



ST ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Revd Dr Ian Patrick McDole

4 Brighton Road, Banstead, SM7 1BS

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

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 23rd August 2026

Dear Parishioners,

We are often taught how to give right answers before we actually understand what the answers mean. Take the classic definition of a Sacrament as found in the old 'Penny Catechism' (which is a definition we received from St Augustine of Hippo): A Sacrament is the outward sign of an inward grace, instituted by Christ'. And because we learned the definition before we fully understood it, it can happen that we still do not really appreciate what a Sacrament is.

Today's Gospel sees St Peter in a similar situation. He is able to give Christ the right answer, even if we will shortly learn that he does not fully understand what it means. Yet, for Our Lord, the right answer is all that St Peter needs to give at this moment - it is sufficient for St Peter to say: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

This answer, without full understanding, suffices for two reasons. First, Christ is the God who spoke to Jeremiah: 'I the Lord search the heart and test the mind'. He knows what St Peter's intentions and thoughts are. Second, this is not a test of knowledge, but one of love. Christianity is a relationship with the God Who became man, a human being like us. For relationships to grow and deepen, we have to start with basic knowledge of the other person. We need to know names, birth places, childhood homes and schools, professions, hobbies, interests. We gain knowledge of the other as we interact with them and spend time in their presence.

Christ knew that St Peter was not going to stop trying to understand Who Christ is. Our Lord knew that Peter was going to continue to learn and deepen his relationship with Him. Pope St Leo the Great told his congregation in Rome that everywhere the Catholic Church, united with St Peter's successor, proclaims Peter's confession of faith. Whether or not we fully understand what we profess, we too proclaim that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Yet, the question remains: are we content with the answer, or will we work at deepening our relationship with and understanding of Christ and His Church?

With many prayers,

Fr Ian

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 22nd August

6.00pm (Vigil) – George Faires RIP

Sunday 23rd August – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am – Pro populo

10.00am – Simon Fraser Wellbeing

Monday 24th August – St Bartholomew, Apostle
No Mass

Tuesday 25th August – St Louis, King

6.00pm – John Barrett RIP

Wednesday 26th August – St Junipero Serra

9.30am – Paul Kehoe RIP

Thursday 27th August – St Monica

9.30am – Vincent Desmond O'Connor RIP

Friday 28th August – St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor

9.30am – Holy Souls

Saturday 29th August

6.00pm (Vigil) – Fr Bernard Kamalge Herman RIP

Sunday 30th August – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am – Pro populo

10.00am – Peter Lydon RIP

Adoration will resume Wednesday 16th September.

Rosary will be recited 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, Maurice Dingley,
Martin Mohan, Maria Barcellona, Dustin Smith,
David Loftus, Richard Handsford, Peter Cocks, Rita
Diffley, Mandy Sullivan, Andy Trindade,
Christine Gilbert.

MASS ATTENDANCE CARD

Admissions to Catholic Schools and the Certificate of Catholic Practice

The Diocese has updated its admissions policy so that, if a Catholic school is **oversubscribed**, Catholic applicants may be ranked using a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP).

The certificate is issued by a priest to confirm that a child comes from a practising Catholic family, based primarily on regular attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation over a substantial period. Families are encouraged to be actively involved in parish life as part of their faith journey, rather than solely for the purpose of securing a school place.

Therefore those who will be applying for their child to have a place in a Catholic secondary school in September 2027 & September 2028 (**from September 2026 those in years 5 & 6**) will need to collect a Mass Attendance card from the parish office. This card is only for the use of the child that is pictured and named on the form. The cards will need to be stamped after each Sunday Mass (including the Saturday Vigil), starting on Sunday, 6 September 2026, and continuing for one year.

The full article regarding Admissions to Catholic Schools and the Certificate of Catholic Practice can now be found on the home page of our website www.stannsbainstead.com

For those who have already contacted the parish office your Mass Cards are ready for collection.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATION FORMS

If you have a child who will be applying for a secondary school place for September 2027, please bring their Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) to the Parish Office for Fr Ian to sign.

Please note that Fr Ian can only confirm the practice of families who are registered with the parish and known to him.

If you are not registered with the parish, or if Fr Ian does not know you and your family, please **do not** submit the certificate. Instead on the school supplementary form, where it asks if you are applying with a CCP, **do not** tick this box, and just apply to the school with your child's baptism certificate.

