

**PRESBYTERY**  
68 Crooms Hill,  
Greenwich,  
London,  
SE10 8HG  
0208 858 0662

**PARISH PRIEST**  
Rev. Fr Thomas Lynch  
frtomlynch85@gmail.com

**PARISH DEACON**  
Rev. Duncan Aitkins

**PARISH SECRETARY**  
Leigh Ott  
greenwichwest@rcaos.org.uk

**SAFEGUARDING**  
Sophie Sadler  
Greenwichsg4@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

**PARISH WEBSITE**  
ourladyestarofteseagreenwich.church

**DOMINICAN CONVENT**  
38 Hyde Vale  
SE10 8QH  
Tel: 020 8692 3382

#### DONATIONS

Nat West Bank  
Sort code: 60-09-16  
Account number: 25240676  
Account Name: RCAS Greenwich

*This parish is part of the RCAOS registered  
Charity Number 1173050*

*Thank you for your kindness and generosity.*

#### ST. URSULA'S GIRLS CONVENT SCHOOL

Head Mr O'Shaughnessy  
Crooms Hill  
SE10 8HN  
Tel: 020 8858 4613

#### ST. JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Ms. Long  
Commerell Street  
SE10 9AN  
Tel. 02088584182

#### LAST WEEK

**COLLECTION**  
GIFT AID - £102.35  
NON-GIFT AID - £381.02

**ATTENDANCE**  
363



## OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

CATHOLIC CHURCH • GREENWICH

DECEMBER- DEDICATED TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

### ✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**MISSAL: PRAYERS AND READINGS pg. 85**

#### SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> December

6.00pm Vigil Mass The Priest and People of OLSS

#### SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> December 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY of ADVENT

9.00am Sung Mass People of the Parish  
11.00am Sung mass David Lear RIP

#### MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> December IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BL. VIRGIN MARY

8.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
9.30am Holy Mass In honour of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception

#### TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> December SAINT JUAN DIEGO

6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
7:00pm Holy Mass In Thanksgiving

#### WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> December OUR LADY of LORDETO

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
9.30am Holy Mass Libby Nolan (Birthday)

#### THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> December SAINT DAMASUS

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
9.30am Holy Mass Peter Ward RIP

#### FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> December OUR LADY of GUADALUPE

(FRIDAY ABSTINENCE)

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
9.30am Holy Mass Kathleen O'Brien RIP

#### SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> December SAINT LUCY

6.00pm Vigil Mass Claire McGeary RIP

#### SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> December 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY of ADVENT

9.00am Sung mass Imelda Gibbs RIP  
11.00am Sung mass People of the Parish

#### Confessions

Saturdays at 10.00am – 10.30am and 5pm - 5.30pm. After  
weekday Mass – please sit by the confessional.

#### Adoration

One hour before every weekday mass.

## **Spiritual Thought**

In being inducted (induced?) as Parish Priest is deeply meaningful. A priest is appointed, according to the law of the church, by receiving his letter of appointment “we hereby appoint you as parish priest ... given by my hand, this 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025” from his Bishop.

To make this moment of appointment more personal than a letter on the doormat, the church has given us a rite of induction – so that the priest has the duties explained to him, in front of everyone, so he can fulfill them.

The people of the parish too, have their instructions “You must be his fellow workers labouring in the vineyard of the Lord Jesus ... that as missionary disciples of the Lord Jesus, the church in this place may be a living sign of His presence amongst us.” Both the priest and the people are committed then to the building up and spiritually enriching the Kingdom of God. This mutual commitment is mutually uplifting – the priest not working alone, nor the flock directionless and lost.

One part of the rite of induction is very beautiful. The priest kneels and recites the Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity. These are an extended form of the Creed which we say at Mass, including the commitment to hold to these truths.

This can be very moving to hear. We know in principle that the priest believes the faith, we assume he does, we hope he does – but to hear him read alone the truths of our religion, and hear him commit himself to them has a particular power. It makes us remember that the priest is also a believer, while he may preside over a community, he is not above it, he is part of it – he too believes and he too worships. In this spirit of mutual responsibility and mutual faith I continue my priesthood here – I thank you for your prayers for me, your patience with me and your warm welcome to me.

## **Refreshments After Mass**

We can all meet after the 11am Mass next week for tea and coffee – all the proceeds will be donated to the Greenwich and Bexley Hospice.

If anyone would like to organize similar refreshments after the 9am Mass, please speak to Fr Tom.

## **Parish Restoration Update**

After the amazing news of Andrew Carmichael's legacy, this is just a short update on the Parish Restoration Project. Great work has been done by our parish volunteers in uncovering the original church floor – this work will be completed after Christmas. Fr Tom and Brian met with the conservation architect, the heritage advisor and the head of the Bishop's patrimony committee, to narrow down the focus of our first National Lottery bid to a few essential works – the preservation of the main stained glass, the roofs and guttering and the uncovering of the original ceiling.

I will write more as the bid is written and submitted, so we all know what is happening. But for now, thank you for your prayers and support. Much needs to be done, but all things are possible with God.

## **Christmas Hampers**

Maggie has prepared the most wonderful hampers this year, which are being raffled for the Restoration Fund. Please see the table at the back of the church. Tickets are £2 a strip, and the raffled will be drawn after the 11am Mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Wintertime 2026: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January Cost £139: For aged 11 – 15**

For altars servers and those who attend Sunday mass regularly aged 11 -15. See poster for details. Forms will be available, or you can contact Fr. Stephen Boyle, [dartford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dartford@rcaos.org.uk). It takes place at Westminster Pastoral centre, Pinner. Names need to be known by 15<sup>th</sup> December, and forms received by Fr. Stephen Boyle by the 20<sup>th</sup> December. There are limited numbers, so we recommend booking early to book a place. A coach will be put on from St. Anselm's Dartford at a cost of £20 return

## **A Message from the Manna Centre**

We have been given the wonderful opportunity to have our donations doubled up until 29<sup>th</sup> December – whoopee! The Aviva Community Fund (ACF) will match all donations made (up to a maximum of £250 per donation). Our page can be accessed via the red 'Donate' button on our website <https://www.mannasociety.org.uk/> Our target is to raise £48,000 - one month's running costs for the Manna Centre. The Manna Centre provides help, housing and meals for the London Homeless at London Bridge.

## **Parish Calendars 2026**

Brian and the restoration team have produced a beautiful parish calendar. They are available, at only £5 each, at the back of the church. Any profit will go toward the restoration fund. They can be paid for in cash, at the DONA machine, or by scanning the adjacent QR code.

## **Christmas Mass Times**

Looking forward to the Christmas season:

### **Christmas Eve – 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**5.00pm – Family Mass**

**11:00pm – Carols and readings**

**11:30pm – Mass in the Holy Night**

### **Christmas Day – 25<sup>th</sup> December**

**9.00am – Sung Mass**

**11.00am – Sung Mass**