



Parish Priest: Fr Behruz Rafat **Telephone** 01580 762785 **Mobile:** 07903 986646

Address: The Presbytery, 47 Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6LL.

Parish E-mail behruzrafat@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Website: www.standrewstenterden.org

Deacon: Rev. Jolyon Vickers

Telephone: 01580 766449

Email: jolyonvickers@rcaos.org.uk

Hire of Parish Hall: Lesley McCarthy 07791 949652

E-mail: tenterdenparishcentre@rcaos.org.uk

Newsletter Editor: Patricia Sargent 01233 850963

E-mail: sargentpat51@gmail.com

Newsletter for the week commencing 1st December 2024

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

Entrance antiphon: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading: from the prophet Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Psalms 24 Response: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Second Reading: from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 3: 12-4: -2

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 21: 25-28,34-36

Communion antiphon: The lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Father Behr writes:

Dear Parishioners

Next weekend Fr Ethelbert Ukpabi parish priest of Goudhurst will come to celebrate the 6pm Vigil Mass and the 10am Sunday morning Mass.

Fr Ethelbert will start with a talk about Advent helping us to prepare well for Christmas. The talk starts at 4.30pm on Saturday 7 December and Fr Ethelbert will be available to hear confessions from 5pm - 5.45pm.

Confession is a great way to get ready for Christmas and to enjoy some spiritual food in the season of Advent.

I will be going to Goudhurst for Mass and confessions.

I'm sure you will give Fr Ethelbert a great welcome. Please make the most of this opportunity.

Fr Behr

Your Prayers are asked for:

Recently deceased: Emeritus Bishop/Fr. John Hine, RIP

Those ill or infirm: Roger Styles, Mary Basher, Paul Rumball, Paul Lane, Mara McDermot, June Munton, Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Sylwia Dorosz, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Patricia Hook, Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those who are unwell and in need of our prayers.

Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time: Marie Witham, Ethel Currie, Rose Hewer-Hearst, Edith Margaret Corbett, Alex Mickle, Elizabeth de Blaby, Agness Finnan, Nora Cregan and Francis Kelly.

Masses and services for the week (30th November – 7th December), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.	
Saturday 30th November ST ANDREW, APOSTLE	No public Mass am 10.30 -11am Confession 6pm Vigil Mass <i>Gertrude Barclay Foundation Mass</i> Reader: Wendy
Sunday 1st December FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)	10am Mass <i>People of the Parish</i> Reader: Suzanne 12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass
Monday 2nd December Feria	10am Mass <i>In thanksgiving (Beresford)</i>
Tuesday 3rd December St Francis Xavier, Priest	10am Mass <i>Donor's Intention</i>
Wednesday 4th December St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church	10am Service of Word and Communion
Thursday 5th December St John Almond, Priest & Martyr	9am – 10am Adoration 10am Mass <i>Mark and Family</i>
Friday 6th December St Nicholas, Bishop	10am Mass <i>James Flynn RIP</i> 10.30 – 11am Adoration

Saturday 7th December St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	No public Mass am 10.30 -11am Confession 6pm Vigil Mass <i>People of the Parish</i> Reader: Peter
Sunday 8th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)	10am Mass <i>Bishop John Hine RIP and Family</i> Reader: Rachel 12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass
Flowers: for Saturday 7th/Sunday 8th December - Suzanne	

Official details of the funeral arrangements for Bishop John Hine RIP

Reception of the Body

Monday 9 December (the external feast of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception) at St George's Cathedral, Southwark 6.00pm Reception into the Cathedral of Bishop John Hine's Coffin, followed immediately by the Cathedral's Solemn Mass of the Immaculate Conception

Celebrant and Preacher: The Most Rev. Kevin McDonald, Archbishop Emeritus of Southwark

Requiem Mass

Tuesday 10 December 2024 at St George's Cathedral, Southwark 2.00pm

Funeral Mass followed immediately by committal and interment in the Cathedral Crypt.

Celebrant and Preacher: The Most Reverend John Wilson, Archbishop of Southwark

Do sign up for the parish coach if you would like to go.

The Angelus

The Angelus is a beautiful traditional Catholic prayer. We will pray the Angelus before Mass during Advent and Christmastide. If you would like to learn more about the history of this devotion please visit <https://www.goodcatholic.com/the-angelus-prayer-its-history-meaning-and-graces/>

Confession Fr Behr is available for Confession every Saturday from 10.30am - 11am. He is also happy to visit those who are not able to come to church.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy at the 10am Mass is on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend. The next lesson with Lorraine on Sunday, January 5th

Parish WhatsApp

Our parish has a WhatsApp group. We will post parish events including social events, special occasions and requests for help in the parish as well as general parish news.

