



# St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

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



Third Sunday of Advent

16th December 2018

## He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire

### Mass Times

- 15th Sat Feria**  
 9.30 Sharon Gomes +  
 10.00 Confessions  
 17.30 Noel and Carmel Murray +
- 16th Sun Third Sunday of Advent**  
 10.00 Billy Lowe +  
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 17th Mon Feria**  
 9.30 Harry Hebborn +  
 19.00 Penitential Service
- 18th Tue Feria**  
 9.30 Kayleigh Lowe +
- 19th Wed Feria**  
 9.30 Martin Williams sick
- 20th Thu Feria**  
 9.30 School Mass  
 Anne Monahan +
- 21st Fri Feria**  
 19.00 Carol Service  
 James P Gallagher +
- 22nd Sat Feria**  
 9.30  
 10.00 Confessions  
 17.30 Rene Aurelio Sauchelli +
- 23rd Sun Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
 10.00 Patrick Dolan +  
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*

### Confessions:

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

**Sunday Readings:** Year C **Weekday Readings:** Year 1

### Cycle of Prayer, Autumn:

Harvest, Fruits of Human of Work, Reverent Use of Creation, Students and Teachers, Spread of the Gospel, Justice and Peace in the World, Prisoners and their Families, All Victims of War, Young People

**Next Week's Liturgy Group:** Luke

**Baptisms & Marriages:** Please contact the Parish Priest



St John the Baptist in the Wilderness, Guido Reni 1636-7

### Modern Day John the Baptists

The task given to St John the Baptist was to prepare the people for the appearance of Christ. Jesus had of course been born thirty years beforehand but it was only after his Baptism at the hands of John in the River Jordan that Jesus finally begins his public ministry.

To avoid misunderstanding St John explains that he is not the Messiah and goes on to tell them as best as he is able just what this coming Messiah was to be like.

In a way this is our task too; to explain to those around us just who the Son of God is and what he achieved in the world, and how important is the salvation he brought for us.

Father Alex

## Christmas Carol Service

Once again we will be holding a traditional Christmas Carol Service in our Church. It will be at 19.00 on Friday 21st December. The Mayor of Wandsworth will be present. There will be 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. If you would like to donate mince pies they can be left in the hall beforehand.



If you do not hope,  
you will not find  
what is beyond your hopes

St. Clement of Alexandria

### Penitential Service

There will be a Penitential Service at 19.00 on Monday 17th December in preparation for Christmas. Advent is a penitential season and there is no better way to prepare for Christmas than to go to Confession. Several priests will be available.

### Christmas Offerings

Please find attached an envelope for your Christmas Offering for the Clergy. They are also available at the back of the Church. The envelopes can be used on Christmas Day (or any time if you are going away). Thank you for your generosity and I assure you and your families of a warm remembrance in my prayers at Christmas and throughout the year. *Father Alex*

### Christmas Crib

All gifts at the Crib are given to the Catholic Children's Society. Please support this work as generously as you can.

### Seniors Club

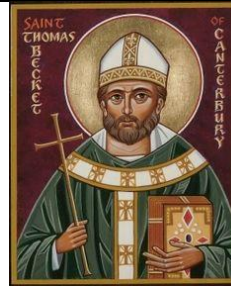
We are looking for a helper to co-ordinate and manage the Seniors Club as from January 2019. If you can help please contact the parish office.

The study of comparative religions  
is the best way to become  
comparatively religious

Ronald Knox

### Forthcoming Dates

Penitential Service.....17th December  
Carol Service ..... 21st December  
Feast of St Thomas à Becket.....29th December  
Confirmation.....28th April  
First Communion ..... 12th May



## Feast of St Thomas à Becket

We mark the feast of St Thomas à Becket with mass on Saturday 29th December at 17.30. The special preacher will be Father Marcus Holden, an expert on the English Saints.

After the mass there will be a buffet in the Corry Hall in thanks for those who have helped the parish during the year in whatever capacity including servers, singers, sacristans, musicians, cleaners, readers, Eucharistic ministers, catechists, ushers, counters, other volunteers, etc, etc. Please come along and enjoy what promises to be a most convivial evening.

## Christmas Services 2018

Penitential Service .....19.00 Mon 17th Dec  
School Mass..... 09.30 Thu 20th Dec  
Carol Service ..... 19.00 Fri 21st Dec  
Saturday Vigil Mass ..... 17.30 Sat 22nd Dec  
Sunday Mass..... 10.00 Sun 23rd Dec  
Children's Mass .....18.00 Mon 24th Dec  
Midnight Mass .....23.30 Mon 24th Dec  
Christmas Day Mass..... 10.00 Tue 25th Dec  
St Stephen's Day ..... 12.00 Wed 26th Dec  
Feast of St Thomas à Becket.....17.30 Sat 29th Dec  
Feast of the Holy Family ..... 10.00 Sun 30th Dec

### Children's Christmas Mass

Children coming to the special Children's Mass at 18.00 on Christmas Eve are welcome to dress up as Mary, Joseph, Angels, Shepherds, Kings, etc.

Better a diamond with a flaw  
than a pebble without

### Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £503.88 Bankers Orders £384

### Upcoming Second Collections

16th December Missions

### Rotas

**Sunday Welcome & Coffee:** E. Chavez, R Martella  
n/w L. Northeast

**Readers:** Sat: R & S Jackson, Sun: A. Burnett,  
T Greetham, A. Kane Blanes n/w Sat: E & N Falcone,  
H Pall, Sun: G Donaldson, L Brown, L Northeast

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Sat: M & S Lee, Sun:  
G D'Monte, V Chima, A Kilcawley, R McMullan n/w  
Sat: E Falcone, D McGavin, C Kawesi, Sun: D Lyons,  
E Sinclair, L Delos Santos, J Cato

**Little Church:** A Kilcawley, M Harrison, A Stacey  
n/w J & N Neligan, A Mann

**Tiny Church:** E Lueth

**Flowers:** A Robbins n/w V Barkho

**Royal Hospital:** C Kawesi n/w A Vanotti, M Lewis

**Maintenance Team:** 11.00 Saturday 12th January  
9th February