

THE PARISH OF THE ASCENSION, LAVENDER HILL

Sunday 19 November 2023
The Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
11.00am Solemn Mass

*A very warm welcome to everyone especially if this is your first visit.
Please join us for refreshments following the service.
Please take this order of service away with you*

THIS WEEK

Observances	Monday:	<i>Feria</i> Low Mass of Requiem: 7.00pm [Luis Fernandes RIP]
	Tuesday:	<i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Low Mass: 10.00am
	Wednesday:	<i>St Cecilia</i> Low Mass: 7.30pm
	Thursday:	<i>St Columbanus</i> No Mass today
	Friday:	<i>St Andrew Dung-Lac & companions</i> No Mass today
	Saturday:	<i>St Catherine of Alexandria</i> Holy Rosary: 11.00am
	Sunday 26 th :	CHRIST THE KING Solemn Mass, Procession & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament: 11.00am

Website:
ascensionlavenderhill.org.uk

Email:
ascensionsw11@gmail.com

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020 7228 5340

A warm welcome to the Ascension, Lavender Hill. We are a Parish of the Diocese of Southwark and under the Episcopal care of the Bishop of Fulham. If you would like to know more about the Ascension, have queries about baptisms, weddings and funerals, or any questions about the Christian Faith, please speak to the Parish Priest, Fr Philip, who will be pleased to assist you:

Fr Philip Kennedy

tel: 020 7228 5340

email: ascensionsw11@gmail.com

We are an excepted charity, and rely principally on donations to sustain our work. Please give as generously as you are able, either at the Offertory or by scanning the QR code below.

If you are a taxpayer and are able to gift-aid your donation please do so by either placing your cash donation into a blue envelope and filling in your details on the front, or ask one of the Churchwardens for a Gift Aid form.

Thank you for your support.



*Our **Churchwardens** are the Bishop's representatives in the Parish (elected by the parishioners) and work together with Fr Philip to ensure the smooth running of the Parish. They can be contacted as follows:*

MRS ANN WARWICK
annwarwick1@aol.com

MS CHERYL HARPER
cherylharper1964@hotmail.com

*We take the **safeguarding** of children and vulnerable adults very seriously. Here are the details of our **Parish Safeguarding Officers**, who should be the first point of contact for any concerns:*

MS RUTH CANSDALE
07737 116364

MR ALEX BANSON
020 7738 1916

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE HYMN

O Thou who camest from above,
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return
In humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work, and speak, and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up the gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make my sacrifice complete.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

The priest introduces the Mass.

PENITENTIAL ACT

The priest introduces the confession. Silence is kept for recollection of our sins.

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

ABSOLUTION

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

COLLECT

Let us pray.

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God,
the constant gladness of being devoted to you,
for it is full and lasting happiness
to serve with constancy
the author of all that is good.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

All sit for the readings.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD


FIRST READING: PROVERBS 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 129

Verses sung by the cantor. The Response after each verse:



Bless - ed are those who fear the Lord.

SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5: 1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All stand to welcome the Gospel.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Even if you have to die, says the Lord,
keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 25: 14-30

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

"The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

"Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

"His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

"Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

"Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he

has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY: Fr Luke Demetri, *Assistant Curate, All Saints', Benhilton*

THE NICENE CREED

All stand

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
All bow at the memorial of the Incarnation:

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became
man. All rise**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with
the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken
through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one
Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

At the end of the intercessions we pray together:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

All stand to sing the offertory hymn as the altar is prepared. A collection is taken to support the ministry and mission of the Church

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
Come ye who hear,
Brothers and sisters draw near,
Praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:
Hast thou not seen
All that is needful hath been
Granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee;
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew
All the Almighty can do,
He who with love doth befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests their warfare are waging,
Who, when the elements madly around thee are raging,
Biddeth them cease,
Turneth their fury to peace,
Whirlwinds and waters assuaging.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
Sound from his people again:
Gladly for ay we adore him.**

When the altar is prepared the Priest says:

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, O Lord, we pray,
that what we offer in the sight of your majesty
may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you
and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PREFACE

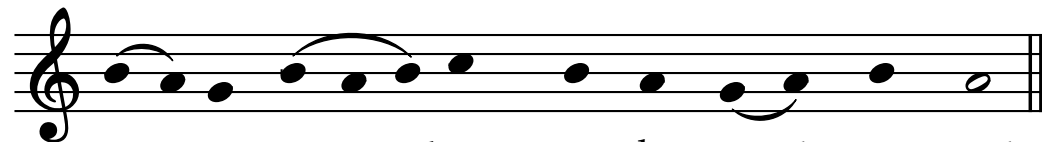


The Lord be with you.
And with your spi - rit.