If you would like to join please get in touch. Fr Behr

As you may know, the **Jubilee Year of 2025** is set to begin on 24th December 2024 and will formally close on 6th January 2026, the Feast of the Epiphany. The theme is "**Pilgrims of Hope**".

Join the symphony of prayer

The aim is simple: to encourage people from around the archdiocese to pray a decade of the Rosary for specified priests and parishes from their own deanery each day until Saturday 7 June 2025, Pentecost Saturday – the day on which Archbishop John will be inviting the archdiocese to come together at The Friars, Aylesford for a celebratory festival to mark the Jubilee and the sixtieth anniversary of Southwark becoming an archdiocese.

Spirituality Commission Advent reflections. The Spirituality Commission will be sending daily reflections during Advent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers. You can sign-up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning here: tinyurl.com/adventreflections2024.

Praying the Mass with Archbishop John. Advent is a time people return to Mass, sometimes after many years - for others Mass is the cornerstone of their spiritual lives. To help people, wherever they are on their spiritual journey, connect more prayerfully with the Lord Jesus, Archbishop John has [recorded a message\(tinyurl.com/prayingthemass\)](https://tinyurl.com/prayingthemass) which guides us on how to pray through the Mass. Archbishop John said: 'the Eucharist is at the very heart of the Mass, but also the Church. It is an invitation from the Lord Jesus to participate in His sacrifice'.

Word on Fire UK Bible Conference | February 2025

Join Bishop Robert Barron and thousands of other Catholics from across the UK for *Evangelisation & Culture: The Bible*. Come to the Excel Centre in East London this February to gain a deeper appreciation of the Bible and its relevance to the Church's mission today.

Date: Friday 21st - Saturday 22nd February 2025

Location: Excel Centre, East London

Speakers Include: Bishop Robert Barron, N.T. Wright, Professor Tracey Rowland and more. For more information and to register, please visit: wordonfire.org/the-bible-event.

Catechetical Institute. Thanks to the generosity of the [Archbishop's Appeal](#) and the Franciscan University, every parishioner, catechist, parent and teacher in our schools and parishes will now have **free access** to over 120 high-quality workshops from the Catechetical Institute. Each parish features on the [Franciscan platform](https://franciscanathome.com/southwark) (<https://franciscanathome.com/southwark>). It's simple to sign-up, with a short video on the Agency page (<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/franciscan>) to guide you through. This offering is free to everyone until September 2025.

Joanna Bogle has an e-book on the history of Catholic customs and traditions during Advent and Christmastime. It is available at CTS <https://www.ctsbooks.org/product/advent-christmas-ebook/>

Caritas Southwark: Parish Reps Recruitment

On October 9, we had our first and successful Webinar of Caritas Southwark (CS) Parish Reps. During the meeting, director John Coleby welcomed and explained the mission and vision of CS and the possible roles of a Parish Rep. As Caritas Southwark grows it is hoped that each parish community would have at least one representative who would coordinate activities, relate positively with active charities in the parish and give feedback to central office.

We need people as reps who:

- Have a heart for the social mission
- Know the local area and can tell us what is happening on the ground
- Can introduce us to other organisations doing similar work.
- Can put up posters and distribute flyers.
- Can speak on behalf of Caritas and encourage other Christians to get involved. We call on willing volunteers to join our team of Parish Reps.

Contact: caritassouthwark@rcaos.org.uk, or call 07521 425 400 and we will send some materials which will help you understand the role of a parish rep.

Women of the Nativity

There will be a series of reflective services for the Advent/Christmas time on Saturday mornings. Please look out for the publicity material, which will be available shortly.

Town Ecumenical Carol Service

Wednesday 18th December at 7:30pm in Saint Mildred's Church

Community Carols

Open Air event on the afternoon of Friday 20th December. The venue is being finalised.

DON'T FORGET OUR ADVENT FAIR THIS WEEKEND!

Saturday evening, before and after Mass, and from 11am – 2pm on Sunday .

There will be stalls, workshops, Christmas cards for sale,

Refreshments

And an opportunity to chat!

And finally: a message from Frances (01233 732657)

Christmas is fast approaching, and we will soon be making our church look beautiful to celebrate the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

If you would like to help, please put together a flower vase or arrangement to decorate a windowsill.

The colour scheme is red, gold, white and green.

Please let Frances know if you can help. They need to be ready for 23rd December.

Thank you.