



ST ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Revd Dr Ian Patrick McDole

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A Warm Welcome To All Our Parishioners and Visitors

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 7th December 2025



Dear Parishioners,

This week we are introduced to St John the Baptist. The wild man of the Judean desert who is calling all who will listen to Repent!

Repentance is not a physical action that we do with our bodies, but something that we do with our minds and hearts. Repentance means to make changes from old ways to new and better ways of thinking and living.

The main sin that St John preaches against, a preaching which Christ repeatedly reinforces throughout the Gospel, is hypocrisy. The Pharisee and the Sadducees had a tendency to say one thing and then do another. They claimed to have faith in God, but then treated others with contempt and harshness. Our words and actions need to be consistent. If we truly are Christians and believe in Christ with our whole hearts, then our faith will be reflected in every action we make.

The reality is that we each have much work to do, and are not at that point of perfection. And so we must remember that St John the Baptist is also speaking to us when he cries out 'Repent!' .

With many prayers,

Fr Ian

ST ANN'S CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve

5pm Vigil Mass

8.30pm Carols and Readings leading into

9.00pm Solemn Night Mass

Thursday 25th December Christmas Day

8.30am Mass

10.00am Mass

THE CHOSEN SEASON 5

Season 5 Screenings will be shown in the Hall Annexe, on Fridays, starting at approximately 10.45am, following tea and coffee **All are welcome.**

APPEAL FOR SOUTH SUDAN

The St Vincent de Paul Infant Centre provide meals to 700 young children every week.

The Healthcare Centre offers up to 120 essential primary care health appointments free every day. The situation is even worse now with the war.

The St Vincent de Paul Society at St Ann's will hold a sale of children's books, bicycles, rockers, and toys on **Saturday 6th December after the 6pm Mass and after all Masses on Sunday 7th December.** Cakes will also be on sale. The proceeds will support South Sudan.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY



The Children's Liturgy catechist warmly invites parents, carers, and grandparents to bring their younger children to the 10.00am Mass on **Sunday 14th December**, where they are welcome to take part in a short Nativity performance at the end of Mass.

All costumes will be provided, and children will not be required to speak (unless they want to) just join in to re-enact the Nativity. This special tradition has been a much-loved way for our young parishioners to begin the Christmas season, and has been part of St Ann's for many years. A rehearsal will take place during Children's Liturgy this **Sunday 7th December** at the 10.00am Mass.

ADORATION OVER THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The last day for Adoration is Thursday 11th December. Resuming on Wednesday 14th January 2026.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB



The next meeting will be on Wednesday **10th December** in the Hall Annexe, after the 9.30am Mass until 12.00 noon. You can pop in at any time between these hours. All are welcome! Feel free to bring a friend or neighbour along.

BANSTEAD 5 EVENT

CAROLS AROUND THE BONFIRE

All Saints Church Banstead is hosting Carols around the Bonfire this Saturday 6 December 2025 from 12 noon. The event will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

ST ANN'S CAROL SERVICE



Join us on **Sunday 14th December at 4.00pm** for St Ann's Carol Service. A celebration with carols and readings. After the service, everyone is warmly invited to the Church hall for mulled wine and mince pies.

PARISH CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE

On Monday 22nd December at 7.00pm in **St John's Church, Tadworth** followed by mulled wine & mince pies in the hall.

Always a wonderful occasion with Christmas readings, beautiful choir music, visiting singers & well-known carols. There will be a collection to support work of Caritas International. Please spread the word, invite family & friends and make this special evening the start of a Happy & Holy Christmas!

NEW WEBSITE PAGE

EPSOM DEANERY ACTIVITIES

A new page has been added to our website **www.stannsbanstead.com** titled "**Epsom Deanery Activities.**" The aim of this page is to share events taking place across the other eight parishes in our deanery, from social gatherings and community events to joint prayer groups, Lent and Advent courses, and more. Please do take a look and see what is happening locally; you may find something you would like to join, support, or take part in. It is a great way to connect with our wider deanery community.

THE WORD WHO IS LIFE – THE CALL TO MISSION
NEW YEAR PARISH MEETINGS ACROSS THE
DEANERY

For St Ann's, the meeting will be on
Sunday 18th January 2026 after the 10.00am Mass
Please save the date!

Moving Forward — Together

As part of Bishop Richard's The Word Who Is Life Pastoral Plan, the nine parishes of Epsom Deanery will become one parish in 2026. The Plan invites us all to share in the mission of building a vibrant, welcoming, faith-filled communities.

What's Happening Now

Clergy and parishioners from every parish are already meeting to ask: How do we involve everyone?

New Year parish meetings across the Deanery will:

- Explain the Pastoral Plan
- Show how decisions will be made
- Invite every community to help shape the future

How You Can Help

This transformation needs everyone's gifts and ideas, you can share your thoughts by visiting

<https://www.epsomdeanery.com/haveyoursay>

or directly emailing epsomdeanerynewsletter@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR RECEPTION APPLICATIONS
SEPTEMBER 2026

For parents who have children who are due to start in Reception next September 2026, the closing date to make an application is the 15th January is for both the supplementary information form (SIF), which should be returned to the school office and also for the online application made to Surrey County Council.

HELPING THE HOMELESS 2026

St Ann's SVP group will again support the Merton Night Shelter project, running from January 19th for 8 weeks. For twelve years, the shelter has provided hot meals and safe accommodation for rough sleepers in Merton during the coldest months. This year, it will be hosted by the Raynes Park Salvation Army, Salvation Army Church, 109 Kingston Road, SW19 1LT (next to Wimbledon Fire Station).

Volunteers needed:

Each Monday, dinner is required for up to 18 guests:

- Main course ● vegetarian option
- Side vegetables and potatoes ● Dessert

Costs covered by SVP.