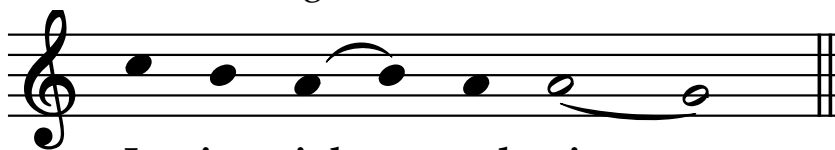


Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right and just.

The priest sings the Preface, after which we sing:

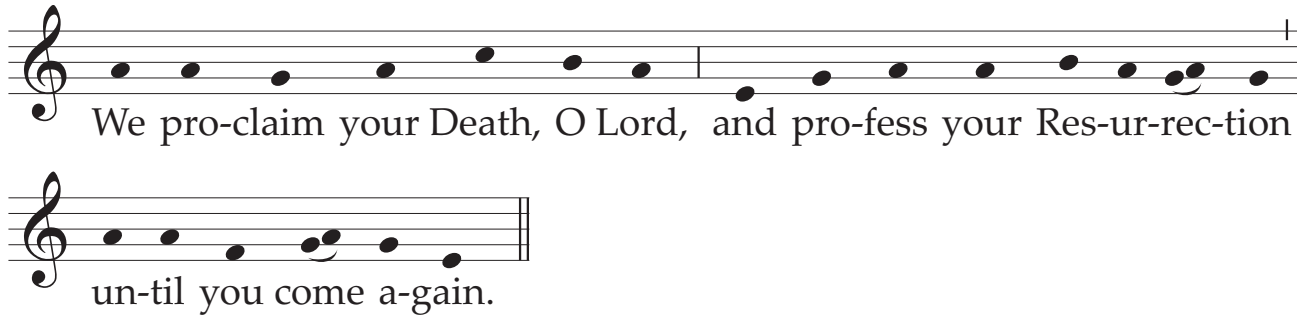
SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth, are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The mystery of faith:



The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the words "We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion". The second staff contains the melody for the words "un-til you come a-gain.".

We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion

un-til you come a-gain.

The prayer concludes "...for ever and ever" to which all reply:
Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

All stand as the priest invites the people to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may always be free from sin and safe from all distress as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.**

THE PEACE

Lord Jesus Christ who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace, I give you: look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The priest and ministers receive Holy Communion.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

HOLY COMMUNION

If you are baptised in the name of the Trinity and normally receive Holy Communion in your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here today. If you wish to receive the Precious Blood, please make your way, after receiving the Host, to the chalice-bearer standing in front of the pulpit. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms or bring this order of service with you as a sign to the priest.

COMMUNION HYMN

**Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost,
Taught by thee, we covet most
Of thy gifts at Pentecost,
Holy, heavenly love.**

**Love is kind, and suffers long,
Love is meek, and thinks no wrong,
Love than death itself more strong;
Therefore give us love.**

Prophecy will fade away,
Melting in the light of day;
Love will ever with us stay;
Therefore give us love.

Faith will vanish into sight;
Hope be emptied in delight;
Love in heaven will shine more bright;
Therefore give us love.

Faith and hope and love we see
Joining hand in hand agree;
But the greatest of the three,
And the best, is love.

From the overshadowing
Of thy gold and silver wing
Shed on us, who to thee sing,
Holy, heavenly love.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All stand.

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery,
humbly imploring, O Lord,
that what your Son commanded us to do
in memory of him
may bring us growth in charity.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE & NOTICES

All sit.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

All stand.

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.



V. Go forth, the Mass is end-ed.

R. Thanks be to God.

THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary.
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour
of our death. Amen.**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

Be it unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh.

