



St Mary's Catholic Church Clapham

Clapham Park Road, Clapham London SW4 7AP

Served by the Redemptorists since 1848

Rector and Parish Priest: Fr Richard Reid CSsR **Curate:** Fr David Raju CSsR

Community members CSsR: Fr Bev Ahearn, Fr Michael Creech, Fr Michael McGreevy,

Fr George Webster, Fr Jack Clancy, Fr Charles Corrigan, Br Thomas,
Br Michael Taylor, Br Royston Price and Br Chris Reynolds

Parish office@stmarys-clapham.org.uk
Redemptorists sw4@redemptorists.co.uk

Telephone 020 7498 3005 **Monastery** or 020 7501 3961 **Parish Secretary**

www.stmarys-clapham.org.uk www.redemptorists.co.uk

St Mary's School 020 7622 5479 Ace of Clubs 020 7720 2811

Sunday Mass Times: 5.30pm (Sat Vigil), 8am, 10am, 12 noon
Weekday Masses: 7am and 12.30pm Saturday Masses: 9.30am and 12.30pm
Confessions on Saturday 10am-10.30am, 4.45-5.15pm, 6.30-7pm, 7.30pm
Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Succour (Help) every Saturday at 7pm
Portuguese Mass: Sunday 5.30pm. Chaplain 020 7587 0881

First Sunday of Advent (B)

Happy New Liturgical Year!

Advent is the Season that begins the new liturgical year. This season is the Church's invitation to us to slow down and savour the season of the Saviour throughout the month. Our Advent wreath will help us prepare in celebrating the greatest gift we could ever receive - Christ our Lord.

Let us keep Christ in **CHRISTmas**.



1st Sunday: HOPE The Candle of Hope is also referred to as the prophecy Candle.

We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us.

We had a good meeting on Tuesday concerning the **St Vincent de Paul (SVP)**. Four new younger people have courageously come forward with the hope of continuing with this great work.

Please keep these people and the SVP in your prayer. Thanks also for your financial help! Many thanks for your generous welcome to the **Little Sisters of the Poor** who were here last week speaking about their life and work.

The Parish Christmas Dinner will be next Sunday afternoon in the monastery. Tickets are on sale today at the end of all masses. All proceeds will go to the Church Decoration Fund. Don't miss out - it will be a great afternoon.

Whatever you have on this week, be good! Peace, Fr Richard Reid CSsR, Rector & Parish Priest

Office Hours for the Parish Office are **10am - 1.30pm** and **2.30pm - 6pm**. To make contact directly with **the parish secretary**, phone **0207 501 3961**

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard.

The government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to U-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

Please pray for all those who are sick:

Patrick Jarrett, Elaine Jarrett, Theresa Hunt,
Sr Chris Fealey FMDM, Mary Donellan DHS,
John Jackson, Breeda Bell, Christopher Kanu,
Sharon Davies, Pat Howard, Betty Walsh,
Fr George, Br Thomas and
Fr Terry Creech CSsR

Those who have died recently

Sue Murray, Joe Teethy, Patrick Turner,
Amy Thomas and Margaret Taheny

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Dame Grace Mensa Bonsu, Racheal Teyinaro Olley
(nee Ofuya), Nick Foley, Michelle Innis. Vanjee
Carpanen and John Grace

Your financial contribution last Sunday

Gift Aid: £669.40 Loose Plate: £997.47

Thanks for your generosity

New Liturgical Year begins with the Advent.

During Advent there will be no flowers on any of the altars.

Zimbabwe

Thank you for your prayers last week for Zimbabwe. I am sure the country will continue to appreciate our prayerful support.

Brother Benjamin Feeding Project

Wondering what to buy for Christmas for that person who has everything or for stocking fillers?

Support **Brother Benjamin Feeding Project**.

This is how it works - you buy a card, which can be used as a Christmas card and also as a gift at Christmas. The suggested offering for this gift is £10 (but please feel free to give more!) which is enough to buy maize for a family for a month. The money can be used for other projects such as the long-term feeding scheme or adult literacy.

The Redemptorists are enormously grateful for your care and concern for those less fortunate than ourselves

Sarah will be coming next Sunday, 10th December to talk about the work of the **Ace of Clubs** and to make their Christmas appeal

Parish Surgery will be Mon, 4 Dec.

- 4-6 pm. The next Parish Surgery will be Mon, 11th Dec. Come along and see one of the Priests – no appointment necessary.

Friday, 8th December is the Feast of The Immaculate Conception

This is not a Holiday of Obligation but is a wonderful feast and an important one. This feast is the Principal Patron of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer – in other words – the Redemptorists.

Parish Christmas Meal – Last chance to buy tickets!!!

After last year's huge success the Parish Christmas Meal will be held in the Monastery at 1.30 pm on Sunday, 10th December. Tickets are available from the Parish Office. Price - £25 including wine and £12.50 for children under 12 yrs old.

Menus - See the notice boards. If you want the vegetarian option please tell us.

Advent Extra! This publication is available to help you through the holy Season of Advent. It is priced at £2.50 – an utter steal! Please also stop and have a look at the table in the church porch for small Christmas gifts.

Gift for Fr David

Before his return to India Fr David commissioned Mary-May Lorriman to write an icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. This icon is beautiful and the PPC thought that it should be sent to him in India as a gift from the Parish. So we will be having a collection on weekend of 9th/10th December to raise money to pay for the materials and shipping costs.

Our thanks go to Mary-May who has very kindly donated her time and expertise.

CTIC Carol Concert – in St Paul's, Rectory Grove at 6.30 pm on Sun, 3rd Dec. All welcome

First Reconciliation

The children who have been attending the First Holy Communion Classes will be making their first confessions on **3rd December** at 3.00 pm.