



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 of Lent Sunday 22nd March 2026

Dear Parishioners,

Every time I go to visit my family at St Stephen's Cemetery in Fort Thomas, Kentucky, I am greeted by a stone crucifix that sits opposite when the old chapel once stood. When I was younger I noticed the writing under the cross, but had almost no idea what it meant (it was in German - the language of the first parishioners who started the cemetery in the late 1880s).

The phrase chosen to go underneath the dead Christ on the Cross is taken from today's Gospel: I am the Resurrection and the Life.

Confronted with the reality of death, and in the middle of mourning and grieving for Lazarus, Christ offers this phrase of hope to St Martha. It is a reminder that true life, eternal life, only comes through an earthly death. Because of their belief in the resurrection and in Christ, Our Lord answers the prayers of Martha and Mary and raises their brother to life again. Their faith is shaken by their grief, but they still press on.

The Crucifix in any cemetery reminds us that only through death could Christ be raised from the dead. This means that only through our death in the flesh can we hope that our loved ones and ourselves will experience the Resurrection promised by Christ.

But there is also the here-and-now. Each of our sufferings is a share in Christ's Passion, and we are constantly called to die to our selfish desires every day. In doing so, we start to become free from the thoughts and habits that hold us back. We start to experience the joy of the freedom that belongs to Children of God. We begin to experience the Resurrection in ourselves, and in turn we increase our faith and hope in the glories to come.

Traditionally this week is Passion Week. The statues are veiled and we begin to focus more on the Cross of Christ. No matter how much we suffer, no matter how difficult our lives will seem, the Cross, which is our only Hope, stands as a reminder that the sufferings now are preparing us for the Resurrection to come.

With many prayers,

Fr Ian

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 21st March

6.00pm (Vigil) – Pro populo

Sunday 22nd March – Fifth Sunday of Lent

8.30am – Joan Murray RIP

10.00am – SVP Benefactors

Monday 23rd March

No Mass

Tuesday 24th March – Tuesday of the 5th Week in Lent

6.00pm - Joyce Mary Bleeck RIP

Wednesday 25th March – The Annunciation of the Lord

9.30am – Chris Atkins RIP

Thursday 26th March – Thursday of the 5th Week in Lent

6.00pm – Holy Souls

Friday 27th March – Friday of the 5th Week in Lent

9.30am – Mrs Hole Wellbeing

7.00pm – Stations of the Cross

Saturday 28th March – Saturday of the 5th Week in Lent

6.00pm – Pro populo

Sunday 29th March – Psalm Sunday

8.30am – John Whyte RIP

10.00am – Pat Mitchell RIP

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday & 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, Zeke Peyton, Domenico Fasino, Maurice Dingley, Martin Mohan, Josie Garvey, Mary (Phyllis) Conlon, Maria Barcellona., Dustin Smith, David Loftus, Richard Handsford.

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES ACROSS
THE DEANERY

- Sun 22nd March 3pm – St Joseph's, Dorking
- Fri 27th March 7.30pm – Our Lady of Sorrows, Effingham

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FRIDAYS DURING LENT

During the holy season of Lent, we invite all parishioners to attend Stations of the Cross. This will take place every Friday evening at 7.00pm, beginning on Friday, 20th February and continuing through to Friday, 27th March.

LENTEN SOUP AND FRIENDSHIP



During Lent, we will be serving soup and bread in the Hall Annexe following the Stations of the Cross on the next Friday 27th March will be the last one.

Please sign up in the porch for catering purposes.

LECTIO DIVINA PRAYERS ON SATURDAY
28TH MARCH
AT 9.30 AM IN THE HALL ANNEXE

Lectio Divina is an ancient prayer practice that encourages us to slow down with a piece of Scripture, spend time pondering it, and allow the Holy Spirit to speak.

It teaches us to listen to God and one another. Sharing with one another is a central part of using this practice as it is inspiring to hear other people speak about their faith and what struck them in the passage.

Saturday 28th - Matthew 27:11-54

WALK OF WITNESS – BANSTEAD

Join the Banstead 5 Churches for the Walk of Witness starting at 10.00am from All Saints Church carpark. The procession will continue up the High Street, finishing at the United Reform Church, Banstead.

From 11.00–11.30am, refreshments will be available at the URC, including hot cross buns.

Even if you are unable to process you are still welcome to join us for refreshments.

We also need Stewards for the procession – if you are able to help, please get in touch with the parish office: banstead@abdiocese.org.uk

THE EASTER TRIDUUM



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper **8.00pm**
Followed by watching the Altar of Repose until
Midnight

GOOD FRIDAY

Children's Stations of the Cross **10.15am**
(Ecumenical procession of witness: 10.00am From
All Saints Church in Banstead)
Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
3.00pm
*Confession will be available before the Liturgy at
2.00pm.*

HOLY SATURDAY

The Solem Vigil of Easter **7.45pm**

EASTER SUNDAY

8.30 am and 10.00 am Mass.

