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Parish Priest - Fr Sebastian Paul

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Newsletter 5th December, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

Inauguration of the New Parish of Guildford

The new Parish of Weybridge is being inaugurated by Bishop Richard at a mass at Christ the King, Weybridge on Sunday 7th December starting at 6pm. This is an important day in the life of our church so please do your best to attend. If you would like to follow it on their live stream please do so here

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJTfaSyZm14>

Mass Times this Week: Sat 6th December to Sun 14th December, 2025

Day/Feast Day	Time	Church	Intention
Saturday 6 th	5.00pm 5.30pm	Our Lady of Lourdes - Reconciliation Our Lady of Lourdes	Francis Raphael Baker RIP
Sunday 7 th Second Sunday of Advent	9.00am 11.00am 5.30pm 6pm	Holy Name Our Lady of Lourdes Holy Name - Reconciliation Holy Name	Private Intention People of the Parish Fina Leon RIP
Monday 8 th The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	Therese and Alison Talbot RIP
Tuesday 9 th	9.30am 10am-11.30am	Holy Name Holy Name- Adoration	Jeanette Andon, RIP
Wednesday 10 th	9.30am 7.30pm	Our Lady of Lourdes - Adoration & Rosary Holy Name – Reconciliation Service	
Thursday 11 th	(no 9.30am) 11.30am	Holy Name	Brigid Whitman Ints
Friday 12 th	9.30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	
Saturday 13 th St. Lucy	5.00pm 5.30pm	Our Lady of Lourdes - Reconciliation Our Lady of Lourdes	McCabe Family - Private Intentions
Sunday 14 th Third Gaudete Sunday of Advent	9.00am 11.00am 5.30pm 6pm	Holy Name Our Lady of Lourdes Holy Name - Reconciliation Holy Name	C. J.Kim RIP Jean Addley - Private Intentions

MESSAGE FROM FR SEBASTIAN

For those who did not hear the message read out at Mass last weekend, please see below:

Dear parishioners, friends from outside the parish, St Paul's School community and all of you who showed me so much heart and care. It's been a difficult time for me for the last few months in the hospital as at the critical point I was on the verge of sepsis. I was not fully aware what was going on with me but I felt that it was God's grace fortified

by your prayers that helped me to go through that dark time. I'd like to thank you for all the wonderful cards and messages. I wish I could respond to them individually, but you are very much in my heart.

Thank you for supporting my family as they also experienced the challenge of coming from afar, to the place they didn't quite know to look after me. Now I've been transferred to a place of recovery and made aware it's going to take time before I regain some strength through rehabilitation. I still need to be cautious though as I'm extremely vulnerable and prone to infections. Annie Condon, the diocesan clergy welfare assistance has made all the arrangements on behalf of bishop Richard. I dare to ask for your continuous prayers in this new stage of my life and I keep you all in my heart.

CERAMIC ANGELS

Tulia will be selling some 2025 versions of her ceramic angels after the 9.00am Mass this Sunday in aid of School of Joy

LOL LEADERSHIP MEETING – Tuesday 9th December, 7.30pm in Stevenson Room cafe

All who have an interest in Parish issues are welcome. There will be festive treats so come to have your say and spread some cheer! The PPC will meet on the 10th December so anything you want me to raise at that meeting please let me know. Thank you Karen Haizelden 07921089755

ADVENT

RETIRING COLLECTIONS

During Advent we will have some 2nd collections.

6th/7th December – Kingston Advocacy Group

You will see the Giving Trees in both churches and children have been invited to bring a gift tag and a gift next to Mass this weekend. See details under the Youth section below. The second collection will be for Kingston Advocacy, founded by Helen Clarke who was the founder and her funeral was held this week at Holy Name

13th/14th December – Elmbridge Food Bank

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE – Wednesday 10th December 7pm at Holy Name

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

	HOLY NAME	LOL
Christmas Eve 24 th	6pm Mass	4pm Family Service
		11pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day 25 th	9am Mass	11am Mass
Friday 26 th		No 9.30am Mass
Saturday 27 th		No 5.30pm Mass
Sunday 28 th	9am	11am
	No 6pm Mass	

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS AT HOLY NAME

As per tradition at Holy Name church, we will be remembering loved ones at this special time of year by decorating the Church with poinsettias at Christmas. If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia plant to be displayed in the Church, please collect a form in the church porch for your personal dedication. Each plant costs just £8 and payments can be made via the Contactless machines, cash, cheque or online via BACS. **Deadline is Friday 19th December.**

100 CLUB WINNERS NOVEMBER

1st prize Veronica Bamford; 2nd prize Sandra Merritt; 3rd prize Stephen Raven

YOUTH

Youth Advent This Weekend!

