



ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK  
**ST FRANCIS DE SALES & ST GERTRUDE CHURCH**

26 LARKHALL LANE, STOCKWELL, LONDON, SW4 6SP  
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 The Weekly Newsletter is available in our Parish Website



**21<sup>st</sup> December 2025: Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 7:10-14. **Psalms:** 24:1-2, 3-4b, 5-6. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 1:1-7. **Gospel:** Matthew 1:18-24.

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:

**NEXT: Maintenance of St. George's Cathedral (25/1/26)**

DAY	TIME	INTENTIONS
Sat-20 <sup>th</sup>	18.30	
Sun-21 <sup>st</sup>	09.00	People of the Parish
	11.00	Salih Neki Emizali-RIP
Mon-22 <sup>nd</sup>	09:30	
Tues-23 <sup>rd</sup>	09.30	
Wed-24 <sup>th</sup>	23:00	
Thur-25 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Maria Kallan & Family-Thanksgiving
Fri-26 <sup>th</sup>	09.30	
Sat-27 <sup>th</sup>	18.30	
Sun-28 <sup>th</sup>	09.00	Catherine Biney and Family-Thanksgiving
	11.00	People of the Parish

**PARISHIONERS' BIRTHDAYS**

20 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup>	Olawale Onile-Ere/21 <sup>st</sup> , Jai Mc Farlane/21 <sup>st</sup> , Nicola Corcoran/22 <sup>nd</sup> , George Manu/23 <sup>rd</sup> , Emmanuela Obodo/25 <sup>th</sup> .
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**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Sarah Madden, Crystal L, Andrew O'Neill, Patrick Idama, Marie Kallon, Michael McGrath and all our housebound.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION – 14/12/2025**

Gift Aid	Loose	Total
£214.20	£153.27	£ 367.47

**STANDING ORDERS/DIRECT DEBIT**

Offerings can be made by envelope, contactless machine, direct debit or standing order.

**NATWEST ACCOUNT: RCAS STOCKWELL.**  
**NO: 28975553; SORT CODE 60-20-31**

**2025 CHRISTMAS LITURGY SCHEDULE**

Date	Time	Mass
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.30pm	Christmas Carols
<b>24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	11pm	Midnight Mass
<b>Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	10 am	Christmas Day Mass
<b>Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	11pm	+ Midnight Mass
<b>Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026</b>	10 am	New Year's Day Mass

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026**  
**SOUTHWARK DIOCESE:** Join our pilgrimage to Lourdes travelling overnight by luxury coach from 9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Leaving Slough and Ealing Broadway on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 and departing Lourdes on 13<sup>th</sup> February for a visit to the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Rue de Bac, Paris on 14<sup>th</sup> February morning and arriving in London later on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Travel, full board and program cost £590. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more info.

**ATTENTION:** The piano in the Church is not in good condition. We appeal that the door to access it be kept closed. Please do not force to open it. Thanks for your understanding.

**NOTICE TO ALL READERS:** Readers are kindly encouraged to **announce** the Response to the Psalm **two/three** times to the congregation for them to be able to follow.

PASTORAL TEAM	ORDER OF MASS	
Fr Michael Faneye, MSP: Parish Priest	I Confess	p.8
Mr Charles Madden: PPC Chair	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	p.88
Mrs Catherine Biney: Finance	Resp. Psalm	p.89
Mrs Sade Onile-Ere: Safeguarding, Catechist	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	p. 89
Mr Patrick Sanniez: Sacristan	Gospel	p.89
<b>Office Hours:</b>	I believe in	p.11
Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30am– 1:30pm	Our Father	p.56

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SILENCE IN CHURCH:** This is a **SPECIAL APPEAL** to all: Out of **REVERENCE** for the presence of the Holy Eucharist in the Tabernacle and for the sake of those who want to pray and/or are praying, we gently appeal that all conversation/chatting, etc. after mass should take place at the **Atrium** not inside the **Church or in front of the Altar/Tabernacle**. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** This marks the final week of preparation before Christmas, focusing on Mary's acceptance of Jesus (**the Magnificat**) and God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises through Jesus's coming, highlighting themes of **peace, love, and God's everlasting covenant**, with readings often cantered on prophetic fulfilment and Mary's role, leading directly to Christmas Day.

**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:** Dear Parishioners, as we celebrate Christmas 2025, let us embrace the spirit of love, hope, and peace that this blessed season brings. May the birth of Christ inspire us to grow in faith, kindness, and unity within our community. Wishing you and your families a joyful, blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year filled with God's grace.

**ARCHBISHOP JOHN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:** In his annual Christmas message, Archbishop John Wilson said: "The beautiful truth of Christmas is that because of God in Christ we are never lost. God chose to be near us, to stay close to us always, to draw us to himself, always. In his endless mercy, the Lord Jesus chose to love us, so we could know and believe that "God is love" (1 John 4:16). In turn, all the Lord Jesus asks of us is to not be afraid and to say yes to him, to draw close to him, to love him". You can watch and read the full message at [rcaos.org.uk/christmasmessage20251](http://rcaos.org.uk/christmasmessage20251)



**CHRISTMAS DECORATION:** Please do not forget to volunteer today after the 11am mass to mount the Christmas tree and other decorations. Thank You.

**NOTE:** For the readings of Christmas Vigil and Christmas day, please turn to pages **95 & 98** of the mass book.

