

## 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 9<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm to 7pm in church.

### Children's Meetings:

GROUP 1: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 5.30pm-6.30pm; in the Parish Hall.

GROUP 2: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 12noon-1pm; in the Parish Hall.

**Confirmation** – Next session is on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 6pm prompt – 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. All Candidates to bring their Bibles.

**RCIA** - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024 with Mass at 7pm, followed by a session in the Presbytery.

**RCIC** – This Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023 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:

Juliana Asare, Anne Williams, Catherine Everette, Aliyah Cardoso, Scarllette Yeboah, Luis Blanco, Seamus Cronin, Jason Kyriakides, Desiree Ann Seechan, Lyra Richards, Patricia Dilaver, Victoria Nma Odilli, Valentina Cuenco, Rene Petrousse, 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, Christopher Nwankwo 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 SALES CHURCH

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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:** 2Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14;16; Psalm 88 (89) 2-5,27,29; Romans 16:25-27; John 1:26-38

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
YEAR B- 24/12/2023

### 'I am the handmaid of the Lord, let what you have said be done to me'

This is "yes" of Mary to do the will of God. The "yes" to conceive within her Jesus the Son of God. The yes of Mary is the door that has opened the way to the fulfilment of God's loving plan of salvation already announced in the prophesies of the Old Testament. Her "yes" entailed accepting great personal sacrifices and even with fatal consequences. For instance, her "yes" entailed she would be pregnant as an unwed mother and betrothed to someone who wasn't the father. She could have been stoned to death as part of the law of her community. Saying 'yes' was an act of trust, saying 'yes' to God, over and beyond what looked reasonable, possible or safe by the outer circumstances.

The "yes" of Mary was not a passive yes, or a consent with resignation but it was a yes that means "bring it on, I am ready for it. I am ready to risk even my life to do it!

This is the model of the believer's response. On this last Sunday of Advent, Mary is portrayed as the model of our spirituality and prayer. We are called to hear the word of God, the Good News (Gospel) from the Lord through the Church. It is up to us to respond with faith or to be afraid of accepting God's will. The Lord says, 'do not be afraid Mary, the Holy Spirit will come upon you.' God will not let us walk alone! The Lord will always provide the way, the means, the graces for us to accomplish our mission as Mary.

Your "yes" to believe and do the will of God, is vital for the salvation of the world, our neighbours and ours too! What is the Lord asking you to say yes to? May be to give up resentful feelings and forgive and heal your relationship with your family relatives with who you have fallen out for some reason. May be the Lord's will be to take a risk and get married next year! Or may be to have more children!

As we prepare to celebrate the Nativity of Jesus tonight, let us ask the Lord to help us to have the courage to believe like Mary, so that we may be able to say yes to God's will and be of service to our neighbours, our community and family.

Let us look forward to celebrate Christmas tonight and say "yes" to let the light of the Lord enter into our lives, our hearts, our homes and every sphere of our human lives that it may bring warmth, love, understanding, comfort, healing, forgiveness and salvation to us and to all whom we live and work with and share our lives daily.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel God-is-with-us. He has been born in Bethlehem for us.

Let us give Glory to him with Mary, Joseph, the humble shepherds and the angels in heaven.

The Parish Team and I wish you a blessed Christmas to all and may the Lord bless your families and friends with abundant gifts of joy, peace and love.

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 intentions of **Terril Family**.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Sunday 9am** Helen MacFarlane RIP, Christopher Nwankwo RIP **11am** John McDonagh RIP, Margaret McDonagh RIP **6pm** People of the Parish, Bridie Collins RIP **9.30pm** Anna Thelma, Donald Richard, Richard Anthony Pope RIP **Monday 9am** John Aylward ANNIV, Breedge Shannon INT **11am** People Of The Parish, Lucy Ojeme RIP **Tuesday 10am** John, Lina, Frank & Zena Rodrigues RIP, Maureen Sammon INT **Wednesday No Mass Thursday 10am** Thomas Maughan RIP, Dee Inaya Ahmed Thanksgiving **Friday 7pm** Grace & Gabriel Duru RIP, Duru Family Thanksgiving **Saturday 10am** Deirdre Staunton RIP, Aquarius Linis RIP **7pm** Loga & Masila ANNIV, Christopher Nwankwo RIP

### PARISH NEWS

#### ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR 2023

A big thank you for your generous donations of food that have made a difference to many families in need. Thank you to the SVP and volunteers who have been actively supporting this project encouraged by Caritas Food Collective.

#### CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN & PARISH HARDSHIP FUND 2023

A big thank you to all parishioners who have donated contributed to the Parish Hardship Fund and donated presents for our children of families who are in need at this difficult time of crisis. Your response has been exceptional, and it is comforting to be witness the spirit of solidarity in the quantity and quality of the presents put under the Christmas Tree. The Christmas presents and the money donations have been given to the families who came to the parish door during the past days. Thank you for bringing joy to our children and families, may the Lord reward you for your generosity with abundant blessings.

#### NEW YEAR'S MASS TIMES

##### SUNDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023

NEW YEAR'S VIGIL MASS: 8PM ADORATION AND 8.30PM MASS.

NEW YEAR'S MIDNIGHT MASS 10:30PM TO 12AM (Organised by the Nigerian Chaplaincy)

##### MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2024

NEW YEAR'S MASSES 9AM AND 11AM

Please notice that there is a match scheduled on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December at 14.00. Therefore, parking restrictions will be in placed until 8pm.

THE CHRISTMAS MASS SEASON TIMES ARE PRINTED AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. PLEASE TAKE ONE HOME AND PLAN YOUR JOURNEY AND TIME COMING TO CHURCH FOR THE FESTIVITIES.

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

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/>

### NURSERY & RECEPTION ADMISSION TO ST FRANCIS DE SALES CATHOLIC INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

Application packs are now available.

NURSERY: For children born between 1st September 2020 – 31st August 2021

RECEPTION: For children born between 1st September 2019 – 31st August 2020

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM & ADMISSION POLICY AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD FROM SCHOOL WEBSITE: [www.sfds.haringey.sch.uk](http://www.sfds.haringey.sch.uk) OR EMAIL THE SCHOOL OFFICE AT: [admin@sfds.haringey.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sfds.haringey.sch.uk)

### 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 and 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 Loose £234.58 Envelopes £249.70 Standing Orders (November) £3,723 Contactless (November) £217 Christmas Hardship Fund £930

**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 £33,687.58. Thank you very much for your generosity.