



ST ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Revd Dr Ian Patrick McDole

4 Brighton Road, Banstead, SM7 1BS

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 8th February 2026

Dear Parishioners,

I remember a conversation with my former bishop in which a few of us were discussing how some newly ordained priests in the diocese of Covington were fitting into priestly ministry. There was one who seemed to be having a few difficulties. My bishop eventually made a rather pithy, but wise observation: when we choose one thing, we automatically exclude other options.

While we were discussing the expectations of priestly life, this statement is true in every situation. St Paul reminds the Corinthians in today's second reading that he has chosen the wisdom of Christ, and therefore he has refused to accept the wisdom of the world. Although Catholic theology is known for always accepting a 'both ... and ...' approach, when we live the Gospel we have to reject sin, former ways of living, and certain ways of thinking. Christ instructs his disciples, and us in turn, to turn away from sin and follow the Gospel - we cannot remain in sin and be His followers. Moreover, Christ tells us that he wants us to have real conviction, and not to be lukewarm in accepting His teachings.

St Paul's words to the Corinthians cause us to ask: what ways do I still hold on to the wisdom of the world or my former life that keep me from living fully in the Gospel?

With many prayers for the week ahead,

Fr Ian

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 7th February

6.00pm (Vigil) – Eileen Connolly Intention

Sunday 8th February – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am – Pro populo

10.00am – Eifion AP Tudno RIP

Monday 9th February – Feria in OT Week 5

11.00am – Requiem Mass for Sylvia Cattini RIP

Tuesday 10th February – St Scholastic

No Mass

Wednesday 11th February – Our Lady of Lourdes

6.00pm – Chris Atkins RIP

Thursday 12th February – Feria in OT Week 5

9.30am – Mary & Joseph Mascarenhas RIP

Friday 13th February – Feria in OT Week 5

9.30am – Leanne Delderfield Wellbeing

Saturday 14th February – Ss Cyril & Methodius

6.00pm – Dan Garvey RIP

Sunday 8th February – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am – Pro populo

10.00am – Nellie & Jim Graghty 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

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, Zeke Peyton, Domenico Fasino, Maurice Dingley, Martin Mohan.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES IN THE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Many parishioners have asked about including loved ones in the weekly death anniversary notices. These notices began in 2018 and originally included only those whose funerals took place at St Ann's. Names from earlier years can also be included.

To make this clearer and more inclusive, a list will be placed in the church porch for a few months. Parishioners are invited to add the name and date of death of their deceased loved ones. Once compiled, these names will be included in the newsletter in the appropriate month.

Please note: only names added to the list will be included, do not email the office.

The deceased does not need to have had their funeral at St Ann's, but should have a clear connection to the parish, such as past parishioners or immediate family of current parishioners.

Thank you for your patience as this is introduced.

AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH IN MAIDENHEAD

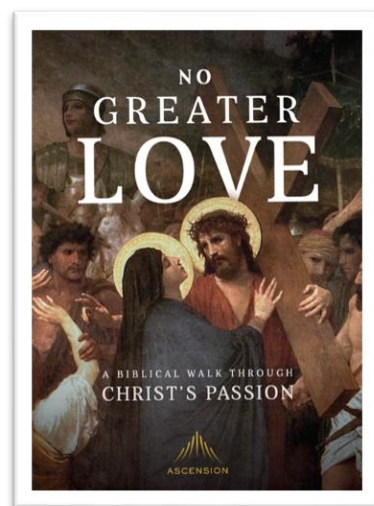


Every year, the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their Society Patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society's missionary outreach, and for the intentions of all those who support their work.

If you are able, and if it is possible to attend, Masses are at **10.00am every day of the Novena except Sunday**, when it is at **11.00am**. These Masses will be available to follow on YouTube, via the Mill Hill website:

www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena.

The Novena Prayer Booklet is available on request for a suggested donation of **£1 per booklet** to cover costs. You are welcome to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena prayer booklet. Please write to the **Novena Director at 6 Colby Gardens, Maidenhead, SL6 7GZ**, or email nove-namhm@gmail.com.



COME AND JOIN US FOR TEA AND CAKE

As we watch and discuss this series of 5 films, shot on location in the Holy Land. We will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death.

We will meet at 7.30pm at St Joseph's Church Hall, St Margaret Drive, Epsom, Surrey KT18 7JQ on the following Mondays:
23rd February, 2nd March, 9th March, 16th March and 23rd March.

If you would like to come please book your place by emailing:

fg.epsom@abdiocese.org.uk

'No Greater Love' Course Via Zoom St Clements Ewell

There will be a reflection group on Wednesdays in Lent starting on the 25th February at 7.30pm until 9pm. The course will be delivered **via zoom**. If you would like to join us please email Richard Preston on choddurham@gmail.com to get the zoom link.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB



The next meeting will be on Wednesday 11th February 2026 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.

THE BANSTEAD FIVE GROUP OF CHURCHES

Many of you will know of the important covenant the churches of Banstead signed in May 1991, nearly 35 years ago, committing us to working together wherever we can. This has led to a number of significant ongoing benefits to the community of Banstead, not least the Open Door café and the annual pantomime, as well as many joint services and learning opportunities.

However we are finding it increasingly difficult to gather enough volunteers to make the partnership viable. We are continuing with many of the events, including the Walk of Witness and the Remembrance Sunday services. But the oversight committee is getting smaller, and many churches are no longer able to resource new activities. Those faithful souls who had been involved from the beginning are now wanting to hand over to others, and we are committed to maintaining the original vision of a lay-led partnership. Specifically, we urgently need someone with persistence and basic IT skills to resolve issues around our currently inaccessible bank account.

Are you passionate about churches joining together across traditions? Could you offer time and enthusiasm for this important project? Please speak to Geraldine or Caroline our St Ann's representatives about how you can get involved. You can contact them through emailing banstead@abdiocese.org.uk

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

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This Sunday 8th February – Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund. Gift Aid Envelopes available in the Church porch.

Sunday 15th February – None

Sunday 22nd February – None

WALK WITH ME LENTEN BOOKLETS



Before we make the purchase of our lent booklets, Walk with Me, we just want to gauge interest. If you would like to buy a booklet, please sign your name on the sign-up sheet situated in the church porch by the **9th February**.

EASTER BUFFET FOR OUR SENIORS



This Easter, Fr Ian & our Church Social Committee warmly invites senior members of our parish Community (67+) to a special Easter Buffet on:

Sunday 22nd March 2026

These lunches are specially held for senior parishioners, **only**, particularly those who live alone and would enjoy a meal in friendly company.

We would love for you to join us.

Save the date!

Keep an eye on the newsletter and church announcements for details on **sign-up sheets** and how to reserve your place.

CYMFED FLAME CONGRESS 2027 –

SATURDAY 6 MARCH 2027

AT THE OVO ARENA WEMBLEY

Clergy, youth ministers, and young people are invited to join the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Youth Team at Flame Congress, the largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales.

Flame Congress, organised by the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation (CYMFed), is for young people aged 14+ to share their faith with over 10,000 others. To get an idea of what the day involves please see the following link [FLAME – CYMFED](#) If you are interested in bringing a group, please contact Bex Driver at E: bex.driver@abdiocese.org.uk with an estimated number of tickets you wish to reserve. The ticket cost is £35 per person; this includes the price of the ticket and a free A&B T-shirt. As you can imagine, the event is very popular so booking as soon as possible is essential.

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 Dunkley

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

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. 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 90-minute 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 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

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.