

**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH (served by the Missionary Society of St Paul)**  
**PARISH NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 27th DECEMBER 2025**

**Presbytery:** 192 Parrock Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1EN.

**Tel:** 01474-352415.

**E-mail:** gravesend@rcaos.org.uk

**Website:** www.stjohnsgravesend.co.uk

**Facebook:** Saint Johns Church

**CHURCHES:** St John's, St Mary's Rochester Road Denton DA12 2JN, St Katherine's Malthouse Lane Shorne DA12 3DP

**Parish Priest:** Fr Emmanuel Ogunnaike MSP

**Assistant Parish Priest:** Fr Lawrence Danladi MSP

**Parish Sister:** Sister Elizabeth O'Hara

**Parish Secretary:** Teresa Potter

**Safeguarding Team:** Catherine Gurney

**Gift Aid:** Jacky Hardy

**Presbytery/ Parish office open 10am-3pm** Mon: Sr Elizabeth Tues, Wed & Thurs: Teresa Potter Fri: Jacky Hardy

**Schools:** St John's Catholic Primary 01474 534546

**St John's Catholic Comprehensive** 01474 534718

*Welcome!*

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

**First Mass of Sunday, (Saturday)**

6.00pm *(live streamed)* Birthdays & Anniversaries celebrated in December

**Sun 28 Dec The Holy Family (A)**

8.30am Maura Dee RIP, Pete Clare RIP, John Joseph Smyth RIP

*(St Mary's, Denton)*

9.30am Fr Ebuka's Int., Iris Sheehy

*(live streamed)*

10.30am Maura Dee RIP, Axel & Mark Onakinor Intention

6.00pm Will Julie

**Mon 29 Dec St Thomas of Canterbury**

9.15am Eileen Faulks, Rex Patterson, Nicolette Freeman

**Tues 30 Dec**

*(live streamed)*

9.15am Warren Norton RIP (4th Anniv)

**Wed 31 Dec**

**Adoration 10.00am-12noon**

12 noon Kelly Corkett RIP

11.00pm *(Carols from 10pm)* Adrian (B/d thanksgiving),  
Fr John Evans & Franco McDonnell

**Thurs 1 Jan Mary, Holy Mother of God**

10.00am Fr Stephen Ojapah (Birthday), Wahab family

**Fri 2 Jan St Basil**

9.15am Maura Dee RIP, Christine Coterall & family, Frank Sheehy

**Sat 3 Jan The Most Holy Name of Jesus**

**Adoration After 10am Mass until 12.30pm, Reconciliation 12.00pm**

10.00am Maura Dee RIP

11.00am *(St Katherine's, Shorne)* Norman, Marjorie & Vaughan Clarke RIP

**First Mass of Sunday, (Saturday)**

6.00pm *(live streamed)* Maura Dee RIP, Maria Lawrence

**Sun 4 Jan Second Sunday after Nativity**

8.30am Esther Gahan, Fr Michael Adams

*(St Mary's, Denton)*

9.30am Jason Chapman (Anniversary), Maura McCaffrey RIP

*(live streamed)*

10.30am Tony Larkin (8th Anniv)

6.00pm John Cousins, K. J. O'Brien

***The Church will be open for private prayer Mon- Friday until 3pm, Sat & Sun 7pm***



**Please pray for the souls of all deceased parishioners, family and friends**

**Maura Dee** - Requiem at St John's Monday 29th Dec at 11am

**Giuseppe Muro** - Requiem at St John's Thursday 15th January at 12 noon

*May God console their families.*



**Please pray for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time including....**

**May they rest in peace**

- 28: John James Leatham, Michael Brennan, William Phillip Sharp, Lionel Edward Fox, Gladys Amy Hendy, Josephine Cooper  
 29: Irene Grant, Patrick Curran, Rev. Fr. Edward O'Byrne, Francis Joseph Traynor, Marie Therese Salter, Henry James Silwood, Angiolina Maria Marrant, Liam Joseph Dolan,  
 30: Nancy Kerry, Lizzy O'Neill, Elizabeth Alfreda McNamara, Arthur James Strong, Daniel Gerard Kavanagh, Lesley James Jackson, Natalie Dawn O'Shea, Annie (Maureen) May McClure  
 31: Edith Davies, Patrick O'Haire, Catherine O'Toole, Denis Coomber, Edith Rose Evans, Gina Antoncini, Leonard Hunt, George Wier, Ann Frances Atkinson, Pearl Sophia Davies  
 1: John Sibbons, Mary McNulty, Winifred McAllister, Mary Ellen Robinson, Rosa Sorenti  
 2: Olive Martin, Margaret Meaney, Terence Patrick Milne, Vera Stuart, Magdaline Green, Mary Costen, George Chyba, Michael Kennedy, Rodolfo Dinicola  
 3: Elizabeth Sheridan, Thomas Fitzmaurice, Julie Ann Richardson, Colin Brooker, John Gerard Lappin, Jason Chapman  
 4: Annie Beatrice Taylor, Wilfred Dalton, Chloe Kenine Kingsnorth, Richard Kavanagh, Agnes Cecilia Lee, Julia Brenda Smith, Jennifer Dawne Barron, Lilian Mary Wright, Michael Anthony George Larkin

