



# St. Margaret Clitherow's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, 4 Kingswood Drive, Dulwich Wood Park, London SE19 1UR  
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020 8670 1639

Parish Priest: Fr Luke Marappillil

Parish Secretary: Steve Pearce (available Wednesday/Friday 12:30-3:30pm)

**Confessions:** Monday-Saturday 30 minutes before the Mass or at call.

**Baptism, Marriages & Visits:** please call.

## 22 December 2019: Fourth Sunday of Advent [A]

### Mass Intentions/Service Times

Saturday	21 Dec	06.30pm:	David Crean RIP	
Sunday	22 Dec	09.00am:	Brazilian Community	
		10.30am:	Ted Hedges (Wellbeing)	
			<b>Christmas Raffle Draw</b> followed by Children's Mass rehearsal	
Monday	23 Dec	9.00am:	Gordon Heald (wellbeing)	Feria
		7.30pm:	Confessions	
Tuesday	24 Dec	10.00am:	<b>NO MASS</b>	Christmas Eve
		05.00pm:	Children's Christmas Mass	
		07.30pm:	Vigil Mass by the Brazilian Community	
		10.00pm:	Carols and Readings	
Wednesday	25 Dec		People of the parish	First Mass of Christmas
		10.30am:	Yvonne Minnekeer (Wellbeing)	<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>

**Last Week's Collections:** Parish: £221.67; Brazilian chaplaincy: £198.45; 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection (Flowers):£80.84 .Many Thanks.

**Open House: No Open House on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

**First Holy Communion Enrolment Ceremony:** Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020 during 10.30am Mass.

**Missio Red Boxes:** There are still red boxes outstanding. Please bring them into Church as soon as possible.

**Crib Offering:** For Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund, which provides emergency grants for children and families in our Archdiocese who are facing a crisis in their lives.

**Christmas Eve/Day Collection:** It is your personal gift to your parish priest. Christmas Collection Envelopes are at the back of the church.

**Thank You:** To all who have helped giving their time and worked so hard in getting the church ready for Christmas – cleaning the church, preparing the crib, the Christmas Tree, the Raffle, the flowers and decorations, the children's Mass, the music and what not!

**Clergy Support Fund:** The Church rely on the generosity of the parishes and its parishioners to help support the diocese's sick and retired priests. Contributions can be made by phone, the web or post. Please see the poster at the back of the Church for more details.

### The Fourth Week of Advent: The Wisdom and Holiness of St Joseph

Although Mary and Jesus are rightly the focus of the Christmas story, this week we celebrate the quiet man of Christianity, Joseph, the husband of Mary. Today let us reflect on his mature wisdom and holiness and his embrace of God's plan of salvation. Along with Mary, he showed great faith in God's word to him and also great trust in his young wife. That's why in the Middle Ages, Catholics had a deep admiration for Joseph and a true devotion to him, a devotion which perhaps we have lost.

Why not we also see Joseph as a saint for today, with much to teach us through the great trust and fidelity he showed to God, to his wife and, above all, to his foster child Jesus. We can see him as an inspiration and as an example of fatherly love and fidelity. He is a saint for all who adopt the role of father whether or not they are fathers by blood of those precious sons and daughters for whom they are now responsible. In just three days we celebrate the birth of Jesus and today we sing a hymn of praise and thanks to God for the gift of Joseph – the man of faith, the protector of his beloved wife Mary and the child she bore in her womb.

**My soul proclaims you, mighty God, All nations now will share my joy**

**My spirit sings your praise.**

**You look on me, you lift me up,**

**And gladness fills my days.**

**Your gifts you have outpoured.**

**Your little one you have made great;**

**I magnify my God.**

**Then let all nations praise our God,**

**The Father and the Son,**

**The Spirit blest who lives in us,**

**While endless ages run.**

Fr Luke