

Our Lady & St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, Sydenham

Parish Priest:

Fr Luke Marappillil (lukemarappillil@yahoo.co.uk)

Pastoral Assistant:

Sr Agnes O'Shea dmj

Parish Secretary:

Steve Pearce (secretary@olspn.church) (Monday to Friday, 9am - 12 noon)

208 Sydenham Road, Sydenham, London SE26 5SE

Tel: 020 8778 9460 stphilipneri@btinternet.comwww.rcchurch.org.uk/sydenham

Mass Times Saturdays: 9.30am, 6.30pm Sundays: 9.30am, 11.00am Weekdays: 9.30am Holy Days: 9.30am and 8pm Fridays: Mass followed by Exposition, Divine Mercy Devotion & Benediction	Confession: Mon-Fri 9am, Sat 9am, 5.45pm, Sun 8.45am and by appointment. Baptisms and Weddings: by arrangement (Weddings require 5/6 months' notice)
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33rd Sunday - Ordinary Time (A) 19th November 2017
Mass Book Page 155
Readings: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 ^{FIRST} | 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 ^{SECOND} | Matthew 25:14-30 ^{GOSPEL}
2nd Collection This Week: Parish Development Fund | **Next Week:** Catholic Youth Services

Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Feast
Sat 18 th Nov	6.30pm	People of the Parish	First Mass of Sunday
Sun 19 th Nov	9.30am	Anne & James Kiernan RIP	33rd Sunday – Ordinary Time (A) Saint Domneva, Abbess
	11.00am	Deceased Brothers of the Knights of St Columba	
Mon 20 th Nov	9.30am	Holy Souls	Feria
	2.00pm	School Farewell Mass	
Tue 21 st Nov	9.30am	Holy Souls	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wed 22 nd Nov	9.30am	Holy Souls	Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr
Thu 23 rd Nov	9.30am	Holy Souls	Feria
Fri 24 th Nov	9.30am	Holy Souls	Ss Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Sat 25 th Nov	9.30am	Holy Souls	
	12 noon	Baptism of Danzel Ohworigho-Ighalo	
	6.30pm	People of the Parish	First Mass of Sunday
Sun 26 th Nov	9.30am	Holy Souls	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – Ordinary Time (A)
	11.00am	Theresa Hector RIP	
	2.00pm	Baptism of Elorin Kevinraj	

Thank you for last week's...

Cash not gift-aided: £495

Cash gift-aided: £355

Archbishops Administration Fund: £255

Standing orders gift-aided: £300

The Parable of the Talent

Jesus makes use of a number of parables to reveal the true nature of the Kingdom of God: the treasure hidden in the field, the mustard seed, the yeast, the ten bridesmaids and the talent. A close look at these parables will teach us that the Kingdom of God is not something which Jesus established some two thousand years ago and we enter it automatically by being Christians. True, Jesus has brought it on earth. But it becomes a reality to us if only we work for it and live it here and now. It is not something static like a building, but a growing reality that embraces the whole of our life. It is not something to be kept safe without using it. It is in this respect that Jesus speaks of the parable of the talent. What does it tell us?

1. God gives us differing gifts/talents: five/two/one. It is not the number/kind of talents that matters, but how we use them. God never demands from us abilities, which we do not have, but does demand that we make the full/best use of them. No one here is equal in talent, but everyone can be equal in effort. Whatever we have, little or great, we must lay it at the service of God and others.
2. The reward of work well done is still more work to do. The two servants who have done well are not told to lean back and rest on their oars, but given greater and more tasks and responsibilities.
3. The one who is punished is the man who will not try at all. True, he did not lose his talent; he simply did nothing with it. Even if he had adventured with it and lost it, it would have been better than doing nothing at all.
4. It lays a rule of life that is universally true. If we have a talent and use it, we are progressively able to do more with it. But if we fail to do so, we will inevitably lose it. It is the lesson of life that the only way to keep our talent is to use it in the service of God and our fellow-beings.

