

PRESBYTERY
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SE10 8HG
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PARISH PRIEST
Rev. Fr Thomas Lynch
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PARISH DEACON
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SAFEGUARDING
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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

ATTENDANCE
292



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

CATHOLIC CHURCH • GREENWICH

DECEMBER- DEDICATED TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

MISSAL: PRAYERS AND READINGS pg. 106

SATURDAY 27th December

6.00pm Vigil Mass Sean Coogan RIP (10th Ann)

SUNDAY 28th December

FEAST of the HOLY FAMILY

9.00am Sung Mass O'Donoghue family
11.00am Sung mass People of the Parish

MONDAY 29th December

SAINT THOMAS of CANTERBURY

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am Holy Mass In Reparation

TUESDAY 30th December

6th DAY of the CHRISTMAS OCTAVE

6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Holy Mass Frances and Keith Emblin (50th Wedding Anni)

WEDNESDAY 31st December

7th DAY of the CHRISTMAS OCTAVE

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am Holy Mass Vocations to the Sacred Priesthood

THURSDAY 1st January

MARY the HOLY MOTHER GOD

11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12noon Holy Mass For the New Year

FRIDAY 2nd January

SAINTS BASIL and GREGORY

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am Holy Mass For Pope Leo XIV

SATURDAY 3rd January

MOST HOLY NAME of JESUS

6.00pm Vigil Mass People of the Parish

SUNDAY 4th January

2nd SUNDAY of CHRISTMAS

9.00am Sung mass For Peace
11.00am Sung mass Bishop Elect Father Gerard Bradley

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

Christmas time is such a beautiful season in the church's year – and we are fortunate not just to celebrate for one day but for a whole season. Firstly we celebrate the Octave of Christmas – the eight days following a feast, in which we keep the joy flowing.

Then we celebrate Christmas-tide, we celebrate the unfolding of the mystery of the Lord's presence and revelation – the great feasts of the Epiphany and his Baptism.

This stretching of the feast is important, we don't have one blast of joy and then forget what's happened, move on to something else – feast days are not a facebook reel. Rather we hold on to what has been given, we inspect it from different angles and discover new joys, we hold on to the things that have been given.

As the shepherds enter the cave of Bethlehem, directed by the angels, they tell the story of what they have seen – and "Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart." (Gospel of the Dawn Mass) This is such a beautiful way of expressing this 'holding on' – can we do the same?

Our Lord has come to us, he has come into our very difficult world, and personally into our very difficult and complex hearts. He is already here amongst us – what touches me most about this reality? What is the feeling I get when pondering this? Is there anything particular I need to ask Him, or something personal I would like to say to Him?

Perhaps we can begin to see this great mystery from another person's standpoint, perhaps we could think about Blessed Mary's experience, or that of the shepherds, or even of the angels. These are all ways of looking at this treasure from different aspects, seeing it's beauty in different lights.

As we hold on to what has been given to us our heart unwraps itself, opens up, creating more space for God to dwell, and more opportunities for God to give us grace.

Happy Christmas, Happy Christmas Octave, Happy Christmastide! Happy Birth of the Savior into the world! Happy growth in grace! Happy pondering these things in our hearts!

Christmas Thank You

The first Christmas in a new parish is one of those big milestones, the masses here were very prayerful and joyful, thank you for making my first Christmas in Greenwich so beautiful.

Thank you also for all your many cards, kind greetings and presents, which are very much appreciated. I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made the masses so beautiful – all the readers, servers and musicians.

Christmas Donations

The collections at the Christmas Masses are for the priest of the parish, and is a major source of his

income. These offerings can also be made at the DONA points, the gift-aid from these donations is collected by the parish, so do remember to gift-aid any gifts. Thank you for your generosity, it is very much appreciated.

The Christmas Crib donations (which can be made at the DONA points) are for the Friends of the Holy Land, which helps maintain the Holy Places in the Holy Land, and supports the local Christian communities in Israel and Palestine.

Our Lady's Stars – New Children's Club

We are excited to announce the launch of Our Lady's Stars, a new children's group at our Parish. With so many children in our community, we will run monthly gatherings for all primary school children (and younger siblings as well). The aim is to create a welcoming space to build friendships, grow in faith and share what matters most to children.

Our first session will take place on the 11th January, after the 11:00 am Mass. Snacks will be provided for the children and tea or coffee will be available for parents. We also warmly welcome any parents who would like to help with running or supporting these sessions. If you are interested, please talk to Fr Tom or Justyna John.

We warmly invite all children to join us as we begin this new and joyful chapter in our Parish life.

Christmas Hampers – Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the lucky winners of the Christmas Hamper Raffle. Please check your tickets to see if you have won.

1st Prize – Orange 22 Julia (collected)

2nd Prize – Yellow 457 E Davies (collected)

3rd Prize – Blue 344 Mandy (collected)

4th prize – Blue 261 Cecilia

A Message from the Manna Centre

We have been given the wonderful opportunity to have our donations doubled up until 29th 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.

Pastoral Letter

Copies of the Pastoral Letter can be found at the back of the church, and online at the Southwark Archdiocese website: rcaos.org.uk

Feast of the Epiphany

Please remember Tuesday 6th January is a Holy Day of Obligation.