Join us for **Youth Advent Weekend** on **Sunday, December 7th**! We'll gather at:

9:00 AM Mass at Holy Name

11:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL)

Let's come together to celebrate the season and spread the joy of Advent. Everyone is invited to enjoy treats, crafts, and festive Christmas goodies. This weekend, our Advent charity donations will support the **Kingston Advocacy Group (KAG)**, a not-for-profit organisation that ensures vulnerable people are heard in the decisions that shape their lives. We are delighted to support this charity in honour of parishioner **Helen Clark**, whose dedication was important in establishing KAG. To learn more about their work, please visit:

<https://kagadvocacy.org.uk/>

Christmas Caroling - Sunday 14th December 2.45pm

All young people who love to sing festive favorites are warmly invited to join us for Christmas Caroling at Thames View Care Home. Come spread joy, share the Christmas spirit, and bring smiles to the residents with your voices! For more information, please contact: youth.etd@abdiocese.org.uk

Stay and Playgroup Christmas Party – Friday 12th December 9-10am at OLOL

Please join us for Christmas tree decorating, Christmas music, crafts and more. This group is aimed at all children preschool and younger. Come along for a cuppa and a mince pie!

SOCIAL

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING CLASS – Saturday 6th December, 10.30-12.30 at Holy Name

Cost £45 including all materials mulled wine and mince pies! Proceeds will go towards charity. To book a place please email mariakwei72@gmail.com Places are limited

FESTIVE TEAS – 7th December 3-5pm at OLOL

Request please for 1) food donations – sandwiches, cakes, mince pies, biscuits, sausage rolls, Baileys. 2) Raffle prizes. Please contact Liz Smith elizabethsmith@btinternet.com

OLOL CHRISTMAS SOUP LUNCH - Wednesday 10th December, 12pm at OLOL

A delicious selection of homemade soups with bread and cheese and more. Come along and bring a friend.

HOLY NAME FESTIVE SOUP LUNCH – Thursday 11th December at Holy Name

Mass will be at 11.30am at Holy Name that day and a soup lunch with festivities, cheese, cakes, wine, Baileys will follow in the parish rooms. All are welcome. Email esher@abdiocese.org.uk to book a place. Donations will cover costs and any surplus will go to charity.

CAROL SINGING AROUND THE LOCAL CARE HOMES – Sunday 14th December – please join us!

Please come along and bring some festive joy to care home residents in our area! Music can often be enjoyed by people with dementia and other neurological conditions in a way that other communications can't and our visits are always much appreciated. We will meet at 2.45 for a 3pm start at Thames View care home, 58 High Street, Thames Ditton, Surrey, KT7 0TT & then divide into groups to visit 6 other homes in the area. The more the merrier so please ask friends & family too. All ages welcome. It helps to know numbers in advance so please let Marie Miller know if you will join - hoskins_marie@hotmail.com / 07949 883990

SONGBIRDS AND FRIENDS CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND SINGALONG – Thursday 18th December 7pm at OLOL

Tickets -nearly sold out so please be quick and reserve tickets to avoid disappointment. Tickets must be reserved/paid in advance. All profits to Momentum Children's Charity. £10/under 21s £5. Contact Karen

SCHOOL OF JOY QUIZ – Thank You

Our Quiz in aid of the School of Joy, Bethlehem, last Saturday in the Holy Name Parish Rooms was, as always, great fun and very well supported. Many thanks to everyone who came along, assisted with the cooking, preparation of the rooms, contributed prizes and did anything to make the evening a great success. The icing on the cake was the message from Fr. Mamdouh Abu Sada himself wishing us all a Blessed Advent. The evening raised £1,244.20 for our friends at The School of Joy. We wish Fr. Mamdouh, the staff and young people of the school a Blessed Christmas and Peaceful 2026.

CONFIRMATION 2026 – Deadline 12th December

Registration forms for 2026 Confirmation preparation are now available on our website here <https://holyfamilymbridge.church/confirmation-online-form/> The preparation is for school year 8 and begins on 6th January – each Tuesday evening at OLOL. We would like applications ideally by 12th December.

