



ST ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Revd Dr Ian Patrick McDole

4 Brighton Road, Banstead, SM7 1BS

Telephone: 01737 353724 Email: banstead@abdiocese.org.uk

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 25th January 2026

Dear Parishioners,

St Paul points out a fact that many of us do not like to admit - news travels fast. Chloe's people mentioned in the second reading might seem like gossips, letting St Paul know what is happening in Corinth and all the divisions among the Christian community. But the reality is that they, and St Paul in turn, are concerned about the situation. St Paul probably references the source of his information to let the Church at Corinth know that his news is reliable and that he has a real reason to correct this behaviour.

The problem in Corinth is one that has existed throughout the history of the Church. We like to associate ourselves with people we like, people whom we admire, people who help us have an identity. This also means that we can quickly distinguish ourselves from others. As people travelled and heard the Gospel, they realised that there were different experiences of Christ and different ways to relate to Him. They started to align themselves more with one disciple than the others, and they saw the messenger as more important than the message.

The Church is called to be one, united in faith, hope, and love. The Church is supposed to be a sign of unity, despite our differences.

And our differences all help to build up the Church so that we can have a better understanding of who Christ is. While the message of the Gospel is preached in various ways, the message is still the same: Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Today we are called to pray about the ways that we can focus on being united with all those who believe in Christ and to bring our own experiences forward to support, and not divide, His Church.

God bless,

Fr Ian

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 24th January – *St Francis de Sales*

6.00pm (Vigil) – Victor Tompkins RIP

Sunday 25th January – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am – Michael O'Halloran RIP

10.00am – Pro populo

Monday 26th January – *Ss Timothy & Titus*

No Mass

Tuesday 27th January – *St Angela Merici*

6.00pm – Victor Tompkins RIP

Wednesday 28th January – *St Thomas Aquinas*

9.30am – Rita Burke RIP

Thursday 29th January – *Feria in Ordinary Time*

9.30am – Charles Shannon RIP

Friday 30th January – *Feria in Ordinary Time*

9.30am – Victor Tompkins RIP

Saturday 31st January – *St John Bosco*

6.00pm (Vigil) – Pro populo

Sunday 1st February – *Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8.30am – Peggy Prescott RIP

10.00am – Molly & Tommie Caulfield RIP

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 10am to 12pm

Thursday 10am to 12pm

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

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)

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, James Joseph, Joshua Anderson, Denise Rush, Damian Poole, Guilherme Guedes, Allan Norman, Michael Monaco, Edmund Louis, Arthur Harding, Jake Braue, 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, Zeke Peyton, Domenico Fasino, Maurice Dingley, Martin Mohan

LOURDES 2026



Our pilgrimage to Lourdes is one of the most significant pastoral events in our annual diocesan calendar, with hundreds of members of our community of faith visiting the Grotto together each year.

Pilgrimage Dates for 2026

Friday 24 to Thursday 30 July (by air/train)

Thursday 23 July to Friday 31 July

(by coach/Jumbulance)

For prices and further information visit our website

[Lourdes Pilgrimage](#)

T: 01293 651147

E: lourdes@abdiocese.org.uk

THE PASTORAL PLAN

THE WORD WHO IS LIFE

Bishop Richard's appointment as the next Archbishop of Westminster brings immediate consequences for the implementation of the Pastoral Plan in the Epsom Deanery. While Church Law requires certain matters to be paused until a new Bishop is appointed – especially any decision to merge the nine parishes into one, the core priorities of prayer, formation and mission remain unchanged.

As the planned parishioner meetings across the nine parishes will no longer take place, the Parish Leadership Team will instead develop proposals to continue reflecting on mission, strengthen cooperation between our parish communities, and encourage parishioner involvement. A helpful article explaining what does and does not happen during sede vacante is also available on the diocesan website.

[Sede Vacante: Next steps for the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton | News](#)

DEANERY NEWSLETTER

The latest Deanery newsletter is now available:

[Epsom Deanery Newsletter final draft.pdf](#)

It includes an encouragement to pray for Bishop Richard as prepares to take up his new ministry in Westminster and an encouragement to all of us to continue in prayer, formation and mission for the good of our communities and the people amongst whom we live and work. There are a few paper copies in the Church porch.

THE FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE



The Feast of Saint Blaise on 3 February is a cherished tradition, especially marked by the Blessing of Throats. Honoured as the patron saint of those with throat ailments, this feast remains a meaningful moment of prayer and pastoral care.