Our wonderful celebrations this Christmas could never have gone ahead without so many people giving their time and skill to the Parish. Our warmest thanks to the Altar Servers and Sacristans, Choirs, Crib & Flower arrangers and Church Decorators, our fantastic Cleaners, Readers, Ministers of Holy Communion, Catechists, Helpers at Masses, Collectors & Counters and Gift Aid team, Repository, Children's Liturgy helpers, and all those people who work so tirelessly throughout the year behind the scenes. Those who look after St Mary's and St Katherine's, the Parish committees - Finance, Building, Parish, Bazaar, Social and Safeguarding. To those who take communion and visit the sick and housebound. The Sisters of Mercy and Schools including Headteachers/Teachers. We are blessed to have so many dedicated parishioners.

May our Mother Mary, and our patron Saint John the Evangelist, pray for us. Wishing you and your families a very happy, peaceful and blessed New Year. Finally, thank you for your generous Christmas cards and gifts.

**Pastoral Letter** This weekend there is a Pastoral Letter for the Solemnity of the Holy Family 2025 from Archbishop John Wilson to be read at all Masses. Copies are available at the back of the Church.

**New Year's Eve (Crossover Mass)** Mass will be celebrated at 11pm with Carols from 10pm. Everyone is invited. We encourage bring and share.

***The collection over Christmas will be your personal gift to our priests and forms part of their annual allowance. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church.***

**Last weeks collections** St John's: £902.22 St Mary's: £191.15 Thank you also to our parishioners who have signed up for Gift Aid increasing their donations by 25% at no extra cost to them, & those who donate by contactless & standing order. If you wish to set up a standing order, St Johns Church bank details are: Account name: 'RCAS a Registered Charity re St Johns Church', Sort code: 60-09-10 Nat West Bank, Account No: 07722915.

**Missionaries of St Paul (MSP)** Day celebration at Our Lady of the Rosary, Brixton, on Friday, 23rd January 2026, at 6:30pm, with a reception to follow. We are all invited to support the clergy.

**Fr Emmanuel's Induction Mass** ***Please save the date:*** Sunday 22nd February 2026 at 11am Mass. Bishop Paul will be celebrating this very special Mass. We will hold a meeting for everyone who is able to get involved soon.

**Parish Directories** These handy diocesan booklets are available in the Repository.

**Baptisms** Application forms for Baptism are available at the back of the Church or the parish office. Families need to attend a preparation session before the baptism (the next session is Monday 12th January @7pm) or email the office.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Christ is really present in the Blessed Sacrament; come and talk heart to heart with Him, either on Wed 10.00-12 or Sat after 10am Mass until 12.30pm; or 1st Friday 24 hour Adoration.

**Children's Liturgy** We welcome children of age 4-8 to weekly sessions at the 10.30am Mass. Please, speak to a member of Children's Liturgy team to find out more details.

**Booking Mass Intentions:** Envelopes for Masses are available at the back of the Church, write the intention and put the stipend in the envelope and hand to one of the priests or call at the presbytery between 10-2pm if you would like a specific mass. We cannot always allocate a Mass on the date requested as it may have already been booked, however, your Mass may be shared if you wish.

**Retrouvaille helps marriages.** It can bring hope and healing to relationships. Next date: 12th February. Tel: 07887 296983 [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**Padre Pio Prayer Group** each Tuesday straight after 9.15am Mass in the Cry Chapel. All welcome to join us in prayer. We especially remember our sick friends and family.

**Stamps** Sister Delores is collecting stamps for the RNIB. Please place any donations in the box at the back of the Church.

**Mary's Meals** is looking for volunteers. Could you spare a few hours during the year to help? We are looking for parish reps, volunteer speakers (training and support provided!) and volunteers who can help at events. Please contact Roy Peachey ([roy.peachey@marysmeals.org](mailto:roy.peachey@marysmeals.org) or 07593 447297) if you can help. Thank you for your support!

**Crib** Thank you to the team of crib builders and maintaining the beautiful crib figures. The children to watch the scene build week by week with the story of Christmas. Next week we welcome the Kings to the Manger. *Donations at the crib will go to 'Friends of the Holy Land'.*

***Please see the parish website for all our prayer groups***

**Sick/housebound** Please contact the parish office and let us know of neighbours/family members who are unable to come to Church and would like to receive Communion or call 01474 352415. We remember in our prayers those who are sick, housebound or in hospital & those who care for them and their families.

***Please, when on admission in the hospital or care home, volunteer the information of your faith as you won't be asked ordinarily.***