#  St Columba’s Church, Selsdon

37 Queenhill Road, Selsdon, South Croydon, CR2 8DW Parish website: [www.stcolumbaschurchselsdon.uk](http://www.stcolumbaschurchselsdon.uk)

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Deacon: Rev Philip Pond, T: 020 8651 4653 E: philippond@rcaos.org.uk

**8 DECEMBER 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C**

**TODAY'S MASS READINGS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**First Reading:** Baruch 5:1-9

**Responsorial Psalm:** What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

**Second Reading:** Philippians 1:4-6. 8-11

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 3:1-6

**Communion Antiphon:** Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

**THIS WEEK’S MASSES**

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| **Date** | **Mass** | **Time** | **Intention** |
| Sun 8 Dec | 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 6pm (Sat) | Sienna Coates |
| 9am | Pro Populo |
| 11am | Rob Adams – well-being |
| Mon 9 Dec | THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY, Solemnity (transferred)  | 10am | Anthony Lawrence, RIP |
| Tues 10 Dec | *Our Lady of Loreto* | 10am | Tommy Doherty, RIP |
| Wed 11 Dec | St. Damasus I, Pope | 10am | Burns Family & Friends |
| Thurs 12 Dec | Our Lady of Guadalupe | 10am | Richard Sudsbury, RIP |
| Fri 13 Dec  | St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr  | 10am | Joan Mills, RIP |
| Sat 14 Dec | St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor | 10.30am | Archie Pond, RIP |
| Sun 15 Dec | 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT‘Gaudete Sunday’  | 6pm (Sat) | Mary & Liam Brophy |
| 9am | Pro Populo |
| 11am | Michael A. Skinner, RIP |

* Weekday Masses are preceded by Morning Prayer at 9.40am
* Tuesday`s Mass is followed by Exposition & Benediction until 11am.
* During Advent Mass will be celebrated on Thursdays at the normal weekday time of 10am.
* Friday`s Mass is followed by the Rosary.
* There are devotions to Our Lady on Saturday morning at 10am.
* Confessions: Saturday after the 10.30am Mass and from 5.30-5.45pm.

**MONEY MATTERS**30 November/1 December: basket £564.62 (Gift Aid £268), card machines £183.50 (Gift Aid £120.50). Standing orders for November £1,917.67 (Gift Aid £1,905.67).  Easy Fundraising generated £23.42. Thank you for your generosity.

**MINI CHRISTMAS FAYRE** This was a great success: £1,131.31 was raised which will be shared between the St Vincent de Paul, Ahotokurom, the Guides, our new Community & Social Group and Crisis. Thanks to all involved.

**CAFÉ COLUMBA CHRISTMAS LUNCH** It’s on Wednesday (the 11th), noon for 12.30pm: there are still spaces left at £14pp for a traditional Christmas meal or vegetarian option. Sign up in the church porch or see Gill Tomei.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** Application forms will be available after all Masses until 5 January and must be returned, in person, to Fr Julian or Deacon Philip by 12 January at the latest.

**NEXT WEEKEND’S READERS, BIDDING PRAYERS WRITER & EUCHARISTIC MINISTER** Readers: Saturday 6pm Ken. Sunday 9am Gill. 11am Beatrice. Bidding Prayers: Michael. Eucharistic minister 9am Mass: Roger.

**CONFIRMATIONS** Paul O’Donnell writes: ‘I want to thank all the candidates and parents for the very generous gift and card I received following the Confirmation Mass. It really meant a lot to me. I also want to thank the candidates for their dedication to the whole course over 12 weeks. It was a privilege to get to know you: hope to see you soon at Mass. You all showed what a credit you are to your parents and especially to yourselves. Being a young adultin this difficult world needs the support of the Holy Spirit. I hope you continue being fantastic human beings.’

**MISSIO RED BOXES** Please bring them in to be emptied: leave them in the sacristy and then collect from the porch.

**OUR REPOSITORY** Please support our shop at the back of the church: there you can buy Christmas cards, Advent calendars, diaries and children's books. Available throughout the year are Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Mass intention and sympathy cards plus others. Also available are rosaries, missals and CTS booklets and other items.

**HOSPITAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS** Come and join us singing around the wards at Croydon University Hospital on 18 December: meet at 6pm in the chapel for a 6.30pm start, returning by 7:30pm for mince pies and mulled wine.

**DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE** They are holding a retreat at All Saints Church, 531 Kenton Road, London HA3 0UL, on 14 December, 1-4:30pm. It will include Mass, Rosary, Adoration and Benediction.  Details: ring 07957 594 646.

**MARY'S MEALS** BuyingyourChristmas presents from their online shop supports their vital work to bring food, education and hope to hungry children across the world. Check out their website at [www.marysmeals.org.uk/shop](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/shop)

**HELP ST COLUMBA’S** **BY SHOPPING ONLINE** Buying something online? Anything? If so you can help St Columba’s at no cost to yourself. Just visit [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/) and register (which is quick and easy). Then shop online wherever and whenever you choose. Each time you then buy anything online (after clicking on the easyfundraising link), a donation is made to St Columba’s. There are more than 4,000 retailers to choose from.

**FOOD BANK** Please help. Most urgent needs are: soup, tinned meats (meals), pasta sauce, tinned fruit, tinned veg, pasta, tuna, porridge/oats and other cereals, toilet rolls, bleach and washing-up liquid. Thank you for your support.

**CAFOD GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS** Take a catalogue home with you or check it out online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts It’s a wonderful way for our parish to share the hope and joy of Christmas with our global family.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS** All are invited to sing outside Selsdon Sainsbury’s from 11am till noon on 21 December. It’s being organised by Churches Together to show local people that Christians are alive and well and active in Selsdon.

**SANCTUARY CURTAINS** When the church is being redecorated, hopefully in mid January, they will be taken down. If anyone has a use for them, let Fr Julian or Deacon Philip know and they are yours, without charge.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** Let Fr Julian/Deacon Philip know so that you can be visited and receive Holy Communion.

**PATIENTS IN NEED** The chaplaincy and spiritual care team charity at Croydon University Hospital does wonderful work helping and supporting patients and their families. It all needs financing of course. If you would like to help – and they need it – send a cheque to: Chaplaincy & Spiritual Care Team, CUH, 530 London Rd, CR7 7YE.

**TELEPHONE CALLS** If you leave a message with a phone number on the parish office answerphone it is vital to speak clearly, slowly and distinctly. Too many numbers are gabbled. Then it becomes impossible to return the call.

**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND NEEDY** Rob Adams, Jean-Claude Anthony, Alice Barclay, Maria Baretto, Rene Barrett, John Belli, Florinda & Simon Cardoso, Maureen Coffey, Joan D`Souza, Marion de Souza, Vera de Souza, Una Dunne, Irena Dziewulak, Eoin Egan, Bernardo, Manuel & Maria Fernandes, Judy Freegard, Joan Hammett, Prema Meeweller, Tony Melvin, Veronica Moor, Jill & Jim O`Donnell, Pedrinha Ramos, Elida Scasso, Sean Walsh and Jacqueline Wheatley. Also pray for family and friends of parishioners: Isobel Barbour, Margaret Bolton, Ann Brennan, Mike Goodwin, Michael Medhurst, Christopher Onyeachom, Jonathan Raki, Kathleen Sampson, Michael Skinner, Pat Taylor, David Wallace, Linda & Michael Watson and Magdalene Wong.

**SAFEGUARDING** Our four Parish Safeguarding Reps are: Gill Tomei email selsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk Richard Mills E: selsdonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk Clare Morgado E: selsdonsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk and Patsy McFarlane E: selsdonsg4@safeguardrcaos.org.uk You can also contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator on 020 7261 1606. If you need help, information or advice concerning possible safeguarding issue involving children or vulnerable adults, contact any of the above. Your concerns will be dealt with discreetly and efficiently. For more information about Safeguarding please see the posters in the porch and church hall.