

# ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

A Parish under the care of the Augustinians

## Newsletter

Third Sunday of Advent  
15th December 2024

### Gospel Teaching

In the Old Testament times, there were many prophets in the generations preceding the birth of Jesus. These men predicted the future, often centred around the coming of a saviour. Many of the prophets described how people would feel and how they would react when this event took place. In the first reading from the prophet Zephaniah, we find an example of this prophecy. Zephaniah foresees a day of great rejoicing when people will rejoice with all their heart. However, people everywhere on earth, at the instant of the Saviour's birth – the day of rejoicing – didn't begin a festival of dancing and song. People who were unhappy or sick or poor didn't start dancing and shouting aloud.

The people of Israel went through a painful process. Just as the healthy body and the qualification only appear after undergoing the ordeal of a diet or an examination, so, with the time of joy, the time of the Saviour, the time of Jesus. A painful experience was necessary before the people could rejoice. In the Gospel we find that another prophet is not only foretelling the great day of rejoicing but also describing the process which must be undertaken before the day of rejoicing can take place. John the Baptist calls the people to change heart. He tells them that they must put right their wrongs so that those who are sad through poverty, injustice or persecution may also be able to rejoice. It is this change of heart: the rectifying of wrongs, poverty, injustice and persecution which is the painful process, the challenge which is given by John the Baptist. This is the process which will enable all to rejoice, not just the rich and powerful but also the poor, the deprived and the persecuted.

Today, the third Sunday of Advent, is given the title "*gaudate*", a Latin word which means "rejoice". On this Sunday everyone is called to renew this process which enables everyone to rejoice, to be joyous. Today we recall and renew this process of preparation and in so doing we are renewing our commitment to the Christian life; a life which calls us to make hard decisions, decisions which can be painful. Throughout these final days before Christmas, therefore, let us remember that in our Christian lives this Advent, we are called to bring joy to those around us and especially to those for whom life is filled with sadness and pain.

"Let us therefore be people of joy this Advent in time for the birthday of our Saviour."

*(The Living Word, Redemptorist Publication)*

See also: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2020-02/sunday-reflection-vatican-news2.html>

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18. Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6. Philippians 4:4-7. Luke 3:1-18

### MASS TIMES

#### Sunday:

9 am, 10.30 am, 12.15 pm, 6:30 pm

#### Monday to Friday:

8 am & 12.15 pm

**Saturday:** 12.15 pm, 6 pm (Vigil)

#### Holy Days of Obligation:

8 am, 12.15 pm & 7 pm

### CONTACT DETAILS

#### Address:

55 Fulham Palace Road,  
Hammersmith, London, W6 8AU.

**Tel No:** 020 8748 3788

**Mobile No:** 07901 523 267

#### Email:

[hammersmith@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hammersmith@rcdow.org.uk)

#### Website/Live streaming:

[parish.rcdow.org.uk/hammersmith](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hammersmith)

### PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Tomas Banayag OSA

### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

John-James Schley

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**Monday to Tuesday:** 10 am - 3 pm.

**Thursday to Friday:** 10 am - 3 pm.

### SAFEGUARDING

Margaret Manners

[hammersmithsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hammersmithsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

Teresa Felongco Sagge

[hammersmithsg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hammersmithsg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

Suzette Dennis

[hammersmithsg4@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hammersmithsg4@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

### ST. AUGUSTINE'S CENTRE

#### Contact for all Hiring and Centre

Helen Murphy - Manager

#### Email:

[helen@staugustinescentrelondon.org](mailto:helen@staugustinescentrelondon.org)

### ORDER OF ST. AUGUSTINE (OSA)

Province of England & Scotland

Fr. Tomas Banayag OSA (Parish Priest)

Fr. Barry Clifford OSA (Prior)

Fr. Arthur Bolivar OSA

Fr. Robert Marsh OSA (Provincial)

Bishop Emeritus Michael Campbell OSA  
(in residence)

**Email:** [info@theaugustinians.org](mailto:info@theaugustinians.org)

Website: [theaugustinians.org](http://theaugustinians.org)

