



OUR LADY OF REPARATION RC CHURCH

(ST MARY'S)

70 Wellesley Road, West Croydon CR0 2AR

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - 1ST JANUARY, 2023

PASTORAL TEAM

Fr Patrick Feyisetan (Parish Priest)
Fr Michael Etuka (Assistant Priest)
Fr Sylvester Oyeka, CSSp (Assistant Priest)
Revd. Vincent Morrison (Deacon)
Shirley Nash (Parish Secretary)
Robert Haddad (Lead Catechist)

PARISH SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASS TIMES: 7:00pm (Saturday);
8am, 9:15am; 10:45am; 12:15pm, 3:00pm & 6:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES: 10am; 12:10pm & 6.45pm

Saturday: 10am

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Wednesday
12:45pm – 6:30pm; Sat. 10:45am – 12noon; Sun. 4pm-5.30pm

CONFESSION: Saturdays 10:30-11:30am; 6pm – 6:45pm
and at call.

ROSARY: 9.30am (Monday—Friday)

INFANT BAPTISM: Second & Fourth Saturdays of the month.
This is strictly for infants as the designation goes. And parents
of such babies must be practising Catholics, hence the need to
show evidence of Catholic faith practice at the point of arrang-
ing the baby's baptism. Meet with a priest to obtain the appli-
cation form during parish surgery times.

PLANNING TO GET MARRIED? If you are thinking of get-
ting married at St Mary's it would be a good idea first to meet
with one of the priests in the parish and discuss your require-
ments and the arrangements to be made. You need to give 6
months notice for your marriage so that all documentation and
marriage preparation courses can be arranged. Look up for
Parish Surgery days to discuss your plans with a priest.

PARISH SURGERY: For signing of school forms, seeing a
priest to begin the process of getting married, planning for
infant baptism, etc, visit the Parish Office **ONLY** on Tuesdays
and Fridays: 9:00am to 12:30pm and 2:00pm to 4:30pm

PARISH CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

FIRST COMMUNION: Every Saturday from 1015 -1145am.

RCIA: RCIA: Are you interested in embarking on an active
Christian faith journey, in making a return to faith, or needing
to prepare for Confirmation as an adult? Our RCIA programme
is taking a winter break and will next meet on Wednesday 1
February, 2023 at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre. If you would
like more information please speak to one of the clergy, email
us at rciacroydon@gmail.com or just come along on 1 Febru-

ary. Our friendly team look forward to welcoming you.
INFANT BAPTISM COURSE FOR PARENTS: First
Thursday of the month at 7:30pm.

PRAYER MEETINGS

LEGION OF MARY: Senior Presidium meeting takes
place on Saturdays at 5:00pm in the Parish Room. **Junior
Presidium** meeting takes place on Sundays after the
9:15am Mass in the Vailankanni Hall. New members are
welcome.

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA PRAYER GROUP: Prayer
meeting is held every Tuesday after the 10:00am Mass.

**OUR LADY OF REPARATION CATHOLIC CHARIS-
MATIC RENEWAL GROUP:** Charismatic Prayer meeting
is held every Friday after the evening Mass.

CAR PARKING: If you park your car on our premises
while visiting the church or the parish office Monday to
Friday, you **MUST** register your car registration details in
the electronic pad to avoid getting a parking penalty
ticket.

PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

James Crosbie, Margaret Worrell. May they rest in peace
and rise with Christ in glory. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: Gracious and loving God, we
thank you for the gifts of our priests; help them to be
strong in their vocation and become instruments of your
love and grace.

Send your Holy Spirit to give courage and guidance to all
those you are calling to the priesthood, diaconate and reli-
gious life in our Archdiocese. May those called hear your
voice and respond wholeheartedly to become the person
you created them to be.

Heavenly Father, form us all in the likeness of your Son,
Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd, so that we may love you
more deeply and serve you more faithfully. We ask this
through Christ, Your son, the Eternal High Priest. **Amen**

World Youth Day, Lisbon (31st July to 7th August 2023)

The Archdiocese of Southwark is taking a group of young
people (aged 18-35) to World Youth Day in Lisbon from
31 July to 7 August 2023. Bookings are now open; the
price is £1,295, which includes flights, 3* accommodation
(shared room), transfers, WYD registration fee & meal
vouchers. If you are between 18-35, you are welcome to
book via <https://bit.ly/WYDSouthwark>. For further infor-
mation, please email youth@rcaos.org.uk

**Pastoral Letter for the Sunday after Christmas 2023
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**

*To be read at all Sunday Masses on the weekend of 31st
December 2022 / 1st January 2023*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