And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts; that as we
have known the Incarnation of thy Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of
an angel, so by his Cross and Passion may we be brought to the glory of
his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

**Thy kingdom come on bended knee
The passing ages pray;
And faithful souls have yearned to see
On earth that kingdom's day.**

**But the slow watches of the night
Not less to God belong;
And for the everlasting right
The silent stars are strong.**

**And lo, already on the hills
The flags of dawn appear;
Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls,
Proclaim the day is near:**

**The day in whose clear-shining light
All wrong shall stand revealed,
When justice shall be throned in might,
And every hurt be healed;**

**When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
Shall walk the earth abroad:
The day of perfect righteousness,
The promised day of God.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Trumpet Tune* Jason Payne (b. 1980)

Please remain standing until the procession has left the church.

You are warmly invited to join us after Mass for refreshments.

CCLI: 1405641

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Those in need

Elly Kostur, Jean Tester, Cath Papangelou, Maureen Papangelou,
Shabnam Mehdi-Poor, Alvin Rhodon, Andrew Woods, Carol Farley,
Luke Guthrie, Alan, Jim Warwick

For a cessation to hostilities and for a lasting peace in the Holy Land.

The recently departed

Jago Wilson, Mel Tohill

Anniversaries of death

19: May Luff

20: Priscilla Seddon, Mary Ann Bowen, Muriel Summers

21: Phyllis James

22: Camille Joseph de Kimpe, Ethel Maud Sharp, William & Joseph Spall

23: Cedma Mack (pr), Charles Ellis

24: Barbara Owden, Harold Braithwaite

NOTICES

CHRIST THE KING: SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER

Parish Mass & Procession of the Blessed Sacrament. Visiting preacher: Fr David Houlding

BATTERSEA METROPOLITAN POLICE CAROL SERVICE

Wednesday 29 November at 6.30pm, followed by refreshments.

We are delighted to host the Battersea Metropolitan Police Carol Service this year, which will involve many of the officers and staff based at Lavender Hill Police Station, which is in our Parish.

We will be joined by members of the Metropolitan Police Choir, and by local police cadets.

As well as many police staff, their friends and supporters, we look forward in particular to welcoming the new Mayor of Wandsworth, Councillor Juliana Annan

PCC MEETING

Thursday 30 November 2023 at 7.00pm, preceded by Mass at 6.30pm. Agenda & papers to follow.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 2 December. Please make a note in your diary now. Raffle tickets now available. Any further donations of prizes gratefully received.

FLOWER FUND

Donations towards the cost of flowers would be gratefully received, as we begin to turn our attention to Christmas.

NEW SOUND SYSTEM

The PCC met recently to review life in the parish over the last few months and to make future plans. One important item of business was the **replacement of our sound system**. The present system has been in use since the mid-1970s, and an upgrade is long overdue.

A specification for a brand new system from a local firm has been commissioned and we await the relevant Diocesan permissions before the work may proceed.

This will be a welcome development, not least because the new system will be almost completely wireless, making the various cables running along parts of the church floor redundant, thus improving health and safety and causing the removal of the unsightly wiring.

Part of the installation will include the introduction of a new t-loop system which will, we hope, provide a much better and clearer sound output to those who are users of hearing aids.

This work has been made possible by a combination of grant funding from the St John's Guild for the Blind and the Benefact Trust, with a contribution from PCC funds.

If you would like to make a contribution to defray the PCC costs of this important work, please have a word with Fr Philip. Many thanks to those who have already contributed generously towards this project.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS

are now available for sale. Photograph of the Nativity window in the side chapel taken by Robin Farquhar-Thomson. Cards sold in sets of five, at £3.00 per set.

ADVENT SUNDAY: CAROL SERVICE AT GLOUCESTER ROAD

Advance notice that on Sunday 3 December, we are invited to join Fr Philip Barnes and the people of St Stephen's, Gloucester Road for their Advent Carol Service. The service begins at 6.00pm.

THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER AT 7.00PM: SOLEMN MASS

to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Visiting preacher: Fr Stephen Miller, Assistant Curate of St Luke's, Shepherds Bush.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Some key dates:

Sunday 3 December – Advent Sunday, the beginning of the new Church year. Parish Mass at 11.00am; Carol Service at St Stephen's, Gloucester Road at 6.00pm.

Sunday 17 December – Parish Mass at 11am (visiting celebrant: Fr Graeme Rowlands); Carol Service & Christingle at 5.00pm

Sunday 24 December – Parish Mass (Advent IV) at 11.00am; Midnight Mass at 11.00am

Monday 25 December – Solemn Mass of Christmas Day at 10.30am

Tuesday 26 December – no Mass here; Patronal Festival Mass at St Stephen's, Lewisham