Fr Ian will give the blessings on Sunday 1st of February.

A THANK YOU LETTER FROM PACT



Dear Joanna and St Ann's Banstead,

Thank you so much for all your support with our recent Christmas Family Day events - your donations helped us organise a really positive and memorable day for children and families. These were really appreciated by the children who attended.

The contribution made by St Ann's helped to make the day a real success - thank you so much for supporting us. Prior to the day, the mothers were able to handpick a gift for their child, wrap it themselves and write a note for them. On the day, we had Father Christmas visit to meet the children and pass on these gifts on behalf of their mothers.

We received some really positive feedback from mothers, children, families and staff alike, that the gifts received made a huge difference to the children at a hard time of year and is instrumental in supporting the bond between mothers in prison and their children.

Thank you again for your support, I hope you might be open to us approaching you in future.

Yours sincerely,
Chloe Hopkinson
Family Engagement Manager,
Pact at HMP Downview

ST ANN'S CHOIR, MALE & FEMALE SINGERS NEEDED

Interested in joining our choir? If you would like to find out more please speak to Flick Saunders our Musical Director or contact the parish office:
banstead@abdiocese.org.uk

GRAND NEWS – NEWSLETTER

Click Here [Grand News - new issue out now! | News](#)

The groups are organised and run **by parishioners**, with support from the diocesan network.

We hold two or three diocesan-wide gatherings each year to build community and friendships, which are always well received. Locally, parish groups meet regularly for friendship, support, prayer, and encouragement, offering a gentle and life-giving way to share the joys and challenges of family life.

If this is something your parish would like to explore, we would be very happy to visit, talk with the parish community at St Ann's, and help set up a group.

A leaflet with further information is available in the Church porch.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING

Saturday 7 February 2026 10-3pm at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley



Many people of all ages are living with the challenges of mental health conditions. With the support of Mental Health England, this training explores the realities, symptoms, and impact of these often debilitating experiences. Thanks to the trainer's support, the event is highly subsidised. Tickets are £40 per delegate (usual price £120). To register, scan the QR code on the attached poster or visit the Events page of the diocesan website:

www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events

For further information, please contact Simon South, Marriage & Family Life Adviser, at simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

ANNIVERSARIES AT THIS TIME

Bernard Peacock RIP & Margaret Bowen West RIP



Discerning Love – Engaged Catholic Women & The Journey to Marriage
27 January — 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

The National Board of Catholic Women is launching a new way of accompanying women. One that honours the depth, complexity, and beauty of women's lives.

Catholic Women Walking with Women: A Faith Journey Through Life's Seasons is a year-long webinar series designed to meet women where they truly are, in the real circumstances and rhythms of life, and to explore how God walks with us in every season.

This session features Weronika Felcis as she speaks on: The Sacrament of Marriage: Vocation & Preparation, Navigating faith, values, and expectations as a couple, The role of community

Register for this series

<https://www.nbcw.co.uk/event/discriminating-love-engaged-catholic-women-the-journey-to-marriage/>

LENT BOOKLETS

Lent small group booklets available to order
Five sessions on the theme of our baptismal vocation - please contact

E: jon.harman@abdiocese.org.uk for information and to order.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This Sunday 24th January - The White Flower Appeal

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its appeal the weekend of 23/24 January. This years postcards allow all supporters to join the fightback campaign against the current threats in parliament to expand the abortion and allow assisted suicide. Postcards available in the Church porch.

Sunday 1st February – Lepra

St Ann's Parish Information

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

PARTICIPANTS 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.

Please contact Katrina at St Ann's parish office to book.

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.

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.

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 EP-SOM & 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

ST TERESA'S KNITTING CLUB

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

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club meet on the second Wednesday of every month in the Hall Annexe, after the 9.30am Mass until 12.00 noon. You can pop in at any time between these hours. Feel free to bring a friend or neighbour along.

TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASS

Tea and coffee are available:

*After the 9.30am Mass on Friday morning in the Hall Annexe.

*After the 10.00am Mass on Sunday in the Church Hall.

NEW PARISHIONERS

To anyone who has moved into the Parish recently, a warm welcome to you.

Please fill out a new parishioner form, you can find these in our Church porch and either hand it to Fr Ian after Sunday Mass or to the Parish office during the week.

There are plenty of ways that you can become involved in St Ann's Parish life and meet fellow parishioners.

Contact banstead@abdiocese.org.uk for more information about volunteering.

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.