

# THE PARISH OF THE ASCENSION, LAVENDER HILL

Sunday 29 September 2024  
St Michael & All Angels  
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*

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## THIS WEEK

Observances	Monday:	<i>St Jerome</i> <b>Low Mass: 10.00am</b>
	Tuesday:	<i>St Therese of the Child Jesus</i> <b>Low Mass: 10.00am</b>
	Wednesday:	<i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i> No Mass today
	Thursday:	<i>Feria</i> <b>Low Mass: 6.00pm</b>
	Friday:	<i>St Francis of Assisi</i> <b>Low Mass: 10.00am</b>
	Saturday:	<i>St Faustina Kowalska</i> <b>Holy Rosary: 11.00am</b> <b>Low Mass: 11.30am</b>
	Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <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 an excepted 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

Ye holy angels bright,  
Who wait at God's right hand,  
Or through the realms of light  
Fly at your Lord's command,  
Assist our song,  
For else the theme  
Too high doth seem  
For mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,  
Who ran this earthly race,  
And now, from sin released,  
Behold the Saviour's face,  
God's praises sound,  
As in his sight  
With sweet delight  
Ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below,  
Adore your heavenly King,  
And onward as ye go  
Some joyful anthem sing;  
Take what he gives  
And praise him still,  
Through good or ill,  
Who ever lives!

My soul, bear thou thy part,  
Triumph in God above:  
And with a well-tuned heart  
Sing thou the songs of love!  
Let all thy days  
Till life shall end,  
Whate'er he send,  
Be filled with praise.

## **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. Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

#### **COLLECT**

Let us pray.

O God, who dispose in marvellous order  
ministries both angelic and human,  
graciously grant  
that our life on earth may be defended  
by those who watch over us  
as they minister perpetually to you in heaven.  
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: DANIEL 7: 9-10, 13-14**

As I watched:

Thrones were set in place and one of great age took his seat. His robe was white as snow, the hair of his head as pure as wool. His throne was a blaze of flames, its wheels were a burning fire. A stream of fire poured out, issuing from his presence. A thousand thousand waited on him, ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. A court was held and the books were opened. I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 138

*Verses sung by the cantor. The Response after each verse:*



## SECOND READING: APOCALYPSE 12: 7-12

Now war broke out in heaven, when Michael with his angels attacked the dragon. The dragon fought back with his angels, but they were defeated and driven out of heaven. The great dragon, the primeval serpent, known as the devil or Satan, who had deceived all the world, was hurled down to the earth and his angels were hurled down with him. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ, now that the persecutor, who accused our brothers day and night before our God, has been brought down. They have triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the witness of their martyrdom, because even in the face of death they would not cling to life. Let the heavens rejoice and all who live there.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*All stand to welcome the Gospel.*

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Give thanks to the Lord, all his hosts,  
his servants who do his will.*

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING: JOHN 1: 47-51

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming he said of him, 'There is an Israelite who deserves the name, incapable of deceit.' 'How do you know me?' said Nathanael. 'Before Philip came to call you,' said Jesus 'I saw you under the fig tree.' Nathanael answered, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel.' Jesus replied, 'You believe that just because I said: I saw you under the fig tree.'

You will see greater things than that.' And then he added 'I tell you most solemnly, you will see heaven laid open and, above the Son of Man, the angels of God ascending and descending.'

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*All sit*

**HOMILY:** Fr Philip Kennedy, *Vicar*

**THE NICENE CREED**

*All stand*

**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

*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 support the ministry and mission of the Church.*

**Hark! hark, my soul!  
Angelic songs are swelling,  
O'er earth's green fields  
And ocean's wave-beat shore:  
How sweet the truth  
Those blessed strains are telling  
Of that new life  
When sin shall be no more.**

*Angels of Jesus, angels of light,  
Singing to welcome  
The pilgrims of the night!*

**Far, far away,  
Like bells at evening pealing,  
The voice of Jesus  
Sounds o'er land and sea;  
And laden souls,  
By thousands meekly stealing,  
Kind Shepherd, turn  
Their weary steps to Thee.   *Refrain***

**Onward we go,  
For still we hear them singing,  
Come, weary souls,  
For Jesus bids you come;  
And through the dark,  
Its echoes sweetly ringing,  
The music of  
The Gospel leads us home.   *Refrain***



Angels, sing on,  
Your faithful watches keeping;  
Sing us sweet fragments  
Of the songs above,  
Till morning's joy  
Shall end the night of weeping,  
And life's long shadows  
Break in cloudless love.      *Refrain*

