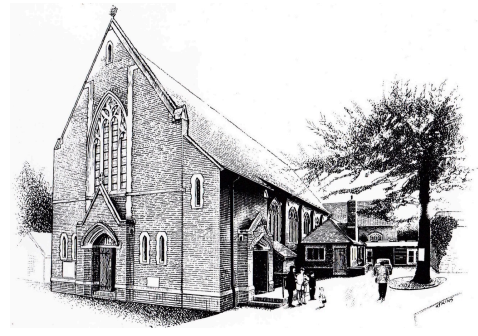


ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

48 Dale Road
Purley CR8 2EF
020 8660 3815

www.johnthebaptistpurley.org.uk



24TH DECEMBER 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PSALTER WEEK 2

Parish Priest

Fr Francis Murphy

francismurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Assistant Priest

Fr David Hunter

davidhunter@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Secretary

Rebecca Roberts

purley@rcaos.org.uk

Office hours: Monday-Friday 09:00-13:00

Hall Bookings

Barbara Baster

bookingsatsjb@gmail.com

Gift Aid Co-ord.

Phil Strugnell

purleygac@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding Reps

Milly Sawyer & Margaret Hill

purleysgl@safeguardrcaos.org.uk & purleysg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

SACRAMENTS

BECOMING A CATHOLIC: Want to learn more about becoming a Catholic? Please write/speak to the Parish Priest.

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN: Collect form from priest after Mass.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: See update re: course overleaf.

HOLY COMMUNION VISITS: Holy Communion is taken to the housebound regularly; please make contact with Parish Office if required.

CONFIRMATION: See update re: 2024 programme overleaf.

CONFESSIONS: **SATURDAYS 10:30-11:30 & 17:15-17:50** & at other times when a priest is in the confessional or by appointment.

MARRIAGE: Contact Office **min. six months** in advance.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Contact Office if you or someone for whom you are responsible requires the Anointing of the Sick. In the event of urgent need (danger of death) telephone 020 8660 3815 (& leave a message if necessary).

DEVOTIONS & ACTIVITIES

HOLY ROSARY: First Fridays after the 10:00 Mass.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Saturdays after 10:00 Mass, concluding with **BENEDICTION** c.11:30.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: Thursdays after 10am Mass. For further details contact bridget@bridgetslattery.co.uk.

YOUTH CLUB: Sundays in term-time, Parish Hall 16:15-17:45.

SOCIAL EVENTS

HCPT QUIZ: Saturday 27 January 2024 at 19:00.

Please pray for those who have recently died, including Charles Nigel Fleury and Imelda McLoughlin; and for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Fung Chun Chan Yan, Kathleen Nockles, Anna Price, Florence Birch, Honorah Batt, Bridget Kenneth, Alan O'Grady, Teresa Cumbo, Jeremy Stevens, Mary Jago, Nancy Daly, Gwendoline Carne, Joanna Inman, Jo Zenith, and Patricia Parsons;

and also for those unwell: Toni Kowal, Theodora-Angelica Acha, Joanne Walker, Jane Pollon, Alan Griffiths, Douglas Johnston, Teresa Holmes, Ryan Baker, Michael Edwards, Neil Ockenden, Maria Valenti, David Palmer, Paulin Carpenter, Canon David Caine, Dennis Hill, Freya Durrant, Nick Phillips, Anne Mawer, Margaret Swadling, and Ian Stewart.

AS ADVENT ENDS & THE CHRISTMAS SEASON BEGINS

*we wish you and yours a very happy Christmas and a blessed 2024;
may we always welcome the Christ-Child into our hearts and homes,
and be ever more faithful in our commitment to His service!*

Fr Francis & Fr David

You can **donate** to the parish [via our website](http://www.johnthebaptistpurley.org.uk), via the collection at Sunday Mass, or by making a direct bank transfer to the parish bank account. Please **Gift Aid** if you pay UK

income tax.

