

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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WEEKLY PARISH NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER 2025

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER 2025 – THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH (A)

Parish Mass Book Page 106

8.00 am Mass: *Deceased members of Greenway Family*
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am
10.00 am Mass: *Wellbeing of the Brownrigg Family*
6.00 pm Mass: *For the People of the Parish*

Mon 29th **St Thomas of Canterbury**
11.30 am Rosary
12.00 pm Mass: *Wellbeing of Carolyn and John Cooper-Burrows*

Tue 30th **NO MASS TODAY**

Wed 31st **NO MASS TODAY**

Thurs 1st Jan **NO MASS TODAY**

Fri 2nd **NO MASS TODAY**

Sat 3rd **The Most Holy Name of Jesus**
9.00 am Mass: *Wellbeing of Zenaid Richards*
9.30 am **First Saturday Devotions of Our Lady of Fatima**
Holy Hour, Confessions 9.15 am - 9.45 am

SUNDAY 4 JANUARY 2026 – (A)

8.00 am Mass: *For the People of the Parish*
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am
10.00 am Mass: *Brian Clune RIP*
6.00 pm Mass: *Michael Rapazzini RIP*

Readers 28th Dec 8am: Valentino Ferdis

Readers 4th Jan 8am: Mark Murphy

Counters 28th Dec Karen and Peter

10am: Shehara Gamage

10am: Pauline Holman

Cleaners w/c 29th Dec

6pm: Howard Brinkworth

6pm: Frances Harryman

Concie, Rovena and Inoka

PAUL JOHNSTON RIP

Paul's funeral service will take place on Thursday 15 January at 11 am here at St Catherine's. At Paul's request, we have been given permission by the Archdiocese to offer a Tridentine Latin Mass at his funeral. Fr David Howell, who knew Paul, will be offering this Mass. Parishioners are welcome to attend. Please continue to pray for Paul and for Daphne, his widow.

YVONNE SHORT RIP

As many of you will already know, Deacon Stephen Short, who served in our parish for many years and assisted at our recent Golden Jubilee celebration, has informed us with great sorrow that his beloved wife, Yvonne, died on Saturday, 6 December. May she rest in the peace of Christ. Dcn Stephen writes: "Despite her serious illness, Yvonne was determined to attend the Jubilee celebration and to visit with the parishioners who have known her throughout the years. Sadly, remembering some beloved friends who have now gone to their eternal reward."

RITA'S SOCIAL CLUB FOR THE OVER 60s

The next Rita's Club will be held on **Friday 9 January 2pm to 4 pm**, the second Friday of the month, because the first Friday is too close to New Year's Day.

Weekly Offertory 21st December 2025

£797.35 (£187.50 Gift Aided envelopes, £175 Gift Aided standing orders, £153 Gift Aided Contactless, £8 non Gift Aided Contactless and £273.85 cash).

The Parish Office is open for enquiries on Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri from **10am until 12 noon**. All Hall bookings should be made during these times.

Mass Intentions Complete a brown Mass Intention Envelope (please do write clearly). For anniversaries please book early to avoid disappointment as there is a long waiting list.

Kingston Hospital It is your responsibility to inform the ward staff if you would like to see the Catholic Chaplain if admitted to hospital. If you are calling on behalf of a patient there then please call the Hospital Switchboard on 0208 5467711 to contact the Chaplain.

LECTIO DIVINA – BIBLE STUDY

RESUMES ON WEDNESDAY 14 JANUARY 8 pm and THEREAFTER EVERY WEDNESDAY 8-9 pm.

Please come to the church, and please do join us even if you have not attended before. It is quite informal and friendly and no special knowledge is required.

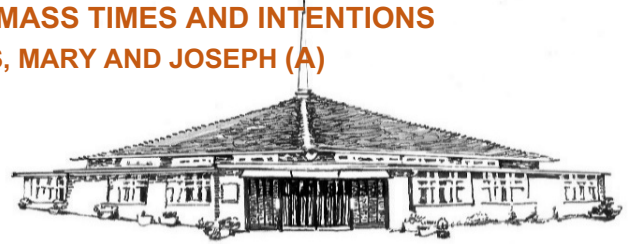
ENVELOPES FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS OFFERING TO YOUR PARISH PRIEST

Just in case you were away over Christmas and you missed the opportunity to make a Christmas Offering to your Parish Priest, there are envelopes in the church entrance marked "Christmas offering" which you can still use, OR you can use the **CARD MACHINES** located at the back of the church and in the entrance.

The Christmas and Easter Offerings form the great bulk of a priest's income for the year. With thanks.



"Proclaim the truth as if you have a thousand voices. It is silence that kills the world."
From St Catherine's writings



TODAY IS THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, JOSEPH PASTORAL LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP JOHN

I extend to each of you, and to your families and loved ones, the peace and joy of this holy season of Christmas. Today, the Church places before us the Holy Family of Nazareth: the Lord Jesus, his mother Mary, and his foster-father Joseph. As the Jubilee Year of Hope draws to a close, **we embrace anew the hope born for us at Bethlehem.** Jesus Christ — who lived and was crucified, rose again, and is alive — is the hope of the world. In Christ, the radiant hope of God's love and mercy shines into every heart and family.

God encourages and comforts each of us according to our state of life: as husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, children and young people; as wider family members and single people; the elderly, the widowed, and as families who feel fragile, wounded, or incomplete. **The Holy Family teaches that by remaining close to Christ, what is ordinary can, and does, become holy; that even our burdens and struggles are never without hope.** Dear friends, whatever is happening in your family or personal life at the moment, receive the Good News: God sent his Son, the Lord Jesus, as hope for you. God is with you in Christ, and God loves you in Christ.