If you can help as a cook or would like more information, please contact: ann.corrigan@lienard.co.uk or the Parish Office with your details.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This Sunday 7th December – Christmas Flowers
Sunday 14th December – None
Sunday 21st December – None
Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th December -
Parish Priest Christmas Offering
Christmas Season - Crib Collection
Catholic Children's Society

ANNIVERSARIES

Glorie Escorido RIP

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2026

Diocesan Directory 2026 now available to purchase for **£7.50** from the Church Porch. Please put your money in the newspaper slot.

DAY OF REFLECTION

FOR MINISTERS OF THE WORD

SATURDAY 24 JANUARY 2026, 11AM-4PM

St Michael's Church, High Salvington, Worthing
BN13 3AL **Cost: £40**

Led by **Bishop Richard** and **Catherine Christmas**, Liturgy & Music Adviser. Held on the weekend of the *Sunday of the Word of God*, the day includes input on Scripture, the Lectionary, the Liturgy of the Word, and preparing to minister as a reader. There will also be **Lectio Divina** and Mass.

Booking: Visit the Diocesan Events page or use the **Enquiries:** catherine.christmas@abdiocese.org.uk

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR
PARISH WHO ARE SICK**

Helen Guinness	Freda Griffiths
Karen Murray	Maureen Reilly
Indira Louis	Ashlee Rodgers
Christian Requena	Gillian Doherty
Joshua Anderson	Denise Rush
Damian Poole	Guilherme Guedes
Allan Norman	James Joseph
Michael Monaco	Edmund Louis
Arthur Harding	Jake Brauer
Helen Kershaw	Christine Hearne
Jane Scargill	Susan Smith
Jonathan Lewis	Spencer Thorpe
Cyrus Pascoe	Marie-Anne Murphy
Patrick Gilligan	Sean Gilligan
Maria Degenis	Paul Worsfold
Dave Hudson	Brian Glossop
Zeke Peyton	Domenico Fasino
Maurice Dingley	Martin Mohan

St Ann's Parish Weekly Schedule & Information

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 6th December – *St Nicholas, Bishop*

6.00pm (Vigil) – Kevin Gilbert RIP

Sunday 7th December – *Second Sunday of Advent*

8.30am – Olga Thompson RIP

10.00am – Pro populo

Monday 8th December – *The Immaculate Conception*

No Mass

Tuesday 9th December – *St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin*

6.00pm -Edward & Rosaleen McDonald RIP

Wednesday 10th December – *Our Lady of Loretto*

9.00am – Holy Souls

Thursday 11th December – *St Damasus I*

9.30am – Mary Intentions

Friday 12th December – *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

9.30am – Peter Griffiths RIP

Saturday 13th December – *St Lucy*

6.00pm (Vigil) – Diana Young RIP

Sunday 14th December– *Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent*

8.30am – Pro populo

10.00am – David Faulds RIP

Wednesday & Thursday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10am to 12pm

Fridays

The Rosary will be recited prior to Mass at 9.00 am every Friday.

CONTACT DETAILS

St Ann's Website: www.stannsbanstead.com

Hall Hire: stannshallmanager@gmail.com

Bereavement Supporters: Joanna Stewart & Cathy Laffer. Contact: 01737 353724

Parish Coordinator: Katrina Dunckley

Office Hours: Monday 9am - 3pm

Wednesday 10am - 2pm - Thursday 9am - 5pm

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

Our Parish Safeguarding Officer keeps the Parish up to date on all safeguarding practices and legislation for children and vulnerable adults. For any questions or concerns, please contact: Geraldine McWilliams
Email: sg1.banstead@abdiocese.org.uk

INTERESTED IN EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

If you're an adult considering baptism into the Catholic faith? Contact the parish office for more information.

BAPTISM

New and expectant parents are invited to contact the parish office to begin baptism preparation. Regular Sunday Mass attendance and a one-hour class are required before scheduling. The class can be taken before your child is born. **Baptisms take place after the 10.00am Sunday Mass.**

Children aged 7 and up will need age-appropriate Catholic instruction before baptism. Please introduce yourself to Fr Ian after Mass for more details.

THE SACRAMENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND RECONCILIATION

To register your child for our First Holy Communion preparation classes, the following requirements must be met: ●The child must have already been baptised in the Catholic faith. ●We will accept children of parents who are registered with and are practicing members of St Ann's Parish.

ST TERESA'S KNITTING CLUB

Meet every 1st Wednesday of the month, 2pm to 4pm in the hall annexe. All Welcome.

SERVERS NEEDED

All members of the parish (especially our teenagers) who have made their First Holy Communion are invited to help serve at Sunday and Weekday Masses.

GIFT AID

Make your weekly donation go further! Sign-up to our parish Gift Aid at no extra cost to you! For more information contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday & Saturday at 5.15pm or on request.

(Please check our website or the Church door for last-minute alterations to Confession times)

PARISHIONERS IN HOSPITAL

Please contact the parish office if you or a parishioner are in or going to be in hospital.

THINKING ABOUT GETTING MARRIED

If you are considering marriage, contact Fr Ian or the Parish Office. Please be aware that the Bishop requires a minimum of one year's notice prior to the wedding. A meeting will be scheduled with Fr Ian to begin the necessary paperwork and to arrange for you both to attend a marriage preparation course.

ST ANN'S CONFERENCE OF THE SVP

St Ann's St Vincent de Paul Group meet every 2nd Tuesday of the Month in St Ann's room at 7.00pm.

SVP FOOD COLLECTION FOR THE LOCAL EPSOM & EWELL FOOD BANK

For the full list of food items go to:
visit <https://epsomewell.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> Please place in the box provided in the Church porch. Many thanks