

# THE PARISH OF THE ASCENSION, LAVENDER HILL

Sunday 23 March 2025  
Third Sunday of Lent

11.00am Solemn Mass

*A very warm welcome to everyone especially if this is your first visit.  
Please join us for refreshments following the service.*

*Please take this order of service away with you*

---

## THIS WEEK

|                    |                           |  |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Observances</b> | Monday:                   | <i>Lent Feria</i>  |
|                    | Tuesday:                  | <b>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</b><br><b>Sung Mass: 7.00pm</b>                      |
|                    | Wednesday:                | <i>Lent Feria</i><br><b>Stations of the Cross: 7.00pm</b><br><b>Low Mass: 7.30pm</b> |
|                    | Thursday:                 | <i>Lent Feria</i><br><b>Low Mass: 6.30pm</b> <i>PCC meeting follows</i>              |
|                    | Friday:                   | <i>Lent Feria</i><br><b>Low Mass: 10.00am</b>  |
|                    | Saturday:                 | <i>Lent Feria</i><br><b>Holy Rosary: 9.30am</b><br><b>Low Mass: 10.00am</b>          |
|                    | Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> : | <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b><br>[Mothering Sunday]<br><b>Solemn Mass: 11.00am</b>    |

*Website:*

**[ascensionlavenderhill.org.uk](http://ascensionlavenderhill.org.uk)**

*Email:*

**[ascensionsw11@gmail.com](mailto:ascensionsw11@gmail.com)**

*Phone:*

**020 7228 5340**

*A warm welcome to the Ascension, Lavender Hill. We are a Parish of the Diocese of Southwark and under the Episcopal care of the Bishop of Fulham. If you would like to know more about the Ascension, have queries about baptisms, weddings and funerals, or any questions about the Christian Faith, please speak to the Parish Priest, Fr Philip, who will be pleased to assist you:*

**Fr Philip Kennedy**

tel: 020 7228 5340

email: ascensionsw11@gmail.com

*We are a registered charity, and rely principally on donations to sustain our work. Please give as generously as you are able, either at the Offertory or by scanning the QR code below.*

*If you are a taxpayer and are able to gift-aid your donation please do so by either placing your cash donation into a blue envelope and filling in your details on the front, or ask one of the Churchwardens for a Gift Aid form.*

*Thank you for your support.*



*Our **Churchwardens** are the Bishop's representatives in the Parish (elected by the parishioners) and work together with Fr Philip to ensure the smooth running of the Parish. They can be contacted as follows:*

**MRS ANN WARWICK**  
annwarwick1@aol.com

**MS CHERYL HARPER**  
cherylharper1964@hotmail.com

*We take the **safeguarding** of children and vulnerable adults very seriously. Here are the details of our **Parish Safeguarding Officers**, who should be the first point of contact for any concerns:*

**MS RUTH CANSDALE**  
07737 116364

**MR ALEX BANSON**  
020 7738 1916

# THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*Please stand when the bell rings.*

## ENTRANCE HYMN

Forty days and forty nights  
Thou wast fasting in the wild,  
Forty days and forty nights  
Tempted and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day,  
Chilly dewdrops nightly shed,  
Prowling beasts about thy way,  
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

Let us thine endurance share,  
And awhile from joys abstain,  
With thee watching unto prayer,  
Strong with thee to suffer pain.

And if Satan, vexing sore,  
Flesh or spirit should assail,  
Thou, his vanquisher before,  
Grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine,  
Holier gladness ours shall be,  
Round us too shall angels shine,  
Such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,  
Ever constant by thy side,  
That with thee we may appear  
At the eternal Eastertide.

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

*The priest introduces the Mass.*

## **PENITENTIAL ACT**

*The priest introduces the confession. Silence is kept for recollection of our sins.*

**I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done  
and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

## **KYRIE ELEISON**

Lord, have mercy upon us. **Lord, have mercy upon us.**  
Christ, have mercy upon us. **Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
Lord, have mercy upon us. **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## **COLLECT**

Let us pray.

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,  
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving  
have shown us a remedy for sin,  
look graciously on this confession of our lowliness,  
that we, who are bowed down by our conscience,  
may always be lifted up by your mercy.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

*All sit for the readings.*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## FIRST READING: EXODUS 3: 1-8, 13-15

In those days: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, 'I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.' When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' And he said, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, 'I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.'