Fr Luke

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick & the housebound: George Abeydeera, Lina Ade, Sr Agnes, Gloria Arenaslondono, Sonny Caldinez, Thomas Carabine, Seelan Chetty, Diren Chetty, Keisha Dyer, Madeline Edwards, Christine Falvey, Anthony Fernandez, Joe Flynn, Margie George, Giovanna Ghezzi, Pat Griffin, Joseph & Charlotte Hadji, Rebekah Hall, Barbara Harte, Zofia Jazyk, Kitty Keeffe, Antoni Kowal, Peggy Connelly-McCarthy, Mary McDonagh, Greta Murray, Joe Murray, Stephen Murray, Ilse Muscio, Jane Neylon, Stephen Ofieyo, Antoinette Remice, Teresa Riley, Michael Sharp, Ann Sheehan, Noah Solarin, Genevieve Stanislaus, Elizabeth Turner, Thomas Mitchell, Mike Sharpe, Rafael Jimenez, May MacCarthy, Kim Thompson.

Please drop a note into the Presbytery, letting us know of anyone who is housebound and would appreciate a visit.

Those recently deceased, John McCauliff, Mark Dyer (13/11), Stephen Ochieng **and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** 18/11: Catherine Micallef, Cyprian Offormezie. 20/11: Cecilia Joseph. 21/11: David Brooker, Rev Carmel Heenan, Lesley Jane Masters, Donald Kennedy. 22/11: Jim Sweeney. 23/11: Ted Gorman, Frances Murphy. 25/11: Theresa Hector.

CHURCH NOTICES**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - 2018**

Can those parents, whose child(ren) will be making their First Holy Communion in 2018, please visit Fr Luke at his Open House on Monday's between 3-7pm. Please bring your child(ren) and their baptism certificate(s) with you.

CONFIRMATION – 2018

If you wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please pick up the application form at the back of the church (Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord, Kirkdale), complete all sections of this leaflet and return it, together with your Baptism and First Holy Communion certificates, to Father Alfred Osamor, C.Ss.R. on any Sunday Mass. All leaflets and certificates must be returned on or before 14th January 2018. Registration of candidates will be on Sunday 28th January 2018 at 12.45pm during the "getting to know you" session, after which the candidate will be issued with a Confirmation Passport with full details of dates and time of the programme. This Passport must be signed every Sunday to indicate that the candidate has been to Mass. The programme will commence on Tuesday 30th January 2018. The first parents' evening will be on Tuesday 23rd January 2018 at 8:00pm.

PARISH EVENTS**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

Thu	23 rd Nov	8pm	Saint Vincent de Paul (Presbytery)
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REGULAR EVENTS

Sun	9.30am	Children's Liturgy (Presbytery) for children who haven't made their First Holy Communion.
	11am	Coffee morning (Hall) after Mass.
	12.15pm	The Legion of Mary (Hall) after Mass. New members welcome.
Mon	3 - 7pm	Fr Luke's Open House (Presbytery) for parishioners to discuss any issues they may have.
	7.30pm	Parish Council meet in the Presbytery on the 1st Monday of every month.
Tue	9.15-11.15am	Parent Carer & Toddler Group (Hall-term time only). Call Paula (07761 530739) for more info.
Wed	9.30am	Coffee morning (Hall) after Mass.
	7.30pm	Light of Christ Prayer Group (Hall) New members welcome.
Thu	7.30pm	Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Prayer Group (Presbytery) New members welcome.
	8pm	Women's Group (Presbytery) 1 st Thursday of the month.
	8pm	Knights of St Columba (Hall) 2 nd & 3 rd Thursday of the month. New members welcome.
Fri	9.15-11.15am	Parent Carer & Toddler Group (Hall-term time only). Call Paula (07761 530739) for more info.

CATHOLIC CLUB & PRIVATE FUNCTION HIRING

Sydenham Catholic Club (Watlington Grove) - Sky sports, darts, pool table and BIG screen showing Premiership and GAA games. Families and new members welcome. Club available for private functions and funeral receptions. Opening Times Thu 8.30pm, Fri 6.30pm, Sat 2pm, Sun Noon. Thursday night's Quiz is in aid of St. Christopher's Hospice.
Parishioner Church Hall Hire – please call Steve, Mon – Fri, 9am to noon, on 0208 778 9460.

CHURCH EVENTS**MASS FOR THE COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP OF REFUGEES**

This will be held at 2.30pm on Saturday 2nd December, at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. This mass is for anyone interested or involved in the Community Sponsorship, and will be followed by a reception during which different groups will be able to meet and share experiences and ideas with each other. Please see the poster for further details.

NOTICES**CHARITY WALK**

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who helped, participated, sponsored or donated to the Knights of St Columba's Annual Charity Walk, where you all raised **£2,300**. This will be used to reduce the Parish Development Fund.

