

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH (served by the Missionary Society of St Paul)  
PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 23rd DECEMBER 2023

Presbytery: 192 Parrock Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1EN.

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Website: www.stjohnsgravesend.co.uk

Facebook: Saint Johns Church

CHURCHES: St John's, Gravesend St Mary's, Rochester Road Denton DA12 2JN St Katherine's, Shorne

Parish Priest: Fr Moses Amune, msp

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Ojapah msp

Parish Sister: Sister Elizabeth O'Hara

Parish Secretary: Teresa Potter

Safeguarding Team: Catherine Gurney, Henry Bodunrin

Churches Together Rep: Jude Mordi

Presbytery/ Parish office open 10am-3pm Mon: Sr Elizabeth Tues, Wed & Thurs: Teresa Potter Fri: Jacky Hardy

Schools: St John's Catholic Primary 01474 534546

St John's Catholic Comprehensive 01474 534718

*Welcome!*

Mass  for the  
Intentions *for the Week*

<b>First Mass of Sunday, (Saturday)</b>	6.00pm	Claire Lambe (ill), Mannering family RIP, Joe & Theresa Smyth <i>(live streamed)</i>
<b>Sun 24 Dec Forth Sunday of Advent (B)</b>	8.30am	Sherin Paul, Zillah Shenton RIP, Sisters of Mercy
	9.30am	Ken Hughes & family (Thanksgiving), Jason Chapman, Rose Owen, Nicky Cox RIP
	10.30am	Mary & Ron Winter RIP <i>(live streamed)</i>
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	3.30pm	Joe & Theresa Smyth RIP, Lotanna Dyemeni Birthday thanksgiving
	6.00pm	Michael Dee & deceased Dee family, John & Marie Harkin RIP
	7.30pm	<i>(St Katherine's, Shorne)</i>
	11.30pm	Convent of Mercy
<b>Mon 25 Dec Nativity of the Lord</b>	8.30am	John Palasz RIP (Anniv), Dan & Margaret O'Kane RIP, Ayrton Alemao 13th Birthday
	9.30am	<i>(St Mary's, Denton)</i> Esther Ngatchou (Thanksgiving)
	10.30am	Wahab family, Hannon family, Mary O'Connor
<b>Tues 26 Dec St Stephen</b>	10.00am	Alina Menczyk RIP, Catherine & Steven Wenham <i>(live streamed)</i>
<b>Wed 27 Dec St John</b>	<b><u>Adoration 10.00am-12noon</u></b>	
	12 noon	Maura Dee & family, Tom Perrin (ill)
<b>Thurs 28 Dec Holy Innocents</b>	9.15am - <i>St John's Church</i>	John Lacken RIP, Michelle Costen
<b>Fri 29 Dec St Thomas</b>	9.15am	Nicolette Freeman, Marie Deffew
<b>Sat 30 Dec Octave</b>	<b><u>Adoration after 10am Mass until 12.30pm (Reconciliation 11.30-12.30pm)</u></b>	
	10.00am	Seamus McEniff (Healing)
<b>First Mass of Sunday, (Saturday)</b>	6.00pm	Gerry Brewer RIP, Smyth family (Thanksgiving), Maria Lawrence <i>(live streamed)</i>
<b>Sun 31 Dec Holy Family (B)</b>	8.30am	Sherin Paul, Dan & Margaret O'Kane, Sr Magdalene, Sr Paul, Sr Elizabeth,
		Sr Ann, Sr Helen, Sr Delores, SrAugustine
	9.30am	Mr P E Walsh & family, Josie Hall, Iris Elliott, Theresanne Symns
	10.30am	Chris & Phil Ballance (40th Wedding Anniv) <i>(live streamed)</i>



*May you have a  
blessed Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!*

**Please pray for the souls of all deceased parishioners, family and friends**

**John Charles Fitzpatrick** - Reception Tues and Requiem at St John's Wednesday 27th December at 1pm

**Gerry Brewer** - Reception Tuesday 4pm and Requiem at St John's on Wednesday 3rd January at 1pm

**Joseph Mcfarland Queen** - Requiem at St John's Tues 9th January at 10.30am

**Anne Pilkington** who died on 14th December

*May God console their family. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace;*

**Please pray for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time including....**

24: Derry O'Donoghue, Michael Nelson, Sister M. Winifred Walsh, Maureen Iris Reader

25: Kathleen Upton, Frank Peach, Olive Johnson, Sister M Columba O'Malley, Michael McCarthy, John Palasz, Monica Murphy

26: Michael Mallinder, Sheelah Cherry, Lilian Hester Webster, Stella Chessworth, Joseph Whelan, Annie Wagborne,

27: Harry Enefer, Kathleen McDermott, Roger David Hall, Elizabeth Mary Langley, Mary Angela Millar, Mary Georgina McGaley

28: John Leatham, Michael Brennan, William Phillip Sharp, Lionel Edward Fox, Gladys Amy Patricia Hendy, Josephine Cooper

