

## This Sunday (7<sup>th</sup> Jan) Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Isaiah 6: 1-6

Psalm – 71

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6

Gospel – Matthew 2: 1-12

## Intentions

6pm: God's Blessings on Fr Pawel

9am: Gerard McGeough RIP

11am: The People of the Parish

3pm: **Epiphany Carol Service**



Parish Of St Simon Stock



7<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Epiphany Year B

Epiphany  
Newsletter

**Hymns for 11am Mass: 692, 23, 1, 282, 788**

### Entrance Antiphon

*Behold, the Lord, the mighty one, has come;  
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.*

### Communion Antiphon

*We have seen his star in the east, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.*

Mon 10am Baptism of the Lord

Tue 10am Feria

Wed 10am Feria

Thu 10am Feria

Fri 8pm Feria

Ted Chambers RIP

Birthday Blessings Michael Jerstice

Hazel Trujillo

Ted Chambers RIP

Christmas Blessings on Mavis Westbrook

### Confessions

**Fridays 7.15pm to 7.50pm and Saturdays 5.15pm to 5.45pm**

## Next Sunday (14<sup>th</sup> Jan) Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19

Psalm – 39

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20

Gospel – John 1: 35-42

## Intentions

6pm: Janet Butter (UCM Member) RIP

9am: The People of the Parish

11am: Douglas Ward RIP

## Deaths and Anniversaries

Please pray for all those who have died recently especially Bill Coleman and Agnieszka Markowska, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time of year: Shirley Corderey, Alfie Mistedine, George Clarke, Fred Blick, Ellen Keesse, Bernadette Halpin, William Goodall, Patricia Thorne, Gerard Kyne, Edward Penfold, Fred Michelmore, Jim Hanrahan, Sheila Beeching, Dorothy Tovey, Margaret Shanahan, Betty Reed, George Fitzgibbon, Frank Dowle, Breda Vardy, Leslie Hurley, Patricia McCoy, John Corcoran, Raymond Johnson, and Peter Catchpole. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

**Sick and Housebound:** We pray for all those who are sick and the housebound. We pray especially for all those in our parish and their families. **St Simon Stock, keep them in your care**

**Mass Intentions:** Please make cheques payable to St Simon Stock Church. See website for details of how to make a bank transfer.

**100 Club (Parish Lottery)** - Cash Prizes to be won monthly! Annual Subscription £12 per number. Jan winners: £50 = No. 260 – Margaret Ridgewell, £25 = No 26 – John Caruana

**Parish Gift Aid Scheme:** If you wish your offertory and other donations to be gift-aided please contact Sandra Rocco on 07720 772089

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050P

## Parish notices:

1. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this weekend is for the Development Fund. Next week it is for the SPUC White Flower Appeal.
2. **EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE - this Sunday (7th Jan 2024) at 3pm.** Please come along and help us to close the Season of Christmas by joining the 3 Wise Men as they come to the end of their pilgrimage and adore the Christ Child.
3. We are still collecting presents for the Westminster Children's Society. Please bring them to go under the Christmas Tree. They don't need to be wrapped. They will be collected later on in January.

## EPIPHANY BLESSINGS OF HOMES

According to ancient tradition on the Feast of the Epiphany Christians bless their home by marking the door and filling the house with the fragrance of blessed incense. I invite you to adopt this custom in your family. The family gathers to ask God's blessing on their home and those who live in or visit the house. It is an invitation to Jesus to be a daily guest in our lives, our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows. The traditional way of doing this is to use chalk to write above or on the main entrance of the house or room: **20 + C + M + B + 24**. The initials remind us of the traditional names of the Magi – Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar – and also stand for the Latin motto: *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless this house." "Chalking the door" is a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and home. May this Epiphany Blessing be a reminder that Christ is incarnate in the love and care we manifest to each other in our ordinary daily lives together.

Priest: Fr Pawel Sobol, 5, Bleakwood Road, Walderslade, Kent. ME5 0NF. Email: [pawelsobol@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:pawelsobol@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Martin Smith: [martinsmith@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:martinsmith@rcaos.org.uk).

