

CONFESSIONS Saturday after morning mass until 11:15am and before the vigil mass from 5:30-6:15pm

*MASS INTENTIONS 30th December 2023—7th January 2024*

Saturday 30th	6.30pm	(vigil) People of the Parish
Sunday 31st December 2023 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	8.30am 10.00am 12 Noon 3.00pm 7.30pm MIDNIGHT	Anne & Johnson Thanksgiving Gloria Tucker Thanksgiving Anne Akotibe Thanksgiving Spanish Mass Sunday Mass and prayers for New Year Mass in Tamil—this is pre-booked ONLY
Monday 1st January 2024	7.45am	<b>No Mass</b>
Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God	<b>10.30am</b>	Gloria Tucker John Talty RIP
Tuesday 2nd Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen	7.45am	Moria Scandrett Vincia Culzac RIP
	10.00am	Requiem Florence Obonomamwen Ugwuegbulam
	<b>8.00pm</b>	St Anthony's Novena
Wednesday 3rd Feria of Christmas Time	7.45am	James Kerin RIP
	10.00am	Leam & Mikka Michael, Matilda Harrick & Leslie Dench RIP
Thursday 4th Feria of Christmas Time	7.45am	Owen C Maughan
	10.00am	Madeline Tan RIP Helena Daniel RIP
First Friday 5th Feria of Christmas Time Mass followed by All Night Adoration	7.45am	Sammaneto Charles RIP
	10.00am	Requiem Graciana Rodrigues
	9.30pm	Sacred Heart Confraternity
Saturday 6th Feria Feria of Christmas Time	10.00am	Frances Jenner Intentions Rose Nieve Cunningham Intentions
	6.30pm	(Vigil) People of the Parish
Sunday 7th January 2024 The Epiphany of the Lord	8.30am 10.00am 12 Noon 3.00pm 6.30pm 7.30pm	Leslie & Vera Henderson RIP Monica Chikezie/Nwosu & Family Patrick Akotibe Thanksgiving Spanish Mass Solemn Holy Hour Mass

**ST ANTONY'S CHURCH FOREST GATE**  
*Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*  
*31st December 2023*

**Our First Reading** today is from Ecclesiasticus 3:2-7,12-14: He who fears the Lord respects his parents. The **Responsorial Psalm** is *Psalm 105*: A prayer of thanksgiving to God for his faithfulness to his covenant. Today's **Second Reading** is taken from *Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19*: Paul examines Abraham's example of faith. The **Gospel Reading** this Sunday is from *Luke 2:22-40*: Mary and Joseph present Jesus at the Temple in accordance with the Law of Moses.

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family and the Gospel describes the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple and shows Joseph and Mary as devout Jews, following the prescriptions of the Law of Moses. Today's Gospel notes that Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, in accordance with the Mosaic Law. At that time, he was called Jesus, the name he was given by the angel Gabriel. On the 40th day after Jesus' birth, Mary performed the appropriate purification rites and made her offering at the Temple. Although the Law of Moses required an offering of a lamb, those who could not afford a lamb could substitute two turtledoves or two pigeons. In this scene, Luke identifies Joseph and Mary as being poor, and indeed throughout Luke's Gospel, Jesus will show special concern for the poor.

In Jerusalem, Luke reports that Mary and Joseph encounter two devout Jews, Simeon and Anna, who recognize the infant Jesus as the fulfilment of Israel's hope for redemption. In Simeon's words we find a prediction of Mary's witnessing of Jesus' death on the cross. The Canticle of Simeon, also called by its Latin name, *Nunc Dimitis*, is prayed at night prayer, or compline, during the Liturgy of the Hours.

**Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity Number 234092**

**Address: 56 St Antony's Road, Forest Gate E.7. 9QB,**

**Email: [forestgate@brcdt.org](mailto:forestgate@brcdt.org), Website: [www.stantonysforestgate.com](http://www.stantonysforestgate.com)**

**Parish Administrator: Marie Browne Tel: 020 8472 0433 :**

**Parish Youth Co-ordinator: Catherine Wallis-Hughes Tele: 07807348223.**

**St Antony's School: -T.020 8552 3670**

## **Registration for Confirmation in 2024**

Applications are now being accepted for teenagers who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation at the parish in 2024. The application form is available at this link: <https://stantonys.churchsuite.com/forms/djmh98dt>

Candidates must have a date of birth between  
20th May 2006 and 18th May 2010.

Please note, you must have the applicant's baptismal certificate ready to upload as part of the application process.

The deposit payment of £80 will be due in January at the first parents' meeting.

If you have any questions about the process, please contact Catherine Wallis-Hughes on [stantonysyouthproject@gmail.com](mailto:stantonysyouthproject@gmail.com) or 07807348223. Please text/WhatsApp or leave a message rather than calling, if possible.

**Registrations will close on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

**We will not be accepting any applications after this date.**

## **The next Baptismal Preparation Course**

**Will be on Saturday 13th January 2024 and begins at 12.00 Noon promptly.** Parents who wish to have their children Baptised must attend the Baptismal Preparation course. You will be asked to provide a copy of your Baptismal certificate and also your Godparents Baptismal Certificate which must include details of Confirmation.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of :

**Florence Obonomamwen Ugwuegbulam RIP**, requiem mass will in St Antony's Church on 2nd January at 10am.

**Graciana Rodrigues RIP**, requiem mass will be in St Antony's Church on 5th January at 10am

*Please remember their family and friends in your prayers.*

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them  
may they rest in peace. Amen.*

**CRIB OFFERINGS**—All proceeds from the Crib collection will be donated to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

**We pray for the SICK of our Parish, Families & Friends**— and all at home or in hospital, and all who care for our sick.

**First Friday—First Friday 5th January 2024 9.30pm Mass  
followed by All Night Adoration.**

**Catholic Schools—Certificates of Catholic Practice** —If you are applying to a Catholic school and require a Certificate of Catholic Practice, appointment sheets to meet with Fr John Jesus are available at the back of the church. **Please bring with you a copy of your child's baptismal certificate.**

**Appointment sheets at back of the church for:**

**Wednesday 3rd January 2024 - 6pm-7pm**

**Friday 5th January 2024 - 4pm-5pm**

**St Antony's Saturday Club**—the Saturday Club will be **on Saturday 6th January 2024, from 2pm-4pm.** The Saturday Club runs on a monthly basis and it is designed to offer the senior citizens of our parish a place to gather, have a cuppa and a sandwich, catch up and enjoy themselves for a few hours on a Saturday afternoon.

## **Sahara Desert Retreat in Morocco, 26 February – 11 March 2024**

Including a day visiting Marrakesh and 9 full days in the Desert. With Fr Arnaud and Deacon Vladimir from St Antony's in Forest Gate. Designed for young adults, open to all adults able to hike 4 - 6 hours a day for 9 full days in the desert. £952 (plus flight). [www.desert-retreat.com](http://www.desert-retreat.com) or phone Catherine at 07807 348223.

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**Thank you for your continued support**

- **online donations link:** <https://stream.seccomgroup.com/donations/saop>
- **Donations can be made parish web-site** [www.stantonysforestgate.com](http://www.stantonysforestgate.com)
- Payment direct into the parish bank account using online banking
- **QR Codes available around the church**
- **Contactless using QR Codes located around the Church**