Then Moses said to God, 'If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I Am Who I Am.' And he said, 'Say this to the people of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you." ' God also said to Moses, 'Say this to the people of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 19

*Response:* **The Lord is compassionate and gracious.**

## SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 10: 1-6

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*All stand to welcome the Gospel.*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*Repent, says the Lord,*

*for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

#### **GOSPEL READING: LUKE 13: 1-9**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

There were some present at that very time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, 'Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.'

And he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vine dresser, "Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?" And he answered him, "Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig round it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." '

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*All sit.*

SERMON: Fr Philip Kennedy, *Vicar*

**THE NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,**  
*All bow at the memorial of the Incarnation:*

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became  
man. *All rise***

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds  
from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is  
adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one  
Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the  
resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

*The response to each prayer:*

**Lord in your mercy,  
Hear our prayer.**

*At the end of the intercessions we pray together:*

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

*All stand to sing the offertory hymn as the altar is prepared. A collection is taken to help with the ministry and mission of the Church.*

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
And in the depth be praise,  
In all his words most wonderful,  
Most sure in all his ways.**

**O loving wisdom of our God!  
When all was sin and shame,  
A second Adam to the fight  
And to the rescue came.**

**O wisest love! that flesh and blood,  
Which did in Adam fail,  
Should strive afresh against the foe,  
Should strive and should prevail;**

**And that a higher gift than grace  
Should flesh and blood refine,  
God's presence and his very self,  
And essence all-divine.**

**O generous love! that he who smote  
In Man for man the foe,  
The double agony in Man  
For man should undergo;**

**And in the garden secretly,  
And on the cross on high,  
Should teach his brethren, and inspire  
To suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,  
And in the depth be praise,  
In all his words most wonderful,  
Most sure in all his ways**



*When the altar is prepared the Priest says:*

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

### **PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings,  
and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins,  
may take care to forgive our neighbour.

Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **PREFACE**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right and just.**

*The priest sings the Preface, after which we sing:*

### **SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS**

**Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth, are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*All kneel or sit as the Eucharistic Prayer continues.*

The mystery of faith:



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion



un-til you come a-gain.

*The prayer concludes "...for ever and ever" to which all reply:*  
**Amen.**

## COMMUNION RITE

*All stand as the priest invites the people to pray:*

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may always be free from sin and safe from all distress as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.**

## THE PEACE

Lord Jesus Christ who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace, I give you: look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And with your spirit.**

## AGNUS DEI

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the  
world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the  
world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the  
world: grant us thy peace.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

*The priest and ministers receive Holy Communion.*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

## HOLY COMMUNION

*If you are baptised and normally receive Holy Communion in your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here today. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come to the altar and cross your arms or bring this order of service with you as a sign to the priest.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
And purge away my sin;  
From earthborn passions set me free,  
And make me pure within.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
With care and woe opprest;  
Let me thy loving servant be,  
And taste thy promised rest.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
Amid the battle's strife;  
In all my pain and misery  
Be thou my health and life.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,  
Nor let me go astray;  
Through darkness and perplexity  
Point thou the heavenly way.**

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
When flows the tempest high:  
When on doth rush the enemy  
O Saviour, be thou nigh.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
That, when the flood is past,  
I may the eternal brightness see,  
And share thy joy at last.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*All stand.*

Let us pray.

As we receive the pledge  
of things yet hidden in heaven  
and are nourished while still on earth  
with the Bread that comes from on high,  
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,  
that what is being brought about in us in mystery  
may come to true completion.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### NOTICES

*All sit.*

### BLESSING & DISMISSAL

*All stand.*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and +the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**



**V.** Go forth, the Mass is end-ed.

**R.** Thanks be to God.

## THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary.  
**And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour  
of our death. Amen.**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.  
**Be it unto me according to thy word.**  
*Hail Mary...*

And the Word was made Flesh.  
**And dwelt among us.**  
*Hail Mary...*

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.  
**That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray.  
We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts; that as we  
have known the Incarnation of thy Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of  
an angel, so by his Cross and Passion may we be brought to the glory of  
his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### FINAL HYMN

**From ashes to the living font  
Your Church must journey, Lord,  
Baptised in grace, in grace renewed  
By your most holy word.**

**Through fasting, prayer, and charity,  
Your voice speaks deep within,  
Returning us to ways of truth  
And turning us from sin.**

**Frm desert to the mountaintop  
In Christ our way we see,  
So, tempered by temptation's might  
We might transfigured be.**

**For thirsting hearts let waters flow  
Our fainting souls revive;  
And at the well your waters give  
Our everlasting life.**

