

St Peter and the Guardian Angels

Roman Catholic Church
72 Paradise Street, Rotherhithe. London SE16 4QD
Tel: 0207 237 2969
Email: rotherhithe@rcaos.org.uk



Priest: Fr Tesfamichael Negusse, MCCJ

Email:tesfanegusse@rcaos.org.uk

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C – 19TH DECEMBER

“And Mary said: I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me as you have said.”

We praise and honour the Virgin Mary because of her total submission to the will of God. We celebrate Mary as a model of all Christians. Let us imitate Mary and carry Christ, in our hearts and minds, into the dark place of the world; and carry him to those who are broken and hurt and wounded, those who are dying to hear good news.

St Bernard in praise and honour of Mary says it beautifully: *‘You have heard that you shall conceive and bear a Son; you have heard that you shall conceive, not of man, but of the Holy Spirit. The angel is waiting for your answer; it is time for him to return to God who sent him. We too are waiting, O Lady, for the word of pity, even we who are overwhelmed in wretchedness by the sentence of damnation. And behold, to you the price of our salvation is offered. If you consent, straightway shall we be freed. In the eternal Word of God were we all made, and lo! We die, by one little word of yours in answer shall we all be made alive.*

And rightly so, for on your lips is hanging the consolation of the wretched, the redemption of the captive, and the speedy deliverance of all who otherwise are lost. In a word, the salvation of all Adam’s children, of all your race.

Answer, O Virgin, answer the angel speedily; rather, through the angel, answer your Lord. Speak the word, and receive the Word; offer what is yours, and conceive what is of God; give what is temporal, and embrace what is eternal...

Open, O Blessed Virgin, your heart to faith; open your lips to speak; open your bosom to your Maker. Behold! The Desired of all nations is outside, knocking at your door. Oh! If by your delay he should pass by, and again in sorrow you should have to begin to seek for him whom your soul loves! Arise, then, run and open. Arise by faith, run by the devotion of your heart, open by your word. ‘And Mary said: Behold the handmaid of the Lord: be it done to me according to your word.’ (St Bernard, in praise of the Virgin Mother; taking from the Office of Readings 20th December)

Christmas Flower Donations

Please give any donations towards the Christmas flowers, in memory of your loved ones or other intentions, and, if possible, put your donation in an envelope and detail your intention on the outside of the envelope marking it as Christmas Flowers. Donations will be received gratefully from now until Sunday 10th January 2022.

RCIA: LAST Call! Adults seeking Baptism or Confirmation are invited to join the RCIA programme, which is a series of meetings every week for one hour in which different aspects of our Faith and Catholic Life are explored. And every help is given to discern what the Lord is asking of the individual concerned. Please contact Fr Tesfamichael on 020 7237 2969 or through the above email. The first meeting of the RCIA candidates will be on Tuesday 21st December at 8pm.

Mass Times and News

SUNDAY: 19th December – 4th Sunday of Advent 9am: Jeannie Phatty & Gerald Mason RIP 11pm: Well-being of Jim & Kathleen Walsh	THURSDAY: 23rd December 9:15am: Mass
MONDAY: 20th December , No Mass	FRIDAY: 24th December - Christmas Eve 9:15am: Mass 8pm Christmas Vigil Mass
TUESDAY: 21st December 7:30pm: Mass	SATURDAY: 25th December THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST 9am & 11am Mass
WEDNESDAY: 22nd December 9:15am: Mass	SUNDAY: 26th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 9: 00am: For the people 11:00am: Deceased members of Walsh & Brennan F

Missio Red Box;

If you have a **Missio Red Box** at home that needs to be emptied please can you either (a) **return it to Church by Sunday 19th December** or even better (b) count up the total yourself and put the money and details of the total into an envelope or bag marked Missio and give into the shop at the back of the Church.

If you are a taxpayer and wish Missio to reclaim the tax on your donation please also include your name, address and contact details (mobile/email).

Please contact Diane Rampling

(dmrampling@aol.com) if you would like to have a Missio Red Box to take home and/or donate to this worthy cause.

Contacts: Synod process: Murielle

ass_murielle@hotmail.com

<https://stpeterandtheguardianangels.com/synod-2021-2023/>

Climate Sunday and fundraising: Ania:

gacs5150@gmail.com

Pope's prayer Intentions for December: 'Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.'

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday

5.15pm or on request.

COLLECTIONS: 12th December - £603.95.

Standing order for the month of November £292. THANK YOU!

Do you know any elderly, Housebound or Sick Parishioners that would benefit from a home visit from Fr Tesfamichael if so, please visit the Presbytery or call 020 237 2969 or can speak directly to Fr after each Mass.

Baptism: please speak to Fr Tesfamichael to request baptism Registration Form and arrange baptism preparation dates.

Prayer for the Synod: *'Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.'* Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

MAY THE JOY AND PEACE OF CHRISTMAS BE WITH YOU ALL THROUGH THE
NEW YEAR.