DEANERY NEWSLETTER - LENT 2026

The latest Deanery Newsletter is now available on the parish website & the Deanery [website](#) Are you wondering what happened to all those postcards from last Advent? The results are in! If you'd like some food for thought on Mission - here it is! What's going on around the Deanery during Holy Week and Easter? Find out here, come along, and you'll be made very welcome.

 [Epsom Deanery Newsletter #6 - Lent 2026.pdf](#)

If you would like a paper copy please contact the parish office.

ST ANN'S RACE NIGHT
SATURDAY 20th June 2026
7.00PM



Tickets: Adults £10.00 under 18's Free.

There will be table food and a licenced bar.

Tickets now on sale after all the weekend Masses.

SEED SOWING AND PICNIC

On **Tuesday 7th April** we intend to do the seed sowing and picnic that we did last summer holiday. We have chosen Easter this year as last year the annual seeds did not germinate and grow enough for us to use in the flower garden.

The format will be the same. Bring a picnic if you wish to. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided. The event will still take place if the weather is bad. It will be in the church hall.

There will be an opportunity for the children to sow a seed to take home and one for the flower garden. This year to encourage the children we will set aside an area in the border to transplant the children's flowers and they will be able to go and check on them whenever they want to (or parents have time to take them) We will have songs and story about how seeds grow and activities and drawing for children to do. The exact time on the day has not been fixed yet but would be sometime between 11am and 5.45pm.

I know there maybe adults who do not have small children and it would be great if they would like to come along and help in a small way. No experience necessary, just come and enjoy yourself too. The more the merrier. Can't think of anything else at the moment but please keep this date in your diary.

Best wishes from children's liturgy and the flower garden team.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

Stuart Burman, who coordinates the delivery of the Charismatic Renewal International Service (CHARIS) in our Diocese, is hosting 'Life in the Spirit Seminars' at St Joseph's, Redhill, on the Tuesdays of this coming Eastertide, culminating with a Mass and laying on of hands at West Grinstead on the Eve of Pentecost. For further information, please visit <https://www.abcharismatic.org/the-promise-of-the-father-2026/>

ST ANN'S MISSION WITH FR ROYSTON DECEMBER 2026

Please save the dates for our parish mission in December, which will be conducted by Fr Royston. The dates are:

- Wednesday 9th December
- Thursday 10th December
- Friday 11th December at 7.00pm to 8.30pm.

Fr. Royston lives in the Redemptorist monastery in South London, and is the Missions Co-Ordinator for his province, organizing the Parish Mission apostolate and preaching around 20 missions a year. He's also the vocations director for the Redemptorists in the UK, helping young men discern the call of God. More details to follow.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Sunday 22nd March- Easter Flowers
Sunday 29th March – None
Sunday 5th April

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

The offertory is counted every other week, so these figures will appear in the newsletter fortnightly. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations.

Collections: Three Weeks Ending 15/03/2026

Offertory Collection: £1,804.45

Aid to the Church in Need: £990.54

CAFOD: £1,222.27

Please note: The Offertory amounts do not include regular standing orders or card payment machine payments.



Our Lady to Lucia, 13 June 1917:

"Jesus wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart"

St Joseph's Church

St Margaret Drive, Epsom

Saturday 11 April 2026

8.25 am Video on Our Lady of Fatima

9.30 am Procession of Our Lady, Regina Caeli. Crowning. Sung Litany
Mass in honour of Our Lady. Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Gary Carter
The Five Joyful Mysteries

11.45 am Lunch break (Please bring packed lunch)

12.45 pm Exposition and Procession of the Blessed Sacrament
The Five Luminous Mysteries. Sermon on Our Lady by Fr. Stewart Foster
The Five Sorrowful Mysteries. Silent Adoration. Divine Mercy Chaplet

2.45 pm Tea break

3.30 pm Sermon on Our Lady by Fr. Stan Gibziński. Via Lucis

Act of Consecration. Benediction

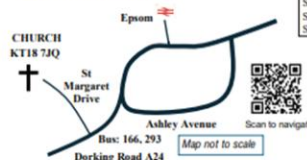
Enrolment in the Brown Scapular and Conferment of the Miraculous Medal

During the day: Confession and Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

For coach transport from London Westminster Cathedral to venues marked * and 2026 Pilgrimages: FATIMA (8-15 July), ITALY (11 Sept - 10 Sept) please enquire at any DWM venue or Tel: 020 8641 6418 for further information, booking form, videos or visit www.adaywithmary.org or www.eventcatholic.com

A SELECTION OF VENUES FOR 2026

Holy Apostles, Pimlico	Sat 18 Apr
Church of Mary Mother of God, Ponders End	Sat 25 Apr
*O'Lo'Peace & Bl. Dominic Barberi, Earley, Reading	Sat 2 May
St Bede, Clapham Park	Sat 9 May
*Walsingham, National Shrine of Our Lady	Sun 17 May
St Chad, South Norwood	Sat 23 May
St Anselm, Dartford	Sat 30 May
St Mary, Mother of God, Hornchurch	Sat 6 Jun



*A day of instruction, devotion
& intercession, based on
the message given at
Fatima in 1917.*

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

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.