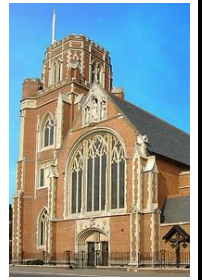


St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
Becket House, Santos Road, Wandsworth SW18 1NT
020 8874 1818 07788 415200
www.stthomasabecketchurch.co.uk
becket.westhill@btinternet.com
Parish Office: 9.30-14.30 Monday to Friday



Second Sunday of Advent

10th December 2017

I am going to send my messenger before you

Mass Times

- 9th Sat Feria**
9.30 *Christopher Clitherow +*
17.30 (Vigil Mass) *Tess Keaney +*
- 10th Sun Second Sunday of Advent**
10.00 *Luke Jackson - Wellbeing*
15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 11th Mon Feria**
9.30 *Victoria Lamb - Wellbeing*
- 12th Tue Feria**
9.30 *Tess Keaney +*
- 13th Wed St Lucy**
9.30 *Tess Keaney +*
- 14th Thu St John of the Cross**
9.30 *Tess Keaney +*
- 15th Fri Feria**
9.30 In St Joseph's School
14.00 Requiem Mass
- 16th Sat Feria**
9.30 *Tess Keaney +*
17.30 (Vigil Mass) *Holy Souls*
- 17th Sun Third Sunday of Advent**
10.00 *Michael Lamb +*
15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*

Confessions:

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

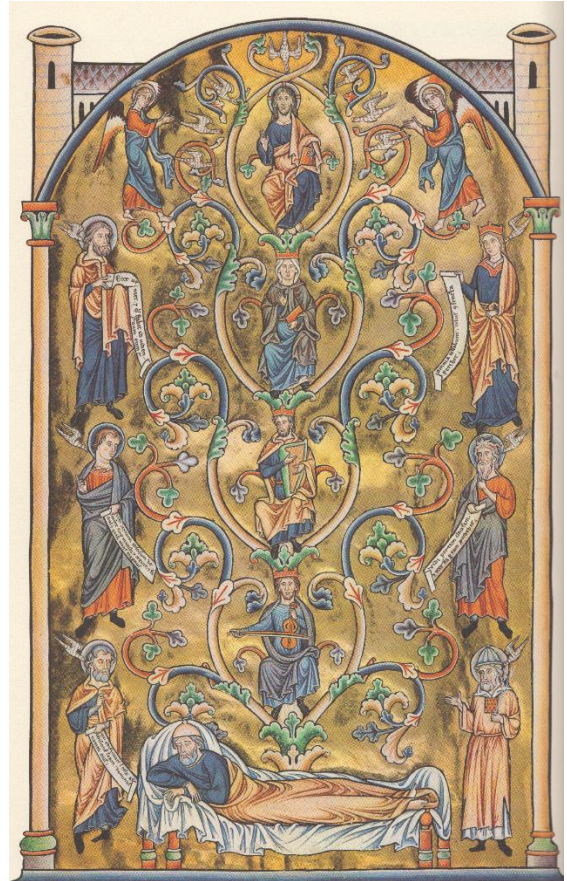
Sunday Readings: Year B **Weekday Readings:** Year 2

This Sunday's Readings: Page 85 in Mass Book

Cycle of Prayer Autumn: The Harvest, Fruits of Human Work, Reverent Use of Creation, Students & Teachers, Spread of the Gospel, Justice & Peace, Prisoners & their Families, Victims of War, Young People

Next Week's Liturgy Group: Mark

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest



Tree of Jesse, from the Roman Missal

The Jesse Tree

Jesse was the father of the great King David of the Old Testament. In the Bible he is regarded as the first person in the genealogy of Jesus.

In Church art there grew up the tradition of making Jesse Trees showing the relationship of Jesus with Jesse and his other ancestors. It shows a tree growing out of the reclining figure of Jesse as in the picture above. The various branches depict the ancestors of Jesus. At the top of the tree are the figures of Mary and Jesus.

The Jesse Tree was frequently used to illustrate prayer books and was often a feature of the stained glass windows of some of the great medieval cathedrals of Europe.

Try to make one at home. Take the branch of a tree and hang from it pictures of Biblical figures such as, Noah, Abraham or David or perhaps some religious symbols. In recent years Advent Calendars have become debased and filled with chocolate. A Jesse Tree is a wholesome and truly Christian alternative.