29: Irene Grant, Patrick Curran, Rev. Fr. Edward O'Byrne, Francis Joseph Traynor, Marie Therese Salter, Henry James Silwood, Angiolina Maria Marrant, Liam Joseph Dolan,

30: Nancy Kerry, Lizzy O'Neill, Elizabeth Alfreda McNamara, Arthur James Strong, Daniel Gerard Kavanagh, Lesley James Jackson, Natalie Dawn O'Shea, Annie May McClure

31: Edith Davies, Patrick O'Haire, Catherine O'Toole, Denis Coomber, Edith Rose Evans, Gina Antoncini, Leonard Hunt,

George Wier, Ann Frances Atkinson, Pearl Sophia Davies

***May they rest in peace...***



What a blessing this year's Christmas brings our way! We thank God for the arrival of our second priest, Fr Stephen in the parish; we wish him a fruitful ministry with us. We thank God for the services of Fr Kevin who has been with us since the beginning of December; we thank God for the emergency repairs being done so well by Roofing Dynamics due to our generous contributions in the year. We are most grateful for all your services and contributions to keep the life of the parish family going throughout the year; may God bless you, your family and friends abundantly. May the Baby Jesus find a home in our hearts; Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

"For a Child Is Born to Us... The Prince of Peace"



If you are returning to Mass after an absence, long or short, welcome home! We are delighted that you have chosen to celebrate Mass with us today.

Our wonderful celebrations this Christmas could never have gone ahead without so many people giving their time and skill to the Parish. Our warmest thanks to everyone involved.

**Concert** Thank you to everyone who supported the concert last Saturday. The Medway Singers and Lauren Lynn were magnificent. The concert can be seen on the link on the parish website. £228 was raised.

**Sacrament of Confirmation Preparation Programme 2024** If you wish to register a young Catholic (in Year 8 or above at secondary school) for the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2024 please complete the Google Form by 31 December : <https://forms.gle/yJndo7GxVZMKUZ4t9>

**RCIA** You are welcome to the Catholic Church. Are you searching or want to review your faith or may be interested in joining the Catholic community, or wish to be Confirmed. A new course has just started. Come to the Presbytery on Wednesday @ 7.30pm. God Bless.

**Baptism** Application forms for Baptism are available from the back of the Church or the parish office. Families need to attend a talk before the baptism. Please phone/email the office if you wish to attend (Next session is Monday 8th January).

**Last weeks collections** £1,477.29 Thank you for your continued generosity and also to those people who pay by standing order and contactless. **The collection over Christmas will be your personal gift to our priests. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church.**

**Finance** Thank you to all those people who also pay by standing order - forms are available on the information table if you would like to make your donation to the Church in this way instead of using gift aid envelopes or cash. If you wish to set up a standing order, St Johns Church bank details are: Account name: 'RCAS a Registered Charity re St Johns Church', Sort code: 60-09-10 Nat West Bank, 30 King Street, Gravesend, DA12 2XX, Account No: 07722915. Or contact the parish office.

**Wednesday Tea/Coffee** We will resume our refreshments on Wednesday 10th January after 12 noon Mass.

**200 Club December Winners** 1st: £55 - Melissa Everest, 2nd: £35 - Della Flaherty, 3rd: £25 - Lesley Rowdon, 4th: £15 - Ita Hannon. We held the draw on Wednesday 20th Dec in the Coffee Bar. Thank you for your support.

**My Day by Day** Booklets with the daily readings for January and February are available at the back of the Church.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** *Come to me all who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest.* Come, pray, rest & watch before the Blessed Sacrament, either on Wed (9.30–11.30) or Sat after 10am Mass until 12.30pm.

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to have a Mass offered for an intention, please fill in one of marked envelopes and hand to one of the priests or call at the presbytery between 10-2pm if you would like a specific mass. We cannot always allocate a Mass on the date requested as it may have already been booked, however, your Mass may be shared if you wish.

**Padre Pio Prayer Group** each Tuesday straight after 9.15am Mass in the Cry Chapel. All welcome to join us in prayer. We especially remember our sick friends and family.

**Missionary Society of St Paul** invite you to their Annual celebration day on Friday 26th January at St George's Cathedral, London. Mass @ 6.30pm celebrated by Bishop Philip Egain, of Portsmouth Diocese..

**Crib** Thank you to the team of crib builders and maintaining the beautiful crib figures. The children can watch the scene build week by week with the story of Christmas. This year's Crib Collection will go to Aid To Church In Need.

*Please see the parish website for Divine Mercy Chaplet, 'Mustard Seed' and 'Come and Rest In Me' prayer groups.*

**Sick/housebound** Please contact the parish office and let us know of neighbours/family members who are unable to come to Church and would like to receive Communion or call 07405803862. We remember in our prayers those who are sick, housebound or in hospital & those who care for them and their families. **Please, when on admission in the hospital or care home, volunteer the information of your faith as you won't be asked ordinarily.**