

# PARISH NEWS

## MESSAGE FROM FR PAUL

On behalf of the Parish team and Fr Johnson I would like to wish all the parishioners a Very Merry Christmas. May the joy and peace Jesus bring us, sustain you in your Family life and relationships. God Bless you.

Please accept my deepest gratitude to all who volunteered and ministered in our Christmas celebrations with reverence and joy – especially our readers, Extra -ordinary ministers of the Eucharist, Sacristans, our choir, altar servers, welcoming ministers and all other volunteers. Our thanks also go to all those 'behind the scene' - all who helped in cleaning, maintenance, flowers, displays and all who got the church ready in any way. Thank you too, for the generosity you shown the clergy through many cards and gifts for Christmas. May God Bless and replenish you a hundred-fold.



## NEW AUXILIARY BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK -CANON GERARD BRADLY

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has appointed Canon Gerard Bradley as an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Southwark. Bishop-elect Gerard's Episcopal Ordination will be on **Monday 2 February 2026**, the Feast of the Presentation, at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, and more details will be forthcoming in due course. We pray for Canon Gerard as he take his new role in the Archdiocese .

**NEW YEAR'S EVE**- On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 after the midnight Mass, to celebrate the dawning of the new Year, please do bring a dish /drink to share so that we can all celebrate together after Mass in the hall.

**MASS OFFERING:** When the priest celebrates Mass, it can be offered for a special intention, eg: for someone who died, a birthday, an anniversary, for sick, thanksgiving or a private intention. To book a Mass, please use one of the **MASS INTENTION** envelopes from the church porch. Write your intention, the date the Mass is required, your contact details and enclose the donation. Once completed please give the Mass Intention envelope to the priest or to the parish office.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH:** We warmly invite those adults seeking Baptism/Confirmation/Holy Communion to be part our Journey in Faith group. The weekly sessions involve learning about the Catholic faith and the truth and beauty of the Gospel. If you are thinking about becoming a Catholic, please call or email the Parish office. We would love to hear from you. Please email [streathamrcia@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:streathamrcia@rcaos.org.uk)

**BAPTISM AT ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH:** Baptism is a Sacrament of faith, and the Church asks for a serious and loving commitment by the parents and godparents of a child to live the life of the Sacraments. Parents wishing to baptise their child at English Martyrs Church Streatham should be living in the parish for more than 6 months. If you belong to another parish you will need to obtain a letter of permission from your parish priest. If you are new to the Parish, you can get a letter from your previous parish to say that you are a practising Catholic. Baptisms to take place on the last Sunday of every month at 2pm. The date will be confirmed once the preparation course is completed. Please collect a Baptism pack from the parish office for registration at least four weeks before the preparation date.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026:** First Holy Communion registration for 2026 is closed now. Parents who have registered please note the First lesson for children and parents is on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 9.30am.

**CONFIRMATION 2026:** Registration for 2026 is closed. First meeting for Candidate and parents is on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7pm in the Church.

**MASS ATTENDANCE:** For all school reference from the parish priest and registering for Sacraments at English Martyrs Church, Mass attendance card is needed. Please do collect one and get it stamped when you come for either the Saturday evening Mass or Sunday Masses.

**ROTA FOR 2026:** Please collect the new rota from the Sacred Heart Chapel.

**VOLUNTEERS:** We are looking for volunteers who can help with Sunday 9am tea/coffee. If you are able to help once a month please contact the parish office.

## Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph,  
in you we contemplate  
the splendour of true love; to you we turn with trust.  
Holy Family of Nazareth,  
grant that our families too  
may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel  
and small domestic churches.  
Holy Family of Nazareth,  
may families never again experience violence, rejection and division;  
may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.  
Holy Family of Nazareth,  
make us once more mindful  
of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Graciously hear our prayer.  
Amen.

**SUNDAY COLLECTION A/C Name: RCAS STREATHAM A/C: 23416386 S/C: 60-20-39**

**Sunday 20/21<sup>st</sup> December 2025 Offertory Collection £433.98 GA Envelopes £95.00 Total £528.98**

**For Contactless Donation**

Please use the Card Machines in the Church or use the QR CODE. Thank you for your generosity

