

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

**BAPTISMS:** Our next Baptism course will be announced in January 2024. Please contact the Parish Office to book a place.

**2022-2023 CONFIRMATION, RCIA & RCIC CERTIFICATES:** Please collect your certificate from the Parish Office Mon. – Fri. 9am – 1pm.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES 2023-2024:

**FHC Parents meeting:** Parents meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm to 7pm in church.

**FHC Children's meeting –**  
GROUP 1: FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the Parish Hall.  
GROUP 2: SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am to 11am in the Parish Hall.

**Confirmation –** Next session is on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm prompt in the Parish Hall. All Candidates to bring their Bibles.

**RCIA -** Friday 8<sup>st</sup> December with Mass at 7pm, followed by a session in the Presbytery.

**RCIC –** This Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December with Mass at 11am, followed by a session upstairs in the Parish Hall on Brereton Road.

## FUNERALS

For funeral arrangements, please contact the parish office and let us know the name of your loved one so that we can pray for his/her soul.

## WEDDINGS

If you are planning to get married, please call or send an email to the parish office. Couples wishing to marry here or in any Catholic Church need to give at least six months' notice of their intentions.

## MASS TIMES

**Monday 10am**  
**Tuesday 10am**  
**Wednesday NO MASS**  
**Thursday 10am**  
**Friday 7pm**  
**Saturday 10am**  
**Saturday (Vigil) 7pm**  
**Sunday 9am and 11am**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**Saturday 10.30am to 11.15am**

**Confessions**  
**Saturday 10.30am to 11.15am**  
**Saturday 6pm to 6.45pm**

## Please pray for those who has recently fallen asleep in peace with the Lord:

Lodovina Pereira, Margaret Carr, Mary Derham, Juliana Asare, Anne Williams, Catherine Everette, Aliyah Cardoso, Scarlette Yeboah, Luis Blanco, Seamus Cronin, Jason Kyriakides, Desiree Ann Seechan, Lyra Richards, Patricia Dilaver, Victoria Nma Odilli, Valentina Cuenco, Rene Petrouse, Bernard (Bernie) Meaney, Ernest William, Melford Weekes, Gabrielle Doocey, Gadje Sabine Ouan, Marjorine Nunoo, Benedict D'Silva, Timothy O'Connor, Anne Elizabeth Beguin (*nee* Corrigan), Pauline Ilogebe Udenze, Mercedes Torres Arroyo, Fr Dominic McKenna, Lawrence Henry, Helena Duckett, Agnes Otuo Achampong, Lucas DaSivla, Jean Mae Marlow, Francis Onyearuqbulem, Lucy Dawson and all our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in peace with our Lord.

Let your perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Amen



ST FRANCIS DE SALESCHURCH

H 729 HIGH ROAD, TOTTENHAM N17 8AG

TELEPHONE: 020 8808 3554

E-mail: [tottenham@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tottenham@rcdow.org.uk)

Website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/tottenham/>

Parish Priest: Fr David Lucuy Claros

Parish Administrator: Mrs. Elisabete Veselovska.

Catechetical Coordinator: Mrs Marcelle Jemide

Safeguarding Representative: Ms Vicky Gowdie

Email: [tottenhams2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:tottenhams2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)



**Readings:** Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8; Psalm 79(80):2-3,15-16,18-19; 1Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
YEAR B- 03/12/2023

## Advent - a call to wait for God in patient hope

This Sunday we celebrate the beginning of a new liturgical year in which we will hear the Good News from the Gospel of Mark. What is the Good News for this Sunday? For those who are finding this year difficult or for one reason or another the message of Advent is "Wait for God in patient hope." Perhaps, many people have already given up on hope as consequence of the many hardships they and their families, relatives, friends, colleagues or neighbours are going through day by day. Perhaps, suffering has hit them so hard as to devoid in them of any trace of love and meaning in their lives. The Good News is that God has not abandoned us; God is with us though sometimes our lack of faith prevents us from seeing him.

Remember the impossibility of the announcement of the angel Gabriel to Mary that the Son of the Most High would be born from her, though she was a Virgin! Mary believed in this message and waited in hope for the birth of Jesus from her womb and Jesus, the Word of God was made flesh and lived among us! Wait in patient hope for God to fulfil his plans in his own way in his own time.

Remember the Jews from our first reading. They were suffering but they were waiting in patient hope for God to act to save them, because they put their faith in Him and said "He is our Father, we are the clay and he is the potter" (Isa 64:8)

Remember Jesus' words of encouragement to us in today's Gospel to never give up waiting, "Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come." (Mark 13:33)

This time of Advent invites us to prepare well in order to celebrate well the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ at Christmas. The Lord is not indifferent to our sufferings, but He is compassionate. He came down among us, to walk with us and accompany us in our struggles. He came to rescue us from death and from all our sufferings. He will come again, but we do not know the hour. Let us stay awake and alert by doing the work he has allotted us to do, as parents to look after your children, educating them and loving them in the best way you can. By serving our brothers and sisters in the house, the community, the church, at work... serving, serving and serving, with love and not grudgingly. Let us not remain asleep in our old ways of living in selfishness, indifference, laziness, indulging in the old habitual sins of gambling, drinking, eating and wasting time engrossed in the media and watching TV in excess. Let us become sober and come out into the light and enter into this time of hope. This is the start of a new year full of hope, trusting that the Lord, our Father, who like the potter, will mould and transform our world and ourselves into a beautiful piece of art, which will reflect his true self in us and through us. Wait for the Lord in patient hope!