Parish Safeguarding Rep Margaret Whitworth: [waldersladesg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:waldersladesg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk) tel: 07811 852267

**Please note: Parish Office is located in the new church extension**

Tel: 01634 862910. Mob: 07305 831925, Website: [www.stsimonwalderslade.co.uk](http://www.stsimonwalderslade.co.uk)

Email: [walderslade@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:walderslade@rcaos.org.uk)

Parish Secretary: Mrs Josie Ryder

Primary schools St Benedict's

Mrs. S. L. McAlpine 01634 669700

St Thomas More

Mrs V Ebdon 01634 864701

## Parish News

### RETRouvaille: A PROGRAMME FOR COUPLES STRUGGLING IN THEIR MARRIAGES

**Help Your Marriage** – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a **Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024** or a **Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024**, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE COURSE

As part of the preparation for the 2025 Jubilee year, the Southwark Marriage and Family Team will be running a Building a Better Marriage Course throughout the Archdiocese from February 2024. The one-day course is for married couples (whether married for one year, 60 years or anywhere in between). It seeks to help husbands and wives to make their marriage better and to improve their communication skills. There is no group sharing and private information remains private to each couple. Couples who have attended previously have found it enjoyable, informative, and uplifting. For more information contact the Marriage and Family Life team through the Archdiocese of Southwark: website.

<https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life>

### DONATIONS TO MEDWAY FOODBANK

The donation box is available in the lobby for you to donate to the Foodbank all year round. Thank you for your continuing support and generosity.

### UNITED PLAYERS PANTO – ROBIN HOOD

Postcards are available in the church lobby with dates and booking details. Book early as the matinees always get booked up quickly.

**In these difficult times when finances are stretched to the limit, it is our Christian duty to help others. If you need financial support, please call. Fr. Pawel on the parish mobile or speak to him confidentially in person.**



## Community Events

Sun 7 Jan	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection for the Development Fund <b>Epiphany Carol Service at 3pm</b>
Mon 8 Jan	<b>Rosary on Zoom at 6pm</b>
Tue 9 Jan	<b>Evening prayer on Zoom at 6pm</b> <b>Bereavement Support Group in the Parish Hall at 7pm</b>
Wed 10 Jan	<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION TODAY 2pm to 10pm</b>
Thu 11 Jan	<b>Adult Choir Practice in the Church at 8pm</b>
Fri 12 Jan	<b>Children's Choir Practice in the Church at 4.30pm</b> <b>Confirmation Class at 6pm in the Parish Hall</b>
Sat 13 Jan	<b>Purple Reconciliation Service at 11am</b>
Sun 14 Jan	2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection for the SPUC White Flower Appeal
Mon 15 Jan	<b>Rosary on Zoom at 6pm</b>
Tue 16 Jan	<b>Evening prayer on Zoom at 6pm</b>
Wed 17 Jan	<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION TODAY 2pm to 10pm</b>
Thu 18 Jan	<b>Adult Choir Practice in the Church at 8pm</b>
Fri 19 Jan	<b>Confirmation Class at 6pm in the Parish Hall</b>
Sat 20 Jan	<b>Baptism Course 10am to 12 noon</b>
Sun 21 Jan	<b>No 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this weekend.</b> <b>Liturgy Meeting after 11am Mass</b>

### Prayer for Peace

Father in Heaven, have mercy on us and on the whole world! You sent Your Son, the Prince of Peace, for the salvation of the world. We pray that the Peace of Christ will reign in the whole world. Please protect and send aid to those who are at-risk. We pray for peace - we pray for all who are working towards it and for all who are in danger from these conflicts. We pray for an end to violence and war, we pray for wisdom for all leaders who have a hand in this. Lord God, please help those in most need of your mercy. Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us! Saint Joseph, Protector of Mary, Jesus and the Church, pray for us! Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, may your kingdom reign in all the world. Amen.