



# The Catholic Church of St Osmund, Barnes

Parish Priest: Fr Oladele Craig

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**Office Hours:** 10:00am - 2:00pm Tues, Wed, & Fri.

79 Castelnau, Barnes, London SW13 9RT

Website: <https://stosmunds.parishportal.net/>

## Mass Times

**Sundays:** 8.30am, 10.30am, 6.30pm

**Weekdays:** 10am Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri,  
Thurs (6.30pm), Sat (**Latin**) 10am

**Confessions:** Friday 9-9.50am, Sunday 9:45am –  
10:15am & 6pm - 6:20pm

**Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament:** Fri 9-10am

**Baptisms and Weddings:** Contact the Parish Office.

## First Sunday of Advent (C) Sunday, 1 December 2024 Mass Book p 82

Date	Time	Intention	Feast
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Sheila Curry RIP Justine Estaphanos RIP Edward and Marie Bonnon RIP	First Sunday of Advent (C)
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	10.00am Mass	John Derek Ogden and Frances Ogden RIP	Feria
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	10.00am Mass	Holy Souls	St Frances Xavier
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am Mass	Patricia Bradley RIP	St John Damascene
Thur 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	6.30pm Mass	Rosa Maria Menghini Pranzo RIP	St John Almond
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am Mass	Jose Colautti RIP	St Nicholas
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am Mass	For the staff and residents of Viera Gray Home	St Ambrose
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Peter and Emma Whitehouse RIP For the repose of the souls of the Neate family RIP Mira Bebenek RIP	Second Sunday of Advent (C)

## Reflection on the Season of Advent

Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming" or "arrival." It is a season of preparing and waiting, one that has deep roots in the history of the Church. Back in the early centuries, Advent was a time for spiritual reflection and even fasting, similar to Lent. By the 6th century, it became a recognized season in the Church, first focusing on Christ's second coming and later also embracing His first - His birth in Bethlehem.

What makes Advent unique is its twofold meaning. In the early weeks, it turns our attention to the future: the return of Christ as King. This part of Advent is a wake-up call, asking us to reflect

on our lives, turn back to God, and be ready for His coming. It is the same call John the Baptist gave: "*Prepare the way of the Lord*" (Matthew 3:3). It is a time to pause and ask, "Am I ready to meet Him?"

As Christmas approaches, the focus shifts to something more immediate - the Incarnation, when God became human in the person of Jesus Christ. Pope Benedict XVI, in *Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives*, beautifully describes the Incarnation as God's way of showing how much He loves us. Jesus' birth is a moment of joy, but it is also deeply connected to His ultimate mission: the cross and resurrection. Even the joy of Christmas carries a sense of reverence because we know the story doesn't end at the manger.

This mixture of feelings - of joy and reflection, waiting and celebrating - is what makes Advent so powerful. Traditions like the Advent wreath reflect this. Each candle adds more light as we get closer to Christmas, a reminder that Christ, the Light of the World, is near. The ancient 'O *Antiphons*', sung in the last days before Christmas, express the deep longing for the Savior that has echoed through the ages.

Advent is not just a countdown to Christmas—it is a chance to slow down and take stock. It reminds us of the wonder of Christ's first coming and keeps us looking forward to His return. It is a season of hope, a season of preparation, and a season that invites us to let His coming transform our hearts and lives.

**Christmas Mass Schedule 2024**

**Sat 21 Dec:** Confessions 1030 – 1130am

**Tues 24 Dec Christmas Eve:**

6.30pm: First Mass of the Nativity

11.30pm: Midnight Mass of the Nativity, with carols from 11pm.

**Christmas Day, Wed 25 Dec:**

8.30am: Dawn Mass of the Nativity

10.30am: Mass during the Day

**Boxing Day, Thurs 26 Dec, Feast of St Stephen,**

**First Martyr:** Mass 10am

**New Year's Eve, Tue 31 Dec:** Mass 10 am

**Wed 1 Jan 2025 (New Year's day):** Mass 10am

**Bill on Assisted Suicide**

Following the recent parliamentary vote on the assisted suicide bill, where a majority voted in favour of passing the first reading of the draft legislation, the Archbishop has issued a statement expressing profound concern. His message highlights the moral, ethical, and religious implications for all stakeholders and society as a whole. Copies of this brief but significant statement are available in the narthex for your reflection.