Signed certificates will be available for collection after Sunday Masses, including the Saturday Vigil Mass, on the following weekends:

19/20 September

All weekends in October

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING

Saturday 17 October 10-3pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley – cost £40

Thanks to the support of Mental Health England, we are able to offer this "Mental Health Awareness" training, to explore the realities, symptoms and impact of living with these many debilitating conditions. One of the challenges that we are experiencing in our modern world is the growing number of people, of all ages, experiencing the darkness and challenge of various mental health conditions. The training is being highly subsidised and tickets are just £40 per delegate (usual price £120). If you have any questions about this training do not hesitate to contact Deacon Simon South, Marriage and Family Life Adviser

E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk. To book your place go to the Events page of the Diocesan website
W: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events

CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED



We are looking for more volunteers to join our Friday morning cleaning rota.

Cleaning starts after Mass, at around 10.00am, and takes a maximum of one hour. The more people who join us, the quicker the cleaning can be completed and the less frequently each person will need to be on the rota.

If you can spare an hour on a Friday morning, we would be very grateful for your help.
Many hands make light work!

CHURCH FLOWER ARRANGERS



The Church Flower Team is also looking for volunteers to help arrange the flowers in the Church. No previous experience is necessary, just enthusiasm! You will be shown what to do, and there will always be other flower team members on hand to guide and help you.

If you would like to join either team, please contact the parish office bainstead@abdiocese.org.uk

ST ANN'S QUIZ NIGHT



**Saturday 10th October 2026
7.00pm St Ann's Church Hall**

Come along and join us for our **very popular Parish Quiz Night!** A fun evening for all.

**Tickets: £10 per person
Under 18s go FREE!
Buffet & Finger Food
Licensed Bar**

Tickets are available from the Parish Office.
Tickets will also be available to purchase after all Masses next month.
Bring along your friends and family and get your team together for a great night!

BAPTISMS IN OUR PARISH

We are always happy to welcome families who wish to have their children baptised, and it is wonderful to see so many children being welcomed into the Catholic faith through Baptism here at St Ann's. Baptisms take place after the 10.00 am Sunday Mass and will mostly be celebrated together with several families. As we receive many requests for Baptism, we are unfortunately unable to offer individual celebrations. Celebrating Baptism together allows us to welcome each child into the parish community of St Ann's and the wider Catholic Church. Thank you for your understanding.

HOLY WATER BOTTLES AVAILABLE

Parishioners are invited to take holy water home for personal use. Small bottles are available for anyone who would like one. Please speak to Fr Ian, who will be happy to provide you with a bottle.

PARISH OFFICE

The parish office will be closed from **Thursday 27th August** and will reopen on **Thursday 3rd September**.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

No Second Collection throughout August.
Next Collection - Sunday 13th September
Education Sunday

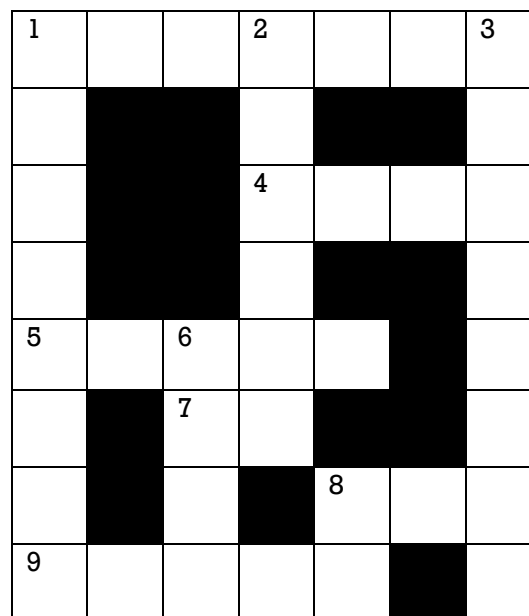
AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES



Paul Kehoe
Anthony Gannon
Angela McDonald
Peter Raw
Gillian Wooldridge
John Carey
Elizabeth Walsh
Elfriede Devanney
Howard Wright
Paula Brejza
Walter Sullivan
Ian Bell
Jean Claude Wong

LANTIN CROSSWORD NUMBER 5

*This is the last one for the summer, many thanks to
Sheila & Paul Bonner who have created these
crosswords for our newsletter.*



Across

1. To the stars
- 4&5 Beware of the dog
7. Every morning (medical abbreviation)
8. I hate/detest something or other
9. My false name

Down

1. Farmer
2. I may make something sacred
3. Hail Mary
6. Do not! (touch me)
8. Dry as a

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 60-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 the Hall Annexe at 7.00pm.

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.