperate at this time of year. Please give generously when you visit the crib. [www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk](http://www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk)

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**WELCOME HOME.**

Many visitors attend Christmas Masses there will be a number of people coming to Mass for the first time this year and perhaps for the very first time. Each member of the parish has an important part in helping others feel at home. Please share a smile, budge up on the pews, offer someone a Mass book or hymn book. This Christmas, try to be one of the reasons that our visitors come back in the New Year. **……..………………………………….…….………………..**

**BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS**

In the new year we are carrying out necessary repairs and improvements to our buildings. See parish website for details. **……..………………………………….…….………………..CHRISTMAS MESSAGE**

For Archbishop John Wilson’s Christmas message: [**www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/news-events/news/archbishop-john-wilson-s-2023-christmas-message/**](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/news-events/news/archbishop-john-wilson-s-2023-christmas-message/)

**MAY THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST RENEW HIS LIGHT AND LOVE IN OUR HEARTS . MAY HIS COMING AMOUNG US AS ONE OF US BRINGING US HIS LASTING PEACE AND JOY.**

**With prayers and blessing for Christmas and new year.**

**Canon Michael**. **………………………….…………….…………...…**

**PRAYER FOR PEACE IN ISRAEL & GAZA**

Please keep the people of Israel & Gaza in your prayers

at this time of great suffering for them. ***Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before the 10am Mass on Fridays (begins at 9am)***, an opportunity to pray together for an end to the conflict.

**CAFOD APPEAL** Donate at cafod.org.uk/ipc or 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those in need. Your donation supports aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

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**TIMES OF CHRISTMAS MASSES**

**Christmas Eve – Sunday 24th December:**

**09:30am, 11:15am** (4th Sunday of Advent)

**6pm** (Family Mass with carols, children can wear nativity costume).

**9pm** Mass in the night **8:45pm** carols before mass

**Christmas Day – Monday 25th December:**

09:30am and 11:15am. with CarolsNo 6pm Mass

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**PARISH OFFICE** will be closed for the Christmas period and re-opens: Monday 08th January. Opening Times: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 09:30am – 3pm. If you have any enquiries over the holiday period, please send via email to : putney@rcaos.org.uk

**MASS INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS**

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| **24th December 2023****Fourth Sunday of Advent**  | **9.30am****11.15am****6pm****9pm** | Mary Kavanagh IntDavid Hoyland IntSeamus Keogh RIPSylvia MCleen Int |
| **Monday 25th December** **The Nativity of the Lord** | **09:30am****11:15am** | James Family RIPBurke & Cosgrove Family RIP |
| **Tuesday 26th December** **Saint Stephen** | **10am** | Mr & Mrs Curry |
| **Wednesday 27th December** **Saint John** | **8am** | Noleen Elizabeth Ryall Int |
| **Thursday 28th December****The Holy Innocents** | **-** | **No Mass** |
| **Friday 29th December** **Saint Thomas of Canterbury** | **10am** | Piotrowski Family RIP |
| **Saturday 30th December****Feria** | **10am** | Carole Kavanagh Int |
| **Sunday 31st December** **The Holy Family** | **9.30am****11.15am****6pm** | People of the ParishDavid Hoyland IntThanksgiving Nathan Family |
| **Monday 01st January 2024****Mary the Mother of God** | **10am**  | Nathan Family Int |
| **Tuesday 02nd January** **Saints Basil and Gregory Nazianzen** | **10am** | Anne Cosgrove Int |
| **Wednesday 03rd January** **Feria** | **8am** | Pat and Dallas Ross Int |
| **Thursday 04th January** **The Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese** | **-** | **No Mass** |
| **Friday 05th January** **Feria** | **10am** | David Hoyland Int |
| **Saturday 06th January** **Feria** | **10am** | Ann Burke Int |

24th and 25th December 2023

YOU TUBE LIVESTREAM

Every Sunday 9.30am Mass is livestreamed via YouTube.

**Please subscribe to us!**

**ST SIMONS, PUTNEY**

; friendsof theholyland.org.uk/christmas

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**Monday Under 5’s. Term Time Only** – Will resume Monday 08th January

 **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Parish Priest: Canon Michael O’Dea**

**Hazlewell Road, Putney SW15 6LU, Tel: 0208 788 1131;**

**Email:** **Putney@rcaos.org.uk** **Website: St SimonPutney.uk**

**Parish Administrator: Catherine Hallett**

**(Parish Office times: Mon, Wed and Fri (9.30am-3pm)**

**Safeguarding: Moira Bennett 07764 939 631**

**Our Lady of Victories School: 020 8788 7957**

**Convent: Franciscan Missionaries of Mary: 0208 780 1828**

**Marriage Preparation Days: Philip & Mary Pond 0208 651 4653**

**A parish of Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050**

**SUPPORTING ST SIMON’S**:

If you would like to make an offering via bank transfer, the Parish account details are:

**NatWest, Sort Code 60-17-11, Account 20404131.** Please give your surname then initial as a reference. If you have not previously signed a gift aid declaration, please print from our webpage under the ‘gift aid’ tab and email a completed copy to the Parish Office or put through the Priests House letter box.

Standing order forms and gift aid declaration forms are in the porch

**Weekly Offerings**

**17th Dec : £317.76**

**Contactless: £300.00**

**2nd collection for the Christmas Flowers £261.76**

**Contactless: £55.00**

**Total £934.52**

**Your generosity is much appreciated.**

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If you wish to DONATE to the Parish via phone please scan the QR code