Vocations Facebook:

[AugustinianVocationsUK](https://www.facebook.com/AugustinianVocationsUK)

## PARISH DIARY

**Sunday 15th December** *Third Sunday of Advent*  
Masses: 9 am, 10:30 am, 12:15 pm, 6:30pm, 8pm

**Monday 16th December** *Advent Feria*  
8 am Mass  
12 noon - The Angelus  
12.15 pm Mass  
8pm Mass

**Tuesday 17th December** *Advent Feria*  
8am Mass  
12 noon - The Angelus  
12.15 pm Mass  
8pm Mass

**Wednesday 18th December** *Advent Feria*  
8am Mass  
12 noon - The Angelus  
12:15 pm Mass  
8pm Mass

**Thursday 19th December** *Advent Feria*  
8am Mass  
12 noon - The Angelus  
12.15 pm Mass  
8pm Mass

**Friday 20th December** *Advent Feria*  
8 Mass  
12 noon - The Angelus  
12:15pm Mass  
8pm Mass

**Saturday 21st December** *Advent Feria*  
12:15 pm Mass  
6 pm Vigil Mass  
8pm Mass

**Sunday 22nd December** *Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
Masses: 9 am, 10:30 am, 12:15 pm, 6:30pm, 8pm

\*\*\*\*\*

## PARISH LIFE

### Announcement

Due to several incidents of vandalism experienced by the church, we regret to inform you that the interior door of the church will be closed after the rosary following the 12:15 pm Mass. However, the church porch will stay open for those who want to pray until 5 pm. On Saturdays, the doors will re-open at 5pm for the 6pm mass and on Sundays, it will re-open at 5:30 pm for the 6:30pm mass. Apologies for the inconvenience.

### Church Shop - Opening Times

Monday to Friday - 11.45 am to 1.30 pm  
Saturday 11.45 am to 1.30 pm 5.30 pm to 7 pm  
and every Sunday between 8.30 am - 2 pm

**Data Protection Regulations** - Please note that on account of GDPR law we can only provide certificates (Baptism, Confirmation, etc.) to the person who has the rights to their data. This will be the parents or carers if the person is under eighteen, or the person themselves if they are eighteen or older.

**Website** - To view the newsletter via our website; from the Homepage, click on News and Events, click on Newsletters from the drop-down menu, click on "Latest Newsletter".

**Car Parking** - The management agents have installed ANPR. Please note that for weekend Masses (Saturday evening and Sunday up until the 12.15 pm, the gate will be open around Mass times). **For any Masses or services during the week, ie, Weekday Masses, Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings,** you will have to book a space, which can be done online at <https://parkbee.com>

**Piano Lessons** - Our organist, Antonio who is a dedicated and passionate Piano Teacher for over ten years (currently working as a Piano Tutor at the Royal College of Music in London), is offering fun but professional piano lessons to both adults and children. It does not matter what age you are! Please contact him at [antonio.morabito95@hotmail.it](mailto:antonio.morabito95@hotmail.it) if you are interested.

**Live Streaming Masses and Services** - To view, either click on the link on the parish website or visit: [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv). Church Live Streaming is 24/7 in St Augustine's Church, Hammersmith.

**CCTV in the Church** - There is ongoing 24/7 CCTV recording in the Church.

**Catholic Chaplaincy to London's Universities** - Are you a student at one of the universities or colleges in London, or in Hatfield? Our Catholic Chaplaincy is for you! It's based at Newman House, 111 Gower Street, WC1E 6AR. We have Sunday Masses for students and regular events during the week. And in many of the universities and colleges, we also have campus-based Catholic societies and activities. Visit: [www.universitycatholic.net](http://www.universitycatholic.net) to find out more. You will be made very welcome at our Catholic community here, a 'home from home.'