**From ashes to the living font  
Your Church must journey still,  
Through cross and tomb to Easter joy,  
In Spirit-fire fulfilled.**

## **ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

*Please remain standing until the procession has left the church.*

CCLI REGISTRATION NO: 1405641

## **FOR OUR PRAYERS**

*Those in need*

Elly Kostur, Jean Tester, Cath Papangelou, Maureen Papangelou, Shabnam Mehdi-Poor, Alvin Rhodon, Andrew Woods, Carol Farley, Luke Guthrie, Alan, Roy Norton, Robin Farquhar-Thomson, Victoria, Tina Guthrie, Vicki Guthrie, Becky Saint, Joanne Donaghy, Joan Aubee, Peggy Ossawy, Roberto Giuffrida, Neal.

*We pray for peace in the Holy Land.*

*Recently departed*

Rita Elba, Margaret Brasier, Ezra Linke, Gordon Reid (pr)

*Anniversaries of death*

23: Lucy Ann French

24: Catherine Gertrude Poynter, John Burt

25: George Prynne (pr), George Bounds, Douglas Smith, Lydia Bertha Roffe, Vivien Joan Goodman

26: Sydney Biggs, Eliza Ellen Scarman, Roy Mingay

28: Arthur Stanton (pr), Alfred Green, Maisie Lock, Germaine de Kimpe  
William Sirr (pr)

29: Wilfred John Marcham

# NOTICES

## OUR THANKS

to Frederick Stocken for playing the organ today in Brian's absence.

## THE ANNUNCIATION: THIS TUESDAY

Sung Mass at 7.00pm. Visiting preacher: Fr Timothy Newton, Assistant Curate of St Nicholas, Arundel. Followed by drinks

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS: WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH

Stations at 7.00pm, followed by the usual 7.30pm Mass.

## PCC MEETING: THURSDAY 27 MARCH

The next meeting will be Thursday 27 March at 7.00pm, preceded by a Mass at 6.30pm. This will be an **open meeting**, and any member of the parish is welcome to attend. We will be joined by the Archdeacon of Wandsworth During the course of the meeting Fr Philip will outline some future aspirations for the parish, particularly in terms of the future of commercial lettings and some major fabric matters.

## WALSINGHAM CELL SOCIAL EVENING: SATURDAY 29 MARCH

Social evening hosted by Barbara Marcham and Cheryl Harper. Tickets now available: £5.00

## MOTHERING SUNDAY: RAFFLE

Last chance to purchase tickets for the raffle, to be drawn at coffee after Mass on Mothering Sunday.

## NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: MON 26 MAY

To book your place on the coach please speak to Ann or Barbara. £25 per adult; £12.50 per child. Non-refundable deposit of £10. Leaving here: 7.15am.

## ASCENSION DAY

Solemn First Vespers: Saturday 31 May at 5.00pm (with choir), followed by drinks in the clergy house; Sung Mass: Sunday 1 June at 5.00pm.

## SUMMER OUTING: EASTBOURNE ON SAT 28 JUNE

Day trip to Eastbourne - £20 per adult and £10 per child (non-refundable deposit of £10 and £5 respectively) Leaving here: 8.30am

# HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2025

Saturday 12 April: 10.00am Church Cleaning

Sunday 13 April: **PALM SUNDAY**  
10.50am Blessing of Palms, Procession  
& Solemn Mass *begins at Battersea Arts Ctr*

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 6.30pm Confessions  
7.00pm Holy Rosary  
7.30pm **Mass & Address**

[Tuesday only: 11.00am **Chrism Mass**  
*St Andrew, Holborn EC4A 3AF*]

Thursday 17: **HOLY THURSDAY**  
8.00pm **Solemn Mass** of the Lord's  
Supper, Procession & Vigil  
(11.50pm Compline to end the Vigil)

Friday 18: **GOOD FRIDAY**  
10.00am Stations of the Cross  
2.15pm Confessions  
3.00pm **Solemn Liturgy of the Passion**

Saturday 19: **HOLY SATURDAY**  
9.30am Morning Prayer  
10.00am Church cleaning  
8.30pm **Candle Ceremonies, Vigil,**  
**& Solemn First Mass of Easter**

Sunday 20: **EASTER SUNDAY**  
11.00am **Solemn Mass of the Day**  
*followed by celebratory refreshments*

\*

*Please make a careful note of the dates above, and make every effort to be with us for worship in this the most important week of the year for Christians.*