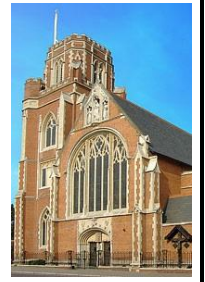




St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

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



The Holy Family

29th December 2019

He will be called a Nazarene

Mass Times

- 28th Sat The Holy Innocents**
 9.30
 10.00 Confessions
Feast of the Holy Family
 17.30
- 29th Sun St Thomas à Becket
 (Patronal Feast with Veneration
 of the Relics of St Thomas)**
 10.00 Maria Figueiredo Thanksgiving
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 30th Mon Sixth Day within the Octave of
 Christmas**
 9.30 Mary McDonnell +
- 31st Tue Seventh Day within the Octave of
 Christmas**
 9.30 Timothy Sweeny +
- 1st Wed Mary, Mother of God**
 12.00 Mandy Islam & Anne Job +
- 2nd Thu SS Basil the Great & Gregory
 Nazianzen**
 9.30 Beth Smith Wellbeing
- 3rd Fri Feria**
 9.30 Beth Smith Wellbeing
- 4th Sat Feria**
 9.30 Gerald Lynch +
 10.00 Confessions
 17.30
- 5th Sun The Epiphany of the Lord**
 10.00 Deceased Members of Devlin Family
 15.00 (Royal Hospital)



St Thomas à Becket

Saint Thomas à Becket's Story

Thomas à Becket was Archbishop of Canterbury from 1162 until his murder in 1170. He is venerated as a saint and martyr by both the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion. He engaged in conflict with Henry II, King of England, over the rights and privileges of the Church and was murdered by followers of the king in Canterbury Cathedral. Soon after his death, he was canonised by Pope Alexander III.

He was born in London to a Norman family and managed to gain a position as a clerk to the Archbishop of Canterbury and then was promoted to be Chancellor of England becoming King Henry II's strong friend. When there was a vacancy at Canterbury the King nominated him for that position thinking that, in this way, he could have more control of the Church. Thomas proved to be uncooperative and took his new role very seriously which led to serious conflict with the King.

After exile in France Thomas returned to Canterbury but remained implacable. Henry cried out in a rage, 'Will no one rid me of this troublesome priest!' Four knights, taking the King's words literally, travelled to Canterbury and slew Thomas in his Cathedral. He remains a highly regarded Saint who gave his life in defence of the rights of the Church.

Confessions:

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

Sunday Readings: Year A **Weekday Readings:** Year 2

Cycle of Prayer, Advent & Christmas:

Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees,
Expectant Mothers

Next Week's Liturgy Group:

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest

HAPPY New Year

I am ready to die for my Lord,
that in my blood the Church
may obtain liberty and peace

Thomas à Becket

A Celebration of Parish Life

During the 175th anniversary of the Parish we had a special evening with a wide range of entertainment provided by a number of Parishioners for the enjoyment of the whole Parish. On Saturday 8th February we plan to hold a similar occasion to celebrate the wide range of talents that our people have. We invite everyone to consider contributing to the evening whether it be song, music, performance, drama, spoken word, dance, cultural activity or anything else that celebrates the life of our Parish. **Please sign the sheet at the back of the Church so that we can move forward with the planning of this event.**

Christmas Crib

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

SPUC

The annual White Flower Appeal for the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child will take place on Sunday 5th January.

Thank You

Christmas at St Thomas à Becket is a very busy and lively time; it is a real celebration of the love of God made manifest in the birth of his Son, Jesus Christ. Our grateful thanks go to those who cleaned and decorated the Church so beautifully, to our singers and musicians, to the Altar Servers and to all those who are involved in ensuring the good running of the parish so many different ways.

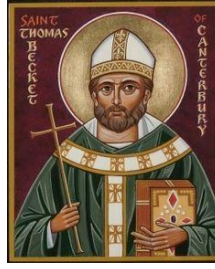
A special thanks to those who helped with the very beautiful Carol Service. We hope that as many as possible will come to the refreshments after today's feast so we can show our appreciation. Also, I'd like to thank you very much for your very generous Christmas offerings, cards and gifts. *Father Alex*

The chains of habit are too weak to be
felt until they are too strong to be broken

Dr Johnson

Forthcoming Dates

Feast of St Thomas à Becket.....29th December
Celebration of Parish Life..... 8th February
Ash Wednesday..... 26th February
Easter Sunday12th April



Feast of St Thomas à Becket

We mark our patronal feast of St Thomas à Becket with mass today Sunday 29th December at 10.00. The celebrant and special preacher will be Mgr Keith Newton who is the head of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham.

After the mass there will be a light buffet in the Corry Hall in appreciation of 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 do come along and enjoy what promises to be a most convivial occasion.

First Communion Class

The next First Communion class takes place on Saturday 11th January at 16.00 in the Corry Hall. It is expected that the children will attend the 5.30 evening mass that day.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from 18th to the 25th January 2018. The Week of Prayer always concludes with the Feast of St Paul.

Movie Show

The Book Thief will be shown in the Corry Hall at 10.30 on Wednesday 15th January. All welcome.

New Year's Day

Please note Mass on New Year's Day will be at 12.00

Wait the end with joy
It is the end which characterizes
everything and which tests
a man's expectations

Thomas à Becket

Upcoming Second Collections

Organ Fund today 29th December, White Flower Appeal SPUC 5th January

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: A Oliva, E Falcone n/w F Azevedo, M Figueiredo

Readers: Sat: N Nolan, S Vas, E De Souza Sun: T Brown, A Harris, A Stacey n/w Sat: C Wilkins, E De Souza, M Slade; Sun: G Fayers, C McCarthy

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat: J Cato, D McGavin, C Kawesi Sun: A Nobis, R Nwodo, P Fahy, R McMullan n/w Sat: D McGavin, K Dolan Sun: G Donaldson, S Palmer, R Kuleke, D Lyons

Flowers: A Oliva n/w L Northeast

Royal Hospital: A Robbins n/w Sr Pauline

Maintenance Team: 11.00 Saturday 13th July