RCIA 2026

Our “Come and See” evenings, learning more about the Catholic faith with a view to being received into the Church begin in January on a Thursday evening at Holy Name church. For more information see our website <https://holyfamilymbridge.church/become-a-catholic/>

THIS WEEKEND’S READINGS

Please see below the link to Universalis which has current weekend readings. This can always be found on the front page of our website too <https://www.universalis.com/Europe.England.Arundel/mass.htm>

NOVEMBER OFFERINGS

Standing Orders £12,659; Offertory cash £2,292.72; Offertory contactless £936; Soups £50; Arundel Cathedral Maintenance £975.95; Retired Priests £748.69

REGULAR EVENTS at Holy Name and Our Lady of Lourdes (LOL)		
Divine Mercy Chaplet: All welcome to pray the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy, which Our Lord encouraged St. Faustina to say.	Weekly - Sundays after 9am Mass in the Lady Chapel	Holy Name
TakeTime Meditations: A calm, compassionate space to meet God with the opportunity to explore your faith with others. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87353668161?pwd=MmRxbHUwNW9kS0F3dTRxNldYSIJTQT09	Weekly - Mondays at 8pm on Zoom	
Playgroup and Café: A cuppa and a chance to catch up with friends every Friday. Playgroup for babies and pre-schoolers too.	Weekly – Mondays & Fridays 9-10.30am	LOL
Sew ‘N So’s: Complete your craft projects with a warm welcome, friendly chat and suggestions about anything you are “stuck” on.	Call: Jo W on 020 8224 3705	LOL
Fun Fridays: A youth club for primary aged children and their families. Activities are geared at KS2 with crafts, games, snacks, and a prize draw. It's a great opportunity to hang out with friends after school and enjoy seasonal themed activities.	5 Fridays term time – 3:30pm - 5 Look out in newsletter for next one	LOL
Parish Youth Group: For students in school years 7–13 (ages 13 and above) The Parish Youth Group offers a welcoming and supportive environment for young people to grow in their faith, build friendships, and enjoy time together in a relaxed setting. Held every other Friday in the Parish Rooms with pizza, games and fellowship at Holy Name Church, Esher.	Every other Friday (see newsletter)	Holy Name
Faith In Action Awards Programme – Our Parish award programme for those in Secondary School, supporting our candidates through their faith journey this year. Please see updates in the newsletter.	4 Reflection Dates: November 1 st , January 3 rd , others TBD	LOL
Drinks and games after Saturday and Sunday evening Masses: come along after the 6pm Mass to meet fellow parishioners	Monthly – first weekend of the month	LOL
Rosary: All welcome, especially anyone who would like to learn the Rosary or anyone who needs a refresher in a peaceful environment.	Weekly Friday 7pm, Wednesday 9.30am Monthly: 1st Saturday 9.30am 1st Monday 7.30pm (weekly during May & October)	Holy Name LOL Holy Name LOL
Bereavement Coffee Morning: Anyone enduring the pain and loss of bereavement is welcome to attend this caring, supportive gathering. Please check newsletter for next dates	Monthly (alternate venues) 1 st Tuesdays at 10am 1 st Thursdays at 7pm	Holy N LOL
Grandparents and Elderly Group: Open to all grandparents and elderly in the parish. Come along for a chat and a cuppa.	Monthly - 3rd Tuesdays at 10.15am	LOL
Bible reading group: Come along for coffee, prayer and discussion: Have you ever thought about what you read in the Bible? Is it true? In what ways is it true? Is it a myth? Who says so? A small group who meet regularly to read and pray the bible together. Informative, useful, and fun	Fortnightly – Wednesdays at 10am Call: John Merrigan (07949 913487).	LOL
Parish Soups: A delicious selection of homemade soups served with bread and cheese. Come along and bring a friend!	Monthly - 2nd Wednesdays at 12pm	LOL
Taizé Evening: A short service of meditative and reflective prayer, combining periods of silence, readings from Scripture, and Taizé music based on Psalm.	Monthly - 7pm See newsletter for dates	Holy Name
Esher Catenians: open to all practising Catholic men looking for a local, national and international social network Follow us on FB https://www.facebook.com/groups/726607333082252/	Monthly – generally 2 nd Tuesdays at 7:00pm for 7:30pm E: Andrew_burton33@aol.com	Various including Surbiton Golf Club, The Angel T