

St Mary's Catholic Church, Clapham

Clapham Park Road, Clapham London SW4 7AP

Served by the Redemptorists since 1848

Rector: Very Reverend Fr Maurice O'Mahony CSsR

Parish Priest: Fr Casper S Mukabva CSsR

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Peter Morris CSsR & Fr Royston Price CSsR

Parish clapham@rcaos.org.uk Parish Secretary 020 7498 3005

www.stmarys-clapham.org.uk

Facebook @StMarysClaphamCSsR

Community members CSsR: Rev Fr Maurice O'Mahony, Fr Casper S Mukabva, Fr Peter Morris,

Fr Royston Price, Fr George Webster & Br David Nyamuronda

Monastery 020 7498 3005

Redemptorists sw4@redemptorists.co.uk

www.redemptorists.co.uk

Facebook @Redemptorist Vocations GB

Twitter RedemptoristsGB

St Mary's School 020 7622 5479 Ace of Clubs 020 7720 2811 SVP email: svpclapham@gmail.com

Rachel Duncan, Safeguarding Representative: claphamsgl@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Sunday Masses: 5.30pm (Sat Vigil), 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon

Weekday Masses: 7am and 12.30pm; Saturday Masses: 9.30 am and 12.30 pm

Novena - 7pm Wednesday

Confessions on Saturday 10 am-10.30 am, 4.45 pm-5.15 pm

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (B)



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather on this sacred Feast, our hearts are filled with anticipation and joy, for we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the Gospel, we hear the familiar story of the humble birth in Bethlehem, a divine event that forever changed the course of human history. Christmas is not just a historical event; it is an invitation to encounter the living Christ in our lives today. In the simplicity of the stable, God reveals His profound love for us. The Word becomes flesh, and the light shines in the darkness. In the midst of our daily challenges, Christ's birth offers hope, reminding us that God is with us, intimately involved in our human experience. As we exchange gifts and gather with loved ones, let us not forget the true gift of Christmas the gift of Emmanuel, "God with us." This gift calls us to imitate Christ's love and compassion in our relationships and communities.

In a world often marked by division and strife, Christmas challenges us to be ambassadors of peace and reconciliation. Furthermore, the shepherds in the fields teach us valuable lessons. They were humble, attentive, and open to the unexpected. Like them, may we be open to the unexpected ways God works in our lives. Let us be attentive to the marginalised and humble in our service to others, recognising that Christ is often found in the least expected places. Christmas is an affirmation that God enters into the messiness of our human existence, bringing redemption and renewal. In our celebrations, let us not lose sight of the profound mystery of the Incarnation. Christ's birth is a divine breakthrough into our world, a gesture of God's infinite love for each one of us. May the peace, joy, and hope of Christmas be with you and your families. May the light of Christ shine brightly in your hearts, guiding you throughout the coming year. Let us embrace the message of Christmas and live it in our daily lives, sharing the good news with all we encounter.

Wishing our beloved parish and families a joyous Christmas filled with the warmth of family, the peace of Christ, and the love that unites us all. May this sacred season bring blessings to each heart and home. Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones!

In Christ's love,

Fr Casper S Mukabva CSsR
Parish Priest

The office is usually open from 10.00am-2.00pm during the week but closed at weekends.
PLEASE NOTE THE EMAIL ADDRESS IS clapham@rcaos.org.uk for all church related queries.

Please pray for those who have gone home to God including Marie Jose, Ronald George Lopez Nazal, Menandro Nabong Sr Phil McLaughlin and Ronald Ahearne and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Frank Fogarty, Mary King, Eithna Keating, Ann Marie Ryan, Mike & Mary Hughes and Michael Kearns Sr.

May they all rest in peace.

Please pray for all those who are sick including Maryann Riordan, Olive King, Lucy Scarlatti, Eileen Kearns and Robert Bowles.

Please make sure you have the sick person's consent before you ask for prayers for them and please let us know if they have recovered and no longer need our prayers.

Dates for Your Diary

25 December - The Nativity of The Lord

28 December - The Holy Innocents

31 December - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

1 January - Mary, The Holy Mother of God

7 January - The Epiphany of The Lord

The Parish Council **Cake Sale** last Sunday raised £207.15. We hope you all enjoyed the cakes you bought.

MARY'S MEALS would also like to thank everyone for their response to their foreign currency initiative. £451.84 was raised. SVP would like to thank everyone for their wonderful generosity. The collection last Sunday raised more than £2,000!

Thank you all again.

IMPORTANT

PLEASE NOTE THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS. WE WILL RE-OPEN ON WEDNESDAY, 3RD JANUARY, 2024

THERE WILL BE NO NOVENA ON WEDNESDAY, 27 DECEMBER. THERE WILL BE NO 7.00 AM MASS FROM TUESDAY, 26TH DECEMBER UNTIL MONDAY, 15TH JANUARY

PARISH SURGERY WILL RESUME MONDAY, 15TH JANUARY 2024

Parish Surgery is held on Mondays from 4 to 6 pm. If you need to speak to a priest, please come along - no appointment necessary.

If you need a school form signed, the child to whom the form applies must be in attendance.

ACE OF CLUBS

If you would like to take part in the Ace of Clubs Sponsor a Christmas Meal appeal then please scan the QR code below. A donation of just £2 covers the cost of one meal.



SCAN ME