*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

We offer you a sacrifice of praise, O Lord,  
humbly entreating,  
that, as these gifts are borne by the ministry of Angels  
into the presence of your majesty,  
so you may receive them favourably  
and make them profitable for our salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

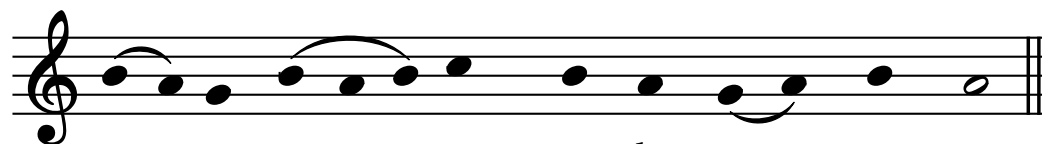
#### PREFACE



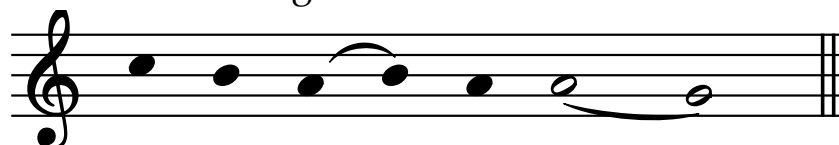
The Lord be with you.  
And with your spi - rit.



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**

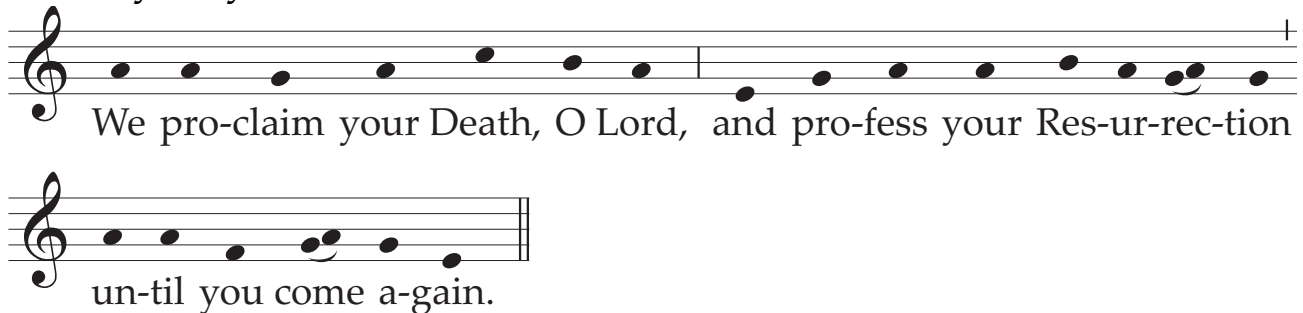
**Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth, are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes 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 always with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the  
world: grant us 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**

How precious is your mercy, O God!

The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*If you are baptised in the name of the Trinity and normally receive Holy Communion in your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here today. If you wish to receive the Precious Blood, please make your way, after receiving the Host, to the chalice-bearer standing in front of the pulpit. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms or bring this order of service with you as a sign to the priest.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

Around the throne of God a band  
Of glorious angels ever stand;  
Bright things they see, sweet harps they hold,  
And on their heads are crowns of gold.

Some wait around him, ready still  
To sing his praise and do his will;  
And some when he commands them, go  
To guard his servants here below.

Lord, give thy angels every day  
Command to guide us on our way,  
And bid them every evening keep  
Their watch around us while we sleep.

So shall no evil thing draw near,  
To do us harm or cause us fear;  
And we shall dwell, when life is past,  
With angels round thy throne at last.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*All stand.*

Having been nourished with heavenly Bread,  
we beseech you humbly, O Lord,  
that, drawing from it new strength,  
under the faithful protection of your Angels,  
we may advance boldly along the way of salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## NOTICES

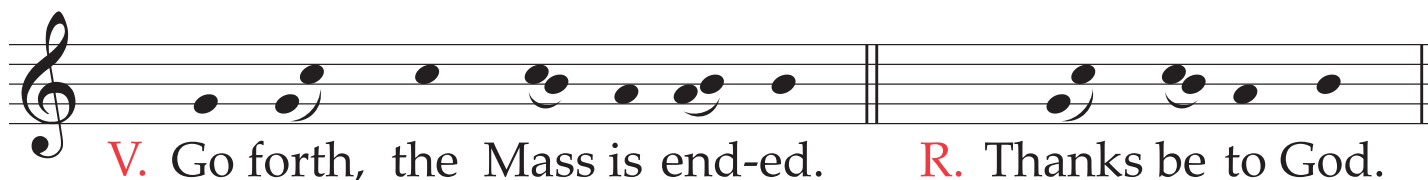
*All sit.*

## 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.**

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

**Come, let us join our cheerful songs  
With angels round the throne.  
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,  
But all their joys are one.**

**Worthy the Lamb that died, they cry,  
To be exalted thus!  
Worthy the Lamb, our lips reply,  
For He was slain for us!**

Jesus is worthy to receive  
Honour and power divine;  
And blessings more than we can give,  
Be, Lord, forever Thine.

