



# THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

25TH – 31ST DEC. 2022

NEWSLETTER

# SACRED HEART

Year A | Psalter Week 4

## HE LIVED AMONG US

**Brothers and sisters, it gives me joy as we gather as a parish to celebrate the Nativity of the Son of the eternal Father, Emmanuel, God with us (Matthew 1:23). I have chosen as a theme for this reflection, “The Word was made flesh and He lived among us” (John 1:14). This theme is from the gospel reading of this Joyful Day.**

Why does this day stand out for us believers many may wonder? Our minds go back to God’s promise of sending a redeemer to reverse the curse incurred at the Garden of Eden. Who is this that has come to be with us and become one like us? He is the Alpha and the Omega (Rev 1:8, 22:13), the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Rev 5:5), the Son of the living God (Matthew 16:16), Son of David (Mark 10:47) and many more. This is not only interesting, but significant, because the God who dwells in inaccessible light (1 Tim 6:16) has chosen to make His dwelling place among us. The second reading of today, from the letter to the Hebrews, tells us that in the past God spoke to our forefathers through prophets, but now He has spoken to us through His Son (Hebrews 1:1) the One who has been made flesh and lived among us.

Why did He choose to come to our level, and allowed himself to be born in an unbecoming place, and from a place of low status, Nazareth, which was not considered fit to produce anything good (John 1:46)? He chose to be born of poor parents, such that at His presentation, they could only afford the sacrifice of people of very low status (Lev 12:1-8, Luke 2:23-24). Let us not forget that we are referring to the One “through whom all things came to be, and not one thing had its being but through him” (John 1:3). He is the author of all things. He has chosen to come down among us. Praise the Lord! This is the reason for this today. The celebration of today started from heaven. St Luke reports the appearance of angels praising God because of this day (Luke 2:8-13).

As a parish, we believe He lives among us and we want him to continue to live among us. Since He continues to live among us, there should be signs of His presence with us. As the true light that shines in the darkness, we want him to destroy unhealthy competition among communities and groups in our parish, to set us on the path of togetherness and unity as brothers and sisters; because it is good and delightful to live together in harmony as brethren (Psalm 133:1). To help our young people live in obedience to their parents, becoming exemplary to their peers, to help our older ones, parents and grandparents alike, to show example in the parish community. We want Him to live among us and not allow the walls of division and disunity among us, making us a people united in His love. We want Him to help us so that our light would shine for the world to see (Matthew 5:15-16). We want Him to help us fill Camberwell and its environs with His teaching, just as the apostles did in Jerusalem (Acts 5:28). In all our celebrations this time, we pray that He will remain the Reason for this season, for us for without Jesus Christ, there is no Christmas. Merry Christmas everyone.

## READINGS

### FIRST READING

ISAIAH 52:7-10

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 97(98):1-6

### SECOND READING

HEBREWS 1:1-6

### GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1-18

## LEARN

**“All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.”**

*PSALM 97: 3*



# SACRED HEART OF JESUS — CAMBERWELL

*(Served by the Vincentians)*

Archdiocese of Southwark

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - Year A

**Clergy:** Fr Vincent George, CM (Parish Priest)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr. Clement Eru, CM

**Superior of the House:** Fr Blaise Amadi, CM

Parish Office open Mon - Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm

**Presbytery & Parish Office:** 2 Knatchbull Road, London SE5 9QS

Telephone: (020) 7274 1908

**E-mail:** camberwell@rcaos.org.uk **Website:** www.sacredheartchurchcamberwell.c[O].uk.

**Executive Head of St Joseph's Catholic Infants' & Junior Schools:** Pitman Street, SE5 OTS  
Delia Jameson Tel: 020 7703 3455

**Sacred Heart Catholic Secondary School - Headteacher - Mr Richard Lansiquot. Tel: 020 7 274 6844**

## SUNDAY MASSES

6:00pm (Sat)

10:00am 12:00 Noon \* 6:00pm

\* with Children's Liturgy

3:00pm (KCH chapel)

## CONFESSION:

Sat: 10.30am - 10.45am

5.00pm - 5.45pm

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sunday 4:30 - 5:30pm

Friday 7:30 - 8:30pm

## MORNING PRAYER

Monday - Friday 8:45am

Saturday 9:45am

## ROSARY

After weekday Masses

## PRAYER GROUPS

### SACRED HEART ASSOCIATION:

Friday: 6.00pm

1st Friday 7:30pm

### OUR LADY & DIVINE

MERCY:

Thursday 5:30 pm

### LEGION OF MARY SENIORS:

Thursday 7.00pm

### LEGION OF MARY JUNIOR

PRÆSIDIUM:

Sunday After 12Noon Mass

### CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC

RENEWAL

Saturday 7pm

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

**SUN. 25TH DEC**

**6.00 PM**

**12 MIDNIGHT**

**10.00 AM**

**12. NOON**

**MON. 26TH DEC**

**10.00 AM**

**TUES. 27TH DEC**

**10.00 AM**

**WED. 28TH DEC**

**9. 00 AM**

**THUR 29TH DEC**

**9.00 AM**

**FRI. 30TH DEC**

**9.00 AM**

**6.00 PM**

**SAT. 31ST DEC**

**10.00 AM**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

**MISSA PRO POPULO**

THANKSGIVING FOR VIVIAN IWEKA

INTENTIONS OF CONNIE & JIMMY MURPHY

THANKSGIVING FOR MAUREEN OKUONGHAE & COLLEAGUES FOR THEIR SUCCESSFUL EXAM

DAVID JEFFERSON'S BIRTHDAY

MARIS STELLA, MAE ZABAT & VIANUEVA INTENTIONS

FOR ALL OUR PARISH VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT 2022

**SAINT STEPHEN**

EVELYN OYERONKE MARTIN TAYLOR R.I.P

BIRTHDAY THANKSGIVING FOR FR CLEMENT

**SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE & EVANGELIST**

OMOLARA OGUNLEYE—ASKING GOD FOR SPEEDY RECOVERY

**THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

EVELYN OYERONKE MARTIN TAYLOR R.I.P

**SAINT THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

THANKSGIVING AND PRIVATE INTENTIONS FOR ANONYMOUS

END OF THE YEAR ROSARY

**SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

ABIA BAZUAYE — THANKSGIVING FOR KEEPING FAMILY SAFE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

THANKSGIVING AND PRIVATE INTENTIONS FOR ANONYMOUS

## MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Parish community of Sacred Heart, Camberwell celebrates the presence of Christ in our lives. Central and true to our name, we celebrate, we stand, and we dedicate our lives, witnessing to the unending love and friendship of God, through His beloved Son, in whose Heart of love we find daily strength for our journey. We are a catholic community, diverse and multicultural. Everyone has a voice and everyone is welcome. We strive to make visible, God's love and care for the world in word, sacrament, and service to all. Nourished by the sacraments and in our diversity, we strive to create a supportive parish family that fosters communication. We use our talents as responsible stewards-accountable to God, to our neighbour, to our community and to the world at large.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

ISAIAH 9:5-7

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us;  
his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,  
and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

**COLLECT**

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature  
and still more wonderfully restored it,  
grant, we pray,  
that we may share in the divinity of Christ,  
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**FIRST READING**

ISAIAH 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains,  
are the feet of one who brings good news,  
who heralds peace, brings happiness,  
proclaims salvation,  
and tells Zion,  
'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices,  
they shout for joy together,  
for they see the Lord face to face,  
as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord is consoling his people,  
redeeming Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.'

**The Word of the Lord**

Thanks be to God

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

PSALM 97(98):1-6

*R. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation. *R.*

The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel. *R.*

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord, all the earth,  
ring out your joy. *R.*

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp  
with the sound of music.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
acclaim the King, the Lord. *R.*

**SECOND READING**

HEBREWS 1:1-6

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father; For I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-Born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

**The Word of the Lord**

Thanks be to God

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION****Alleluia, Alleluia!***A hallowed day has dawned upon us.**Come, you nations, worship the Lord,  
for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.***Alleluia****GOSPEL**

JOHN 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word:  
and the Word was with God  
and the Word was God.  
He was with God in the beginning.  
Through him all things came to be,  
not one thing had its being but through him.  
All that came to be had life in him  
and that life was the light of men,  
a light that shines in the dark,  
a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God.  
His name was John.  
He came as a witness,  
as a witness to speak for the light,  
so that everyone might believe through him.  
He was not the light,  
only a witness to speak for the light.

## GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1-18

The Word was the true light  
that enlightens all men;  
and he was coming into the world.  
He was in the world  
that had its being through him,  
and the world did not know him.  
He came to his own domain  
and his own people did not accept him.  
But to all who did accept him  
he gave power to become children of God,  
to all who believe in the name of him  
who was born not out of human stock  
or urge of the flesh  
or will of man  
but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh,  
he lived among us,  
and we saw his glory,  
the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father,  
full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:  
'This is the one of whom I said:  
He who comes after me ranks before me  
because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received —  
yes, grace in return for grace,  
since, though the Law was given through Moses,  
grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.  
No one has ever seen God;  
it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart,  
who has made him known.

***The Gospel of the Lord***

Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

## PRAYER OVER OFFERING

Make acceptable, O Lord, our oblation on this solemn day,  
when you manifested the reconciliation  
that makes us wholly pleasing in your sight  
and inaugurated for us the fullness of divine worship.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O merciful God,  
that, just as the Saviour of the world, born this day,  
is the author of divine generation for us,  
so he may be the giver even of immortality.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



# NOTICES OF THE WEEK

## PARISH FINANCE: WEEKLY DONATIONS

Donations can be paid into the Parish Account:  
Sacred Heart Church Camberwell.  
Sort Code: 60-50-01  
Account Number: 79102409

## PARISH FINANCE COLLECTION

First collection amounted to £391.68 Gift Aid amounted to £280.88,  
Second collection amounted to £213.91 not including standing orders.

## FROM THE FINANCE DESK

We can now register our gift aid envelope online by picking a form from the parish website. After the details are entered, kindly email to: [camberwellfinance@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:camberwellfinance@rcaos.org.uk)

## GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Gift aid envelopes for one off donations: we have now gift aid envelopes for anyone wishing to make a one off donation to the church. Please speak to any priest or pick up one from the sacristy. Additionally, New donors are welcome to sign up for the gift aid.

## SECOND COLLECTION

Our second collection today is for parish needs. Thank you for your generosity.

## STANDING ORDER

Do you wish to set up a standing order for our parish? It is one of the ways of supporting the church financially. The standing order form is available. Ask a priest or an usher.

## 1. MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dear brothers and sisters, on behalf of all of us, Vincentian Fathers, I wish you all a wonderful and spirit filled Christmas. As we enjoy this time, let us bear in mind that Jesus Christ is the reason for this season.

## 3. CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

**Christmas Day Sunday 25th December:  
10am and 12pm.**

**There is no 6pm mass today.**

Please check our Christmas service card for details. You can also get information from our website or the noticeboard.

## 4. END OF THE YEAR ROSARY

There will be End of The Year rosary on Friday 30th December from 6pm. We are planning to pray the full rosary, 20 decades. Come and let us pray together to implore God's help for 2023. Invite your friends and family members.

## 5. NEW YEAR'S EVE

On New Year's Eve, morning mass is at 10am, Individual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 10pm, Holy Hour at 11pm and followed by mass at 12am to praise God for 2023.

## 6. MASS OF ST STEPHEN

The mass of St Stephen will be held on Monday 26th December at 10am with the induction of our mass servers into the guild of St Stephen.

## 7. CRIB OFFERING

Our crib offering will be used to support the Catholic Children's Society.

## **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

### 2. SUNDAY AND FRIDAY

**The There is no Exposition and Adoration this week.**

### 8. 21 DAYS OF PRAYER FOR 2023

There will be 21 days prayer as we welcome 2023, from Sunday 1st January to Saturday 21st January 2023. Please do this prayer alone or with your family. A copy will be available on New Year's Eve.

### 9. PARISH OFFICE OVER CHRISTMAS

Our parish office is now closed, it will reopen on Monday 9th January 2023.

### 10. CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS

Our contactless device is ready for use. Feel free to try it out, it is easy and convenient.

### 11. DAILY BIBLE READING DURING ADVENT

We congratulate those who participated in our daily scripture reading with focus on the gospel of Matthew. I am sure you have learnt a lot. We hope to study our bible more next year.

### 12. CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

First Holy Communion and Confirmation classes will resume in January.

### 13. THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

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We invite you to submit articles/news and celebrations about your local parish activities

Please see link below for this week's Universe Catholic Weekly.

<https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/universe-weekly-newsletters/november-2022/UNIVERSE-04-NOV-2022.pdf>

## THANK YOU PARISH VOLUNTEERS

**We thank those who are doing bits and pieces to keep our parish going. Everyone is encouraged to be actively involved in the life of the parish. You can be a reader, a server at mass, a steward, a cleaner, and a singer. There is room for everyone. If you wish, you can also make extra Financial contribution for the good of our parish.**