



# THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon  
Edge Hill  
Wimbledon  
London SW19 4LU

1st October 2023

## Newsletter

Vol 9, Issue 32

**Twenty-Sixth Sunday  
(A)**

**Twenty-Sixth Week  
in Ordinary Time**

**Vol III, psalter week 2**

### Next Sunday's Readings

- Isaiah 5:1-7
- Psalm 79:9.12-16.19-20
- Philippians 4:6-9
- Matthew 21:33-43

### Upcoming Events

#### Saturday 30 September

- Bereavement Support, 10.30-11.30am, Lounge
- 6.30pm Farewell Mass for Fr Joe, followed by reception, Upper Hall

#### Thursday 5 October

- Katy's Songbirds, Jambo Bwana Concert, 8pm, Church (see p.3)

#### Friday 6 October

- Friendship Group, 2.30pm, Lounge

#### Saturday 7 October

- Half-day retreat, LHBMS, 10.30am-1pm, Lounge (see p.3)

#### Sunday 8 October

- Children's Liturgy during the 10am Mass

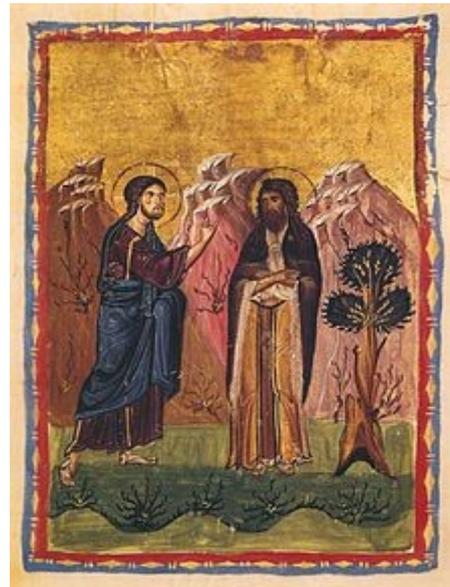
## Accepting the Message of John the Baptist

It is easy to say we'll do something for someone and then never get around to doing it, or, indeed, to forget about it altogether. It's also easy to say we'll do something (or not do something) without thinking about what it would really involve.

In this Sunday's gospel reading Jesus addresses a parable about two sons to the chief priests and elders (the 'righteous'), who were challenging Jesus' authority.

One of the sons tells his father he will go and work in the vineyard but doesn't. The other says no, but then thinks better of it and does.

The parable was aimed at the 'righteous' who did not listen to or accept John the Baptist's



*Jesus and John the Baptist (15th century)*

message of the coming of God's kingdom and the need for our repentance, to change our lives. The despised tax collectors and prostitutes who did listen and repent were going to enter into the kingdom before the 'righteous'.

Do we sometimes take our Christianity, what we profess, for granted without always considering

the depth of its implications - to love God and to love others as much as ourselves, to keep God's commandments, to see Christ in other people and to consider their needs?

*Deacon Julian Burling*

### THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr David Gibbons

Parish Clergy: Fr Joseph Donkor, Fr Matthew Donnelly, Deacon Julian Burling and Deacon Shaun Crocker

Team member: Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU

## FACT

This year's Prisoners' Sunday - the National Day of Prayer and Action for prisoners and their families falls on October 8th. Prisoners' Sunday is an important opportunity for us all to direct our thoughts and prayers to the needs of prisoners, their families and those who work to support them. *Pact* is the national Catholic charity working to support prisoners, people with conviction, and their children and families who may be struggling with stigma, isolation and hardship, as a result. Find out more about *Pact* and about ways to support them at [www.prisonadvice.org.uk](http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk).

### VACANCY - PARISH FAITH MINISTER FOR YOUTH

A replacement for Eleanor Bowman is sought as the Parish Faith Minister for Children, Young Persons and Families. The person appointed will assist the Parish Priest to promote the mission of the Church