**Introduction of the Revised Lectionary**

On this First Sunday of Advent, we are pleased to announce the introduction of the revised translation of the Lectionary, which will be used for the scripture readings in our liturgies. We are deeply grateful for your generosity, which has enabled us to raise £6,450. Of this, we have spent £1,865 on the Ambo, Chapel, and Study editions of the Lectionary, as well as the Book of the Gospels, and £779 on the first volume of the Parish Mass booklets used by the congregation. We will acquire the remaining five volumes of the Parish Mass booklets as they become available from the publishers. Thank you once again for your incredible generosity and support.

**Prayer of induction for First Holy Communion Candidates**

This Sunday, during the 10:30 Mass, we will offer a special prayer for the 28 young people from our parish who have enrolled in preparation to receive their First Holy Communion in 2025. As they begin this important new phase in their journey of faith, we keep them, their families, and their Catechists in our prayers. We also reaffirm our unwavering support as a Christian community, standing with them in faith and encouragement.

**The Men's Group**

Men of all ages are very welcome to join us for a half-hour Advent Reflection, followed by social drinks at The Lamb pub: meet Thursday 5 Dec, 8.15 for 8.30pm in the St Edward's Room, over the river at Our Lady of Grace & St Edward's Church, Chiswick High Road (enter via passageway to right of church), newcomers are particularly welcome. Email Stephen Donnelly for details: ([donnellysm@hotmail.com](mailto:donnellysm@hotmail.com)) or just turn up.

**Art and Faith: A Series of Lectures, Thurs 12 Dec, 7.15pm, St Osmunds Church.**

Join us as we enter into the spirit of Advent for a new lecture series "Art and Faith," with the inaugural lecture by Dr Teresa Lane, an esteemed art historian and professor who explores how artists of the Middle Ages and Renaissance interpreted the Gospel narratives surrounding Christ's Incarnation. Refreshments provided.

**St Osmunds Christmas Carol concert, Fri 13 Dec**

All welcome for a carol concert in the hall at 7.30pm on Fri 13 Dec with mulled wine. Please bring a box of mince pies to share.

**A Ceremony of Carols**

Thames Philharmonic Choir presents a carol concert on Sat 21 Dec 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Kingston KT11JP. See poster on the noticeboard or see: ([www.thamesphilharmonicchoir.co.uk](http://www.thamesphilharmonicchoir.co.uk))

**Could you help a prisoners' child at Christmas?**

Pact are collecting Christmas gifts for prisoners' children. Please drop donations of **new children's books and toys** into an 'Operation Elf' sack in the narthex for parents to give to their children at one of the 'Pact Family Days' at Wandsworth or Wormwood Scrubs prisons. No toy weapons or modelling clay please. Please do not wrap gifts. Suggested max value £20. Contact Andy Keen-Downs 07841 289 340/ ([andy.kd@prisonadvice.org.uk](mailto:andy.kd@prisonadvice.org.uk))

**QR code for DONA portal donations St Osmunds**

Please use the QR code below to make a contactless donation to the parish. Thank you.



**Sick List**

For the sick and the suffering especially Janet Waddington, James and Audrey Smith, Teresa Cockburn, Mary Kelly, Andrew Brodrick-Ward, Joan Moore, Susan Kelsey, Maureen Carr, Eddie Henshaw, Charles Stiller, and Bridget Jabour.

**In Remembrance**

For those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Sonia Maria Teixeira De Carvalho, Valerie Dixon, Rosa Maria Menghini Pranzo, Patricia Bradley, Robin Durie, John Pavry, Paul Murphy and Thomas Dolan.

**Alma Redemptoris Mater**

*Alma Redemptoris Mater, quæ pèrvia cæli Porta manes, et stella maris, succúrre cadénti, Súrgere qui curat pópulo: tu quæ genuísti, Natúra miránte, tuum sanctum Genitórem Virgo prius ac postérius, Gabriélis ab ore Sumens illud Ave, peccatórum miserére.*