MADLINE EDWARDS

Madeline Edwards, one of our oldest parishioners, is preparing to celebrate her 100th Birthday. She has been a parishioner in the parish for about sixty years. For the last fifteen years Madeline has been unable to get to church on a Sunday; however she still receives communion from Fr Luke and special ministers on a weekly basis. Her regular communion is an important part of her week.

Madeline will be one hundred years old on Sunday 26th November. Her family are planning to bring her to mass on that day and Fr Luke will give her a special blessing at the 11.00 mass. We are going to give her a special birthday card on that day from all of the parish. Blank sheets to insert into the card are at the back of the church. Please sign this card and send Madeline your love and prayers; it will mean a lot to her, even if you don't actually remember her from when she regularly attended church.

OLSPN – SCHOOL FAREWELL MASS – MONDAY 20th NOVEMBER – 2PM

A Mass to celebrate our school leaving its old building and moving into the new building in February 2018, will be held next Monday. Bishop Pat Lynch will be leading Mass. Ex pupils, parents, and staff are all welcome. Refreshments will be in the school hall afterwards.

OLSPN - SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our school's Christmas Fair will be on Saturday 25th November, between 1pm and 4pm, up at the Infants in Mayow Road, SE23 2XG. There will be the traditional Santa's Grotto, with Arts & Crafts, Stalls, Games, Tombola, Raffle and the usual Food and Drink, but this year they will have SANTA'S ASSAULT COURSE.

PRE CHRISTMAS TABLE SALE AT CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION - 165-167 KIRKDALE, SYDENHAM SE26 4QL

on **Weekend of 2nd / 3rd December** - 4pm Saturday / 10.30 Sunday onwards. Many Bargains: Gifts & Food

A CHRISTMAS CHORUS - SATURDAY 16th DECEMBER - 7PM IN THE PARISH HALL.

Pipe Dreams presents an evening of sing-along musical entertainment. Carols and favourite songs to get you in the festive spirit and raise funds to restore our unique Church organ.

Mince Pies and Mulled Wine. Raffle

Family ticket £5 (admits 4) or £2 Per head on the door. Contact Robert Hero

DECORATING OUR CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Lead by our Taskforce, this year we will be decorating our Church on Wednesday, 20th December between 6-8pm, and all are welcome to come along and join in this festive event.

PARISH NEW YEARS EVE PARTY – 8.30PM TO 12.30PM – SUNDAY 31st DECEMBER

This is a ticket entry only party, open to all parishioners. Admission is free, but please bring your own food and drink. Music will be provided. One ticket is required per person whether they are an adult or child. For tickets and further information please contact Paula on 0776 153 0739.

CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICES

To support parishes and young people in preparation for the 2018 Synod, the Youth Service has produced a pamphlet - available from the table at the back of our Church - for young people, to encourage them to engage with faith and prayer when looking at decisions and choices. Further information about the synod can be found at:

www.scys.org.uk/synod.

PIANIST NEEDED – 11AM MASS

If any pianists in the parish would like to join us, please come and have a chat after Mass, or you can get in touch with Barbara on 07711 872336.

200 CLUB

For only £10 per year you get the chance to win £75 every month plus Bonus prizes at Christmas & Easter.

Please renew your numbers or join for the first time!

The aim is to have at least 200 members so that we can maintain these prizes. Half of the proceeds go the Parish.

This year the money was used for the refurbishment of the Sacristy. The other half is given away as prizes.

There will be someone outside Church this weekend to collect your money.

Thank you for you continuing generous support.

HALL SUPERVISORS/CLEANERS REQUIRED (SALARIED POSITIONS)

In June of this year we started to work with a Catholic based company called Praetorium who specialise in hiring Church halls. As a result, the number bookings we've received has significantly increased, becoming an important extra source of income for the parish. However, presently these bookings are run by two people we need to create a team and employ more people. The bookings are predominately for Saturday night. We will create a rota, so the more people we have the longer each person will have between bookings. For more details please contact Steve Pearce, Monday to Friday, 9am to Noon on 0208 778 9460 or email: secretary@olspn.church.

Please do not park in the Church grounds,

this is reserved for blue badge holders, or those who need to drop off those with ability considerations. Thank you.

During Mass, please keep your children with you at all times, and accompany small children to the toilet.