

St Simon Stock Catholic Church

Priest in Charge: Fr. Jose Anchanickal Sebastian, Brookfield Road, Ashford, Kent. TN23 4EU tel: 01233622399

Web: st-simon-stock-ashford.org.uk Email: ashfordsouth@rcaos.org.uk

Hire of St. Simon's Hall: email - hallhire@outlook.com; Phone 07955323211

Parish School: St. Simon of England Primary School, Noakes Meadow, Ashford, TN23 4RB. 01233 623199 Headteacher - Peter McCabe

PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 30th November 2025, First Sunday of Advent (A)

10.30am Mass (Johan Min RIP)
1.30pm Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite
6.30pm Mass (The people of the parish)

Monday 1st December, SS. Edmund Campion, Ralph Sherwin and Alexander Briant, Priests and Martyrs

No Mass

Tuesday 2nd December, Feria

10.00am Mass (Robert Firoz RIP)

Wednesday 3rd December, St. Francis Xavier, Priest, Memorial

6.05pm Recitation of the Rosary
6.30pm Mass (Deceased family & friends of Crook family RIP) followed by Adoration until 7.30pm

Thursday 4th December, St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

10.00am Mass (Ellie Quinn RIP)

Friday 5th December, St. John Almond, Priest and Martyr First Friday

10.00am Mass (Rosie Fernando RIP) followed by Adoration until noon

Saturday 6th December, St. Nicholas, Bishop First Saturday

9.30am First Saturday prayers
10.00am Mass (Deceased family and friends of McQuillan family RIP)
11.00am First Holy Communion lesson

Sunday 7th December 2025, Second Sunday of Advent (A)

10.30am Mass (Francesco and Michael Lanzino RIP)
3.30pm Mass in the Syro-Malabar rite
6.30pm Mass (The people of the parish)

A MESSAGE FROM FR. JOSE: Dear family members and friends: We are entering another Liturgical year on this first Sunday of Advent. The theme of this Sunday is Hope, which calls us to trust in God's promises and anticipate his arrival in faith. Today's Gospel reminds us to stay awake to receive the Lord, who comes at an hour which we do not know. St. Paul also warns us to wake from sleep for salvation is nearer to us. Let us get ready to receive this salvation with great hope. Let this season of Advent be a season of preparation to receive the Lord into our lives. Amen
Please continue to pray for the good health of Fr. Jose who underwent further surgery on Friday. T.B.

TODAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT- Our Advent Appeal second collections will be for **The Friends of the Holy Land**. The Christians of the Holy Land have continued to experience pressure from all sides. Knowing that the wider Christian community is thinking of them renews their spirits and helps them find hope in what can feel like a hopeless situation. As we sing "O Little Town of Bethlehem", may we remember those striving to remain in the birthplace of our Hope.

REPOSITORY (SHOP) - has Advent calendars and candles, Christmas cards, Cribs, 2026 calendars and lots more; please do come in and have a look. **'Walk with me'** books, a prayer resource for Advent, are available in the shop at £1.50 each. There are also free Advent activity calendars for the children.

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER - There will be a Solemn evening Mass at 7.00pm so that we may mark this solemnity with due reverence. Please do try to attend.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER AT 7.00PM - we are looking for people to take part in the singing of carols and reading at this year's carol service. If you wish to take part, either by forming a group to sing a carol or to read one of the scripture readings, please see either Mark or Thereza after Mass. Thank you.

ADMISSIONS TO RECEPTION 2026 TO ST SIMON OF ENGLAND RC PRIMARY SCHOOL - applications for admission to St Simon's School in September 2026 will be considered very shortly. Any Parents/ Legal Guardians with a child whose date of birth falls between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 should make an application no later than Thursday 15th January 2026. Please see the noticeboard for details on how to apply Please feel free to contact our school office to arrange a visit. You will find the date of the next visiting day on the noticeboard. If you know of any parents who are considering sending their children to St Simon's please can you share this important information with them?

COLLECTIONS - Last week - £557.84 (£100 Gift Aid + £249.84 loose plate and machine + £208 standing order). Second collection Southwark Catholic Youth Service £89.17. Second collection next week - Advent Appeal. Thank you.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 17th December starting at 2.30pm - decoration of church and erection of crib ready for Christmas Season.

Thursday 18th December at 6pm - St. Simon's School Carol Service.

Friday 19th December at 7pm - Parish Advent Carol Service

Saturday 20th December 9.30 - 10.30am Advent Confessions

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray: and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast down to hell Satan and all other evil spirits who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

CONFESSIONS

After 10am Mass Saturday and on request

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please pray for:
Francesca Baker,
Emma Baker,
Tricia Coppin,
Fred Ward,
Luke Fellowes,
George McQuillan,
Agnes
Perinpanayagam,
Raymond
Trumpfheller,
Kitty O'Mahoney,
Gerard Quinn,
Pulkeria Msoka,
Susannah John,
Emma Broad,
Peter Vokes,
Dorothy Wiseman,
Ken Gwam
Frankie Lanzino,
Maria McCarthy,
Zita Wilkinson,
Marie Columb
Maureen Woods
Beryl Swaffer
Nicola Woods
Frances
Fr. Jose
Maureen