

St Simon Stock Catholic Church

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

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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 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)

Monday 8th December, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity

7pm Solemn Mass (Archbishop John Wilson and the priesthood)

Tuesday 9th December, SS. John Roberts, Polydore Plasden and Eustace White, Priests and Martyrs

10.00am Mass (The recovery to good health of Greg Kulik)

Wednesday 10th December, Our Lady of Loreto

6.05pm Recitation of the Rosary

6.30pm Mass (Deceased relatives of Alice Tosu RIP) followed by Adoration until

7.30pm

Thursday 11th December, St. Edmund Gennings, Priest and St. Swithun Wells, Martyrs

10.00am Mass (Holy Souls RIP)

Friday 12th December, Our Lady of Guadalupe

10.00am Mass (St. Pio of Pietrelcina and St. Carlo Acutis) followed by Adoration until

11.00am.

Saturday 13th December, St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr, Memorial

10.00am Mass (Pius Egeonu, Esther

Egeonu and Anthony Emebo RIP)

11.00am First Holy Communion lesson

Sunday 14th December 2025, Third Sunday of Advent (A)

Gaudete Sunday

10.30am Mass (Marie and Lawrie Stiffell RIP)

1.30pm 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 the second Sunday of Advent which symbolizes Peace. It denotes the expectation that there will be peace on earth after all divisions and destruction. Jesus is the King of peace and we expect the establishment of peace through Jesus. Today's Gospel brings to us the message given through John the Baptist to "repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." It is really the invite to prepare the way for the Lord, and make straight paths for him. Through the observation of the days of the Advent, let us prepare the way for the Lord by our prayers, sacrifices and good deeds of charity. Let us specially pray for the peace in the world, especially in those places where there are all types of atrocities and problems. Amen

ADVENT APPEAL - 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. Let us remember those striving to remain in the birthplace of our Hope.

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.

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.

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.

DECORATION OF THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS - CAN YOU HELP? we intend to decorate the church, and erect the crib, ready for Christmas on **Wednesday 17th DECEMBER from 2.30pm**; if you are able to lend a hand please speak to Mark.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS - SATURDAY 20th DECEMBER - there will be Advent Confessions on this day from 9.30am until 10.30am when there will be Mass. Please afford this opportunity to make your confession prior to the Christmas.

TEA AND COFFEE IN HALL AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY - instead of standing outside in the cold please come to the hall for tea and coffee after the morning Mass.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES - please take the sheet from the newsletter table showing times for the week of Christmas and the start of the New Year.

COLLECTIONS - Last week - £492.33 (£46 Gift Aid + £238.33 loose plate and machine + £208 standing order). Second Collection - Advent Appeal £66.14. Thank you. Second collection this week - Advent Appeal.

Dates for your diary

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

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