We know the Holy Family experienced upheaval and danger. They were refugees who fled to Egypt for safety, a reminder to us all to welcome those in need. Joseph kept faithful to what God had revealed, and Mary held everything in prayerful trust. (cf. Mt 2:13–23) **When our own families face uncertainty, illness, grief, or broken relationships, we too need to hold fast in faith and prayer.** The Holy Family stands close to the members of every home as, moment by moment, we trust that God is present, even when the way forward seems unclear.

Many families across our Archdiocese face heavy burdens: for example, the cost-of-living crisis, the pressures of work or study, sickness or disability. Added to these are the loneliness that grows behind closed doors and the grief that changes everything. The Church is a family of families. In Christ, there are no orphans. When one member of the family suffers, all share the burden; and when one rejoices, all share the joy. Our parishes, schools, and chaplaincies need to be places where people feel they belong and are known by name; where the struggling are welcomed, where wanderers know they can come home, where sinners find forgiveness.

In the mystery of Christmas, the love of God took flesh and dwelt amongst us. How can we work together, co-responsibly, to help make that love real? How can we reach out and accompany those in need in our community: the housebound, the elderly, the bereaved, the isolated, the family new to the parish, and the person who sits alone at Mass? How can we strengthen what is already good amongst us: food banks, winter night shelters, parish support groups, care for prisoners, and school outreach? How can we make room for people who are troubled: those living with mental strain, addiction, or an uncertain future? Our faith in action, our loving practical charity, will always be attentive to the person in need before us, seeing Christ in them, even when this is challenging.

Today, we entrust our families, and our whole Archdiocese, to the Holy Family of Nazareth. **Thank you** to parents, grandparents, extended family, and carers, for your patience and quiet sacrifices that bring the truths of the Holy Family to life. **Thank you** for your efforts to hand on our beautiful Catholic faith to your children. **Thank you**, too, to our young people for your witness. None of us should ever be ashamed of the Gospel. Christ never diminishes life, but enlarges it. Those who entrust themselves to him are never disappointed.

As we give thanks for the graces of this Jubilee Year — not least our wonderful celebration at Aylesford — we recall how we have journeyed together more consciously as 'pilgrims into hope.' This hope remains with us and needs to be shared more widely as we become an ever more missionary and evangelising Archdiocese. **The Holy Family reminds us that mission begins in the heart, and in the home;** it grows in parish life; and it is called to bear fruit in the world. **ENDS**



THANKSGIVING FOR BISHOP GERARD BRADLEY

We thank God that our Episcopal Vicar for the South West of this Archdiocese, Canon Gerard Bradley, has been made an auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese. Many of you will know Canon Gerard because as Episcopal Vicar he has been principal celebrant at Mass here at St Catherine's for my induction as Parish Priest and for many conferrals of the Sacrament of Confirmation on our teenagers. He has covered for me at a Sunday Mass. He has led a Day of Recollection for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. We have invited him to come and meet with our teenagers at some point in 2026 at our monthly Youth Mass. We have shown the video of his talk to our teenagers. "Silence is the language of God..." Follow this link to his talk: [*Silence is the language of God*](#)

I often urge you: when you feel your prayer life is struggling, the greatest and deepest prayer of all after the Mass and Eucharistic Adoration is to sit in silence next to the Crucifix in a room on your own and just listen to God. No need to talk. If you must, just say "thank you, Lord. I love you."

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENTS' AND CHILDREN'S MEETING ON SUNDAY 11 JANUARY 11.15 AM

We are beginning our First Holy Communion (FHC) course in January. We start with an introductory meeting for parents and children after the 10 am Sunday Mass on 11 January. The course itself begins on Sunday 18 January 11.15 am to 12.15 pm. As mentioned, it will take place every Sunday except Sundays of school holidays and Half Term. We will work with parents to agree a date in June for the FHC weekend which is convenient for everyone. Please bring your diaries to the meeting. We very much look forward to beginning the course. Any last minute applications, please complete this form and hand it in to Fr Peter after Mass.

MONTHLY PRIZE DRAW – NEW YEAR PRIZE £150



St Catherine's
Monthly Prize Draw

£10.00

Recurring payment

TWO WAYS TO SIGN UP TO THE DRAW

(1) **ONLINE** by **Direct Debit** through the secure financial website **GoCardless**. Point your phone at the QR code on the left or follow our website link below to get to GoCardless.

(2) **CASH OR CHEQUE** for a 3, 6 or 12 month period. Details and envelopes in church lobby.

Website St Catherine's Monthly Prize Draw

December's winner was Michael Pearce

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

especially Cindy Albright, Sally Baker, Patrick Beglane, Tyler Curniffe, Renita D'Silva, Louise Dovey, Delia Gallagher, Eileen Gathercole, Marie Gilbert & Family, Paul Jarvis, David Jordan, Solomon Justin, Georgia Kelly, Paul Kwan, Adrian McDermott, Teresa McDonald, Sally McKenna, Pauline Murphy, Ryan O'Loughlin, Mark Peace, Jean Penycate, Zenaid Richards, Kathy Richardson, Debbie Ruberg-Smith, Chloe Sheead, Mary Sheehan, Dharmateer Soodin, Anne Srivastava, Coby Thomas, and residents of Amy Woodgate Home.