RCAS / Purley
Account No. 79116345
Sort Code 60-50-01



NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

First: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

Psalm: Psalm 127(128):1-5

Second: Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 24th December

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

18:00 (Sat) Int. Catherine
Taylor & family

08:30 JFS All parishioners

08:30 Anne Brownsell RIP

10:00 Mrs Stanley Nelson
RIP

12:00 Lance & May Niblett
RIP

THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS EVE

17:00 1st Mass of Christmas

(Children's Mass)

Richard Bass RIP

21:00 John Cook RIP

00:00 Midnight Mass

Ivan Brian Cassidy RIP

Monday 25th December

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

08:30 JFS Int. Bridget's
family

08:30 Welfare Trevor Downs

10:00 Gordon George Vincent
& dec'd rels of the David family
RIP

12:00 Int. Sonaram family

Tuesday 26th December

St Stephen, Martyr

10:00 In Thanksgiving
(Mary Satha)

Wed. 27th December

St John, Apostle & Evangelist

10:00 Pat & Bill Webber RIP

Thursday 28th December

Holy Innocents, Martyrs

10:00 Edward & Kathleen
Cook RIP

Friday 29th December

St Thomas Becket, Martyr

10:00 Pauline Royle RIP

Saturday 30th December

10:00 Jeannette-Ann Rashti &
Charles Fleury RIP

Sunday 31st December

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
MARY & JOSEPH

18:00 (Sat) Domenico
Dellapina & Bozena Bryl RIP

08:30 JFS All parishioners

08:30 Michael Sheriff RIP

10:00 Dr Thomas Percy RIP

12:00 Carmelina & Sebastian
Lobo RIP

18:00 Patrick Sullivan RIP*

*=NOT LIVESTREAMED

CHRISTMAS OFFERING TO THE PARISH CLERGY

Your Christmas offering is one of the parish clergy's principal sources of income during the calendar year. Thank you for your generosity!

*Post your offering through the presbytery letterbox
or drop it in the basket in church

*Online via the [DONATE](#) page on the parish website;

*Bank transfer direct to our parish bank account (mark
"Christmas");

*Using the contactless machine in the entrance area of the church
(select "Christmas Offering.")

Gift Aid envelopes now available in the church. Please Gift Aid if you can.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: Sheets with Mass times for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve/Day available in church and [ONLINE](#).

PARISH OFFICE: The parish office will be closed for the Christmas period. Reopens **Tuesday 2nd January at 09:00**.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Please note **from Boxing Day to Friday 29th December there will not be a 07:30 Mass**; the single daily Mass will take place at 10:00.

CRIB OFFERINGS: Donations at the Crib this year support the Catholic Children's Society's Southwark crisis fund. Use Gift Aid envelopes, or go online: www.cathchild.org.uk/crib (QR available).

GUIDED EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES: Suitable for children and young people of about 7 years upwards to come with their parents or carers (NO unaccompanied children); taking place at St. Elphege's Catholic Church, Stafford Road, Wallington on Wednesday 28 December 2023 at 10:35. Families from neighbouring parishes (e.g. ours!) are very welcome.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTION? NEW ALPHA COURSE? FRIDAY LUNCHTIMES:

Come and enjoy a free lunch every Friday on our next Alpha Course beginning on **12th January at 12.30 (ends 14:30)** in the Parish Hall until mid-March. Each Alpha session will begin with a light lunch hosted in small groups, to be followed by a short film on an aspect of Christianity. Followed by an opportunity to share your thoughts and discuss; speak freely and as much/little as you like. You'll receive a warm welcome, as will any friends you might wish to bring. If you would like to join us for lunch, please email noelbrownsell756@gmail.com or text 07788713919.

CONFIRMATION 2024: The course for the Sacrament of Confirmation for Y8s starts after February half term. The Confirmation Mass will take place on **Sunday 5th May 2024 at 15:00**. Full details in January.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - YEAR 3 CHILDREN: In recent years - as a knock-on effect of the pandemic - we have prepared children in Y4 upwards for First Confession and First Holy Communion. From next year, we will be able to welcome children in **Y3 upwards**. The first course for this age group will begin after February half term and First Holy Communion Masses will take place the first weekend of July 2024. Watch for further announcements.

CATHOLIC DIRECTORY 2024: Available to purchase from the parish office. plain bound £6/ spiral bound £6.75.

A CHRISTMAS REFLECTION: "Only if people change will the world change; and in order to change, people need the light that comes from God, the light which so unexpectedly [on the night of Christmas] entered into our night." (Pope Benedict XVI - [Homily at Midnight Mass](#), 2008)