Father Alex



Advent Penitential Service

Our Advent Penitential Service takes place here on Monday 18th December at 19.00. It will be a reflective service with the opportunity for individual confession. Confessions are heard normally on Saturday after 9.30 mass and at call.

There is no greatness where there is not simplicity, goodness, and truth

Leo Tolstoy

Saint Thomas à Becket Feast Day

Our patronal feast of Saint Thomas à Becket takes place on Friday 29th December. We will be celebrating a solemn mass that evening at 19.00. Father Christopher Basden will be the special preacher. Refreshments afterwards in the Corry Hall.

Christmas Services at St Thomas

Carol Service	19.30	Wed	20th	Dec
Vigil Mass	17.30	Sat	23rd	Dec
Sunday Mass	10.00	Sun	24th	Dec
Hospital Mass.....	15.00	Sun	24th	Dec
First Mass of Christmas (children)	18.00	Sun	24th	Dec
Midnight Mass with Carols	23.30	Sun	24th	Dec
Christmas Day Mass	10.00	Mon	25th	Dec
St Stephen's Day.....	12.00	Tue	26th	Dec
St Thomas à Becket Feast	19.00	Fri	29th	Dec

Confirmation

We intend to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on 6th May 2018. Would those in Year 9 or above who wish to be Confirmed please complete a registration form available at the back of the Church.

Message from Father Davis

Dear friends, finally I bid goodbye to you. Yes, I enjoyed life at St Thomas especially your love and care for me. My sincere gratitude from the bottom of my heart. You have a special place in my heart. I am not sure where my next posting will be. I will let you know as soon as I can. My address is CMI Devamatha Provincial House, Thiruvambadi P.O., Patturaickal, Thrissur, 680 022 Kerala, India. frvdavis@hotmail.com. Thank you for your kind gift. Please keep me in your prayers. I wish you a Merry Christmas in advance.

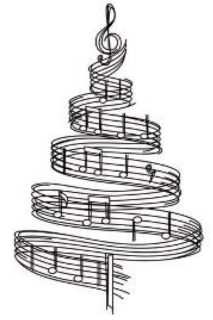
**The Lord loveth a cheerful giver,
but he also accepteth from a grouch**

Upcoming Dates

Seniors Club.....	13th	December	
Seniors Club Christmas Party .	14.30	16th	December
Penitential Service	18th	December	
Christmas Carol Service	19.30	20th	December
Feast of St Thomas à Becket.....	29th	December	

Christmas Carol Service

We want to breathe new life into our Christmas Carol Service. It will be held at 19.30 on Wednesday 20th December. We will be advertising it widely with a banner outside the Church and a leafleting campaign. The Carol Service will be conducted along traditional lines much like the famous Kings College Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.



The Mayor of Wandsworth intends to be present. There will be special input from the Choir and our School. Please come along and give it your support. Mince pies will be served afterwards in the Corry Hall.

End of Term School Mass

A mass to mark the end of the autumn term will be held in St Joseph's School on Friday 15th December at 9.30. This will replace the mass in the Church.

Funeral

A Requiem mass for John Hanly will take place at 14.00 on Friday 15th December. May he rest in peace.

Christmas Day Bus Service

It may interest parishioners to know that a free volunteer bus service will operate hourly between Roehampton (Danbury Ave) and Putney Bridge Station on Christmas Day, along the route 430 bus route using a vintage RT double deck bus.

Seniors Club Christmas Party

Senior Club Christmas Party 16th December 14.30 in the Corry Hall. £5 donation. Raffle and entertainment. Sign-up sheet at the back of the Church.

**If you can find a path with no obstacles,
it probably doesn't lead anywhere**

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £523.84, Bankers Orders £384

Upcoming Second Collections

7th January: SPUC White Flower Appeal, 14th January: Church Maintenance Fund

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: F Azevado, M Figueiredo n/w E Chavez. R Martella

Readers: Sat: C Wilkins, I Smith Sun: G Fayers, C McCarthy, A Blanes n/w Sat: R & S Jackson Sun: A Burnett, T Greetham, E Lueth

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat: D McGavin, K Dolan Sun: G Donaldson, C Kawesi, W Gallagher, R Kuleke, D Lyons n/w Sat: M & S Lee Sun: G D'Monte, V Chima, S Palmer, A Kilcawley, R McMullan

Little Church: C&C Kawesi, C Webb

Tiny Church: E Lueth

Flowers: L Northeast n/w A Robbins

Royal Hospital: Sr Pauline n/w C Kawesi