Let all that dwell above the sky,  
And air and earth and seas,  
Conspire to lift Thy glories high,  
And speak Thine endless praise!

Let all creation join in one,  
To bless the sacred name  
Of Him who sits upon the throne,  
And to adore the Lamb.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY      *Toccata in F*  
Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

*Please remain standing until the procession has left the church.  
You are warmly invited to join us after Mass for refreshments.*

CCLI:      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, Ann Guthrie, Vicki Guthrie, Becky Saint, Joanne  
Donaghy, Mary Lynagh

### *Recently departed*

Ben Thapa, Deborah Roberts, Valerie Ireland

### *Anniversaries of death*

29: Charles Mulvaney

30: Mary Arnold

1: Nell Burges

3: Annie Gregory

4: Edward March

# NOTICES

## **HARVEST: SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER**

We will observe our harvest festival next Sunday (6<sup>th</sup>). We'd be grateful for donations of non-perishable food items and/or toiletries in support of Olive Branch Aid, the local food bank and advice service run by our Greek Orthodox brothers and sisters at St Nectarios. This charity offers vital support to many living within our geographical parish. More details about them here: <https://olivebranchaid.org/>

After Mass on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>, you're invited to stay for a harvest lunch (soup, bread and cheese). £5 per adult; £3 per child.

## **CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME: FRI 27 DECEMBER**

Parish trip to the New Wimbledon Theatre to see *Jack and the Beanstalk* (2.00pm performance). Tickets: £31.00

## **STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME: SEPT & OCT 2024**

At our most recent PCC meeting it was agreed that a review of our stewardship as a parish is now a priority.

We rely upon (and are extremely grateful for) the time, energy and financial resources offered by so many in our community. Without you, our parish simply would not flourish in the way it does.

As in lots of areas of life at present, while our spending has been prudent, our basic costs are rising at a faster rate than our income via donations (ie at the offertory on Sunday mornings, by the envelope scheme and by standing order).

At present our very basic weekly costs amount to £985.00 per week, and we receive £348 per week via donations. We have at present the guaranteed rental income from the nursery school, though it will come to an end in September 2025. We are working hard to ensure that this income stream from rentals will not be disrupted but there are no guarantees at this stage.

In the coming weeks I will be writing to members of the electoral roll and to all the members of our worshipping community to ask everyone to consider prayerfully a review of (or to begin) their regular giving. In particular, if you do not at present give regularly via standing order or the envelope scheme, might you consider making your contribution in this way?

You will receive this week a stewardship pack, with details of our present situation, and about how your giving will contribute to the life, mission and future of our Parish. I thank you in advance for giving it your prayerful, careful attention. If you would like to discuss anything with me, I'll be glad to fix a time to meet you. Fr Philip

## WALSINGHAM CELL: ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday 9 October: 7.00pm Rosary; 7.30pm Mass, followed by meeting at 8.00pm. Agenda and papers available from Barbara Marcham

### *God's generosity: our response*

From the very beginnings of the Christian Church, when small but growing groups of people were meeting together in houses in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas, God's work depended upon the generosity of God's people.

The early Christians lived together and shared what they had. The Israelites were used to giving to God's work and continued to do so, and they drew the Gentiles and others who joined the group of new believers into doing the same.

As Christians we are, and have always been, compelled to give to God's work with great generosity because of God's generous love for humanity. God loves all the people that he has created and he loves us each as individuals. It is for this reason, in response to all that God has done for us and for the whole of humanity, that we are each called to be generous. Our generosity needs to reflect all that we have, all the gifts that we have from God; the time that we have; the skills which God has given us and the financial resources which God has also given to us.

Our generosity in response to God means that our charitable giving should be a prayerfully considered commitment – as generous as we can, but always in proportion to what we can afford. That's an important thing to bear in mind, particularly at the moment as there are so many calls on our time and money in these straitened times.

In the next few weeks we will be invited to think and to pray more about how we might respond to God's generosity in a way that – in our particular circumstances – is generous, committed and proportionate, in order to support and sustain the life, mission and future of our Parish.