## OPENING TIMES, DEVOTIONS AND

### 7 to 9 Votive Day Candle Stands

(located near St. Anthony's/St. Patrick's Statues)  
Please **only** use candles which can be purchased from the Repository or Parish Office  
Price per Candle **£5** (available in Blue, Red & White)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### Church Opening Times for Individual Prayer

Weekdays: 7 am to 5 pm  
Saturdays: 10 am until after the 6 pm Mass  
Sundays: 8 am until after the 6.30 pm Mass.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** - Saturday 10.30 am - 11.45 am.

**Reconciliation** - Saturday 10.30 am to 11.45 am and by appointment.

**The Angelus** - Every day at 12 noon.

**Novena Mass to Sto. Niño** - Every first Friday of the month at 7 pm.

**Rosary** - (Led by parishioners) recited daily after the 8 am Mass (Monday to Friday) & 12.15 pm Mass Mondays to Saturdays.

## VOLUNTEERING/JOB VACANCIES

**Can you Help?** We still need of more volunteers to come forward for the various ministries in the Church.

**Would you like to join the Choir?** - Please pick up a form from the Church Porch and return it to the parish office.

**Church Cleaning** - Please speak to Antonia if you can help on Mondays after the 8 am Mass.

**Readers** - If you would like to read at any of the Sunday Masses, please email Annabel, [staugustinesreaders@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:staugustinesreaders@yahoo.co.uk)

**Diocesan Job Vacancies** - For current job vacancies, visit <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Baptism Course** - 25th January Saturday, 10am, will be the next schedule for the course. Please email or call the parish if you wish to be listed on the course.

**A Christmas Celebration in Westminster Cathedral** - Tickets are now on sale for the annual Christmas concerts which celebrate the mystery of Christ's Incarnation in carols and readings performed by the world-famous Westminster Cathedral Choir, orchestra, and celebrity readers, on 18 and 19 December at 7.30pm. We encourage everybody to purchase tickets quickly before these popular events are sold out. Tickets can be purchased from the Cathedral Gift Shop or directly from Ticketmaster; go to [www.ticketmaster.co.uk](http://www.ticketmaster.co.uk) and type in Westminster Cathedral when prompted.

## SACRAMENTS

**Baptisms** - More information from the Parish Office.

**Confirmation 2025** - The date for Confirmation 2025 is the 7th of June 2025 at 12:15pm. Forms are available in the Church Porch and the Parish Office and must be returned by the 9th December. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**First Holy Communion 2025** - The date for First Holy Communion 2025 is the 21st June 2025 Saturday at 11am & 2pm. We are no longer taking applications for 2025.

**Home Visit for the Sick** - Please contact the Parish Office.

**Marriages** - If you would like to get married, we need at least six months notice or longer if you wish to marry abroad. You also need to attend a Marriage Course. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

**RCIA (Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults)** - For Adults who wish to become Catholic, Adult Catholics who wish to be confirmed, any Catholic Adult who wishes to learn more about

their Catholic faith. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

## SCHOOLS

**St Michael's Catholic Grammar School** -The Governing Body invite your views on the consultation of our Admissions Policy 2026/27 and associated SIF. Further information on the proposed changes can be found on their website. The consultation period will commence on 20 October and finish on 2 December 2024. All views should be submitted to [admissions@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk) by the closing date.

### Nursery and Primary School Applications

*Fr Tomas will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice forms on the following dates in the Parish Office.*

Wednesday 8th January 2025: 10:30am - 12pm  
1:30pm - 3:00pm  
Thursday 9th January 2025: 10:30am - 12pm  
Friday 10th January 2025: 10:30am - 12pm  
1:30pm - 3:00pm

**PLEASE BRING THE BAPTISM CERTIFICATE**

## COMMUNITY MASS LIST

### 15th December to 21st December

#### Recently Deceased:

Sean Doherty, Jim Coyle, Francis Lavery, Mrs Norma Osborne, Mary Kelleher, Feloteo Perino, Brendan Joseph Potter, Gabriel Heaghney

#### Anniversaries:

Nancy Hobbs, Wilfrid & Kathleen Oliver, Ronald Oliver & Josephine Donovan, Eileen Murphy, Noel & Josephine Gibbons, Amelia Dimaculangan

#### Deceased:

Regina Ghantgi

#### Intentions:

Holy Souls, St. Anthony, Mary Lavery & Family, Mary Houly, Stephen Brennan, Carmel Rouse

#### Get Well:

Laurence Rigg

#### Birthday:

Noel Horgan, Agatha Tadafe, Nadine Wilkus

## STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

We thank those who have continued to support our Parish during these times.

If you would like to make a donation, please scan the QR code:



or use the following details:

**Name:** WRCDT - HAMMERSMITH  
**Account No:** 11308262  
**Sort Code:** 40-05-20  
**Bank:** HSBC  
**Ref:** Your name

If you are a UK Taxpayer, you can complete a Gift Aid form from the Parish Office. We can claim back 25p in every £1 you donate.

**Gift Aid & Planned Giving** - This scheme enables parishes to claim back the tax element of your gift from those who pay tax and donate regularly to the Parish. This gives the parish an extra 25% on top of your donations at no cost to yourself.

### Ways you can Give

**Gift Aid Box** - If you feel that you are able to make regular donations, and would like a gift aid box, please complete the Parish Gift Aid Form/Standing Order Form (available from the Church Porch) and return it to the Parish Office.

**By Standing Order** - You may wish to set up a standing order for your donations, if so, please complete the standing order instruction on the Parish Gift Aid Form and return the completed form to the Parish Office.

**One Off Donations** - If you are visiting the parish and would like to make a one-off donation, please pick up the blue donation envelopes available from the Church porch, fill in and place in the offertory collection. Your donation can help our parish and make your gift go further.

**Not donated in a while and would like to start giving again?** If anyone has not donated for a while, we have ended your box. If you would like to start giving again by planned giving envelopes, please complete the Gift Aid form and return it to the Parish and you will be issued with a new number and box.

**Mass Collection** for last week: **£848.12 (loose plate)**

**Contactless Payment Machines** - If you wish for your donation to be gift-aided, please ensure that you fully complete the gift aid section. If you prefer, or if the machines are not working, for whatever reason, you can scan the QR code, which you will find above the machines, just enter your donation amount, input your card details in the normal way. Please don't forget to Gift Aid!

**Foodbank** - We are still collecting items for the Food Bank that can help families who are struggling. Please use the box in the porch for dried, tinned and packet foods (especially fish, vegetable/fruits) and toiletries. Thank you.

## ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS 2024

All Masses/Services will be live-streamed on [parish.rcdow.org.uk/hammersmith](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hammersmith) or [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv)

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 4.00 pm**  
**(PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE)**

(Led by the Church Choirs and St. Augustine's Primary School)  
followed by Parish Christmas Party and Hamper Raffles in the Parish Hall

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (1.00 pm to 4.00 pm)**  
Pensioners' Christmas High Tea

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December to Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024**  
Simbang Gabi at **8.00 pm**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**  
Masses at 8.00 am and 12.15 pm

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December During the Day**  
Mass at 8.00 am  
**Christmas Eve**

Family (Children's) Mass at 5.00 pm  
Solemn Mass of the Nativity at 8.00 pm

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December - The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)**  
Masses at 9.00 am, 10.30 am and 12.15 pm

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December**  
Mass at 12.15 pm

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> December**  
Masses at 12.15 pm and 6.00 pm (Vigil)  
(Exposition/Confession Suspended)

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
Masses at 9.00 am, 10.30 am & 12.15 pm

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2024 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025**  
Mass 12.15 pm

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025**  
Masses at 12.15 pm and 6 pm (Vigil)  
(Exposition/Confession Suspended)

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - The Epiphany of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)**  
Masses at 9.00 am, 10.30 am, 12.15 pm and 6.30 pm  
(Normal Schedule Resumes)

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Feast of the Señor Sto. Niño**  
Normal Mass Schedule  
Señor Sto. Niño Celebration at the 6.30 pm Mass  
**(SINULOG FESTIVAL)**

**Wishing you all a Joyful and Peaceful Christmas and a Blessed New Year!**