It is a great joy to be able to greet you in this Christmas season and at the beginning of the new calendar year of 2023. I extend to you, and you families and loved ones, every blessing and good wish as we continue to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. I also assure you of my prayers and warm best wishes as a new year unfolds. Towards you, from my heart, I make my own the ancient words given by God to Moses: *'May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord uncover his face to you and give you his peace.'* (cf. Num 6: 24-26)

Today, we unite ourselves, in a special way, to the Mother of God, Mary most holy. In the small chapel at Archbishop's House there is a very beautiful statue of Our Lady. It is carved according to the Eastern Christian tradition of icons, the holy images of Our Lord, his Mother and the saints. There is a particular style of icon of Our Lady called the *Ho-degetria*. This Greek name carries the meaning of *'Our Lady who points the way.'* Our chapel statue is based on this. Our Lady holds the Christ Child tenderly in one arm. She looks out towards us, while pointing with her other hand to the Lord Jesus. Through her loving gaze, she draws us close, but only so that she can direct us to Christ. This is her vocation as Mother of God, Mother of the Church and Mother of every disciple: to point us to Christ

St Paul recalls that we have each been adopted into a new life in Christ. We are sons and daughters of God, in and through God's Son. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, sharing one Heavenly Father. In a related sense, Mary is also spiritually our heavenly Mother. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we have God as our common Father. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we also share one holy Mother. There are no orphans in Christ.

What might it mean for Mary our Mother to point the way for us to the Lord Jesus? Of many possible answers, here are three simple responses.

First of all, Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus by showing us what it means to be disciples. By her own example, she teaches us to trust that all things are possible for God. Through her faith, she shows us how to allow God's plan and purpose for our life to unfold, just as she did for her own life. At Cana she told people to do whatever Jesus said. She could only do this because she believed he was the Son of God. She continued to believe in times of joy and in times of sorrow, always walking the pathway of hope. Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus by her own pattern of discipleship.

Second, Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus by teaching us to treasure the things of faith and to ponder them in our heart. She knows the importance of the inner life, of prayer and of contemplation. She invites us to know the Lord Jesus personally in our heart and to consider prayerfully the words of Scripture. How can we really be disciples unless the external practice of our faith is rooted in our interior living relationship with Christ? Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus by witnessing to the needy to prayerfully reflect on the things of life in the light of faith.

Thirdly, and finally, Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus because she is our spiritual Mother. She prays with us and for us. She is our friend in heaven. We can ask her to pray for us, for our needs and our worries. And, while certainly praying for us, she always invites us to come to her Son

MASS INTENTIONS/CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

WEEK OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday 1st January: MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

8:00am	Dickie & Bonnie Wegwermer, and Deceased members of Wegwermer & Saldanaha families
9:15am	John Reginald & Henrietta Thompson, RIP
10:45am	Matthias Ozogolu: Thanksgiving
12:15pm	Pro Populo
3:00pm	Sadie Harrison, RIP
6:00pm	Thanksgiving for the Holy Family

Monday 2nd January: SS. BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN, Memorial

10:00am	John Mascarenhas, RIP
12:10pm	NO MASS
6:45pm	NO MASS

Tuesday 3rd January: Feria

10:00am	Kaylar Remedios: Birthday thanksgiving
12:10pm	Deliverance & Healing of Rosinha Family
6:45pm	Robert & Mary: Thanksgiving

Wednesday 4th January: THE BEATIFIED MARTYRS OF THE DIOCESE, Memorial

10:00am	Domingos Braganca, RIP
12:10pm	Jean Griffiths, RIP
6:45pm	Canon Columbanus Acton, RIP

Thursday 5th January: Feria

10:00am	Elvina De Meneses, RIP
12:10pm	Bishop Howard Trip, RIP
6:45pm	Fr Sam Igbafe, RIP

Friday 6th January: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD.

10:00am	Mr & Mrs Wuinka: Thanksgiving
12:10pm	For the Sick & Housebound
6:45pm	Holy Souls

Saturday 7th January: Feria

10:00am	Maria Alba Fernandes, RIP
7:00pm	Florence Harvey, RIP

with confidence. Mary only ever points beyond herself to the Lord Jesus. She helps us to find him, to know him, love him and serve him.

Dear friends, as the New Year opens we look to Christ, the beginning and the end of all things, to whom all time belongs. Whatever this year brings, we will face it with Christ. For her part, Our Blessed Mother points the Church, and each disciple, to her Son so that we can name him Jesus, the one who saves; so that we can name him Lord, brother and friend. With great faith, we step forward along the way towards the future, united with Christ and with Our Lady. Like her we are called to be disciples of joy, disciples who by their witness point the way to the Lord Jesus who always needs to be born anew through us to our waiting world.

With my prayers and every blessing
for this Christmas Season and the New Year
Yours devotedly in Christ

+ John Wilson
Metropolitan Archbishop of Southwark

PARISH OFFICE: The Parish Office will reopen on from Wednesday 4th January 2023.