Fr David

## Sunday at St Francis De Sales Church

This week's Sanctuary lamp burning in honour of the Blessed Sacrament (Red) is offered for the intentions of **Hannah Shine**.

This week's Sanctuary lamp burning in honour of Our Lady (blue) is offered for the repose soul of **James Shine**.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Sunday 9am** Peter Andrew Sakowicz RIP, David McDonagh ANNIV **11am** Mary Obeng Thanksgiving, Akosua Serwaa & Family Thanksgiving **Monday 10am** Malcolm Aitkenri RIP, Richard Anthony Pope ANNIV **Tuesday 10am** Felix Anyadi & John Kofi Thanksgiving, Maureen Anyadi Thanksgiving **Wednesday No Mass Thursday 10am** Ann Dunleavy ANNIV, Malcolm Aikenri RIP **Friday 10am** People of the Parish **7pm** Espiridion Trafalgar RIP, Dymphy Lanigan RIP **Saturday 10am** Pat Carroll Thanksgiving, Sean Moynahan RIP **7pm** Natividad Bola & Alfonso Inchazo ANNIV, Timmie Weir INT

### PARISH NEWS

#### AN ADVENT RETREAT FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH TOTTENHAM

We would like to invite all volunteers who help us ministering in the various pastoral areas in our Parish to an Advent Retreat on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December starting with Mass at 10am, followed by Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament and Benediction and a time of reflection and spiritual talks in the Parish Hall. A light lunch will be provided. The retreat will finish by 3pm.

Please let us know if you will be able to attend this retreat at [tottenham@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tottenham@rcdow.org.uk) by 30<sup>th</sup> November. Let us start this new season of Advent with a renew spirit of service with joy and love for our parishioners and parish community.

#### ST FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH CHRISTMAS HARDSHIP FUND 2023

As we get ready to celebrate Christmas, we are aware that millions are facing a cost of living crisis. People are being hit by increased energy costs and rising inflation. Last year we have asked parishioners to help out with our Christmas Parish Hardship Fund from which many of our families most in need have profited and this gave them the chance to celebrate Christmas in a dignified way. Please consider donating to this fund. It will be used to give grants to those in need, so that they may have the dignity of being able to use it for their urgent needs or be able to briefly enjoy the choices in the supermarket that so many of us take for granted. You can donate in cash by putting it in an envelope with the name of the appeal or if you do it online, please write "Christmas Hardship Fund". (*Our website details are on the next page*)

**Thank you very much for your generous donations!**

#### ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR 2023

In addition to our Christmas Parish Hardship Fund, you can also help by donating some food to be distributed to families in need who turn to Food Banks. Caritas Food Collective encourage us to use the Advent Calendar to bring items that will be sent to Food Banks in our area or be given to our families in need from our parish community. This will start from 2nd December. Please take with you one of the calendars or check the items you would be able to bring in the coming weeks and drop it at the entrance of the church or hand it to one of our volunteers and SVP members or you can drop it at the Parish Office, preferably at office times 9am to 1pm.

### SCHEDULED MATCHES AND EVENTS AT THE STADIUM FOR DECEMBER 2023

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> TOT-WHU at 20.15; Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> TOT-NEW at 16.30; Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> TOT-ARS (Women) at 12.00; Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> TOT-EVE at 15.00; Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> TOT-BOU at 14.00.

Road restrictions will be in place. Please have a look on the link

<https://www.tottenhamhotspur.com/the-stadium/local/>

### CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN

We will soon have our Christmas trees set in the church after 20<sup>th</sup> December. We would like this year to appeal your generosity to donate presents for children, as too many families cannot afford to buy food and let alone Christmas presents. Please bring your presents labelled by age range and whether is for a boy or girl. Thank you very much for your support.

**MASS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, WILL BE CELEBRATED ON FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 10AM AND 7PM.**

### PARISH FINANCES

#### PARISH PLANNED GIVING DONATIONS

At this trying time, we are receiving less donations due to the consequences of the global crisis. These are some ways you can support us help us to grow more.

1. We kindly would like to invite you to consider registering to any of our Planned Giving Schemes. If you have not registered yet, please let us know by calling on 02088083554 or send an email [tottenham@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tottenham@rcdow.org.uk) and contact our Parish Administrator Elisabete Veselovska.
2. At present the best way to help us is by setting up a Bank Standing Order, see details below.
3. If you are a taxpayer, please consider making a GIFT AID declaration for your donations, to enable the parish to claim back 25p for every £1 you donate.
4. We would ideally like to reduce the use of cash due to further costs incurred and would request that instead, if you can donate by card at church by tapping on the contactless machines as you go out of church or consider donating online through our website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/tottenham/donate>. Our bank details are as below:

**Account Name: WRCDT Tottenham**

**Sort Code: 40-05-20**

**Account Number: 71264397**

**Thank you very much for your continued support and generosity.**

**DONATIONS:** We received the previous week in £248 Envelopes £198.70 Standing Orders (October) £4,280 Contactless (October) £150 S&R £224

**GIFT AID DONORS:** Thank you for adding gift aid to your donations. We have now made a claim on donations for 2022-23 and received a total of £10,356 at no extra cost to you.

**GASDS** – We have also made a claim for this extra benefit of claiming £2,000 on the loose plate donations for which we are extremely grateful.

#### ST FRANCIS DE SALES BUILDING FUND

To-date we have raised a total of £33,116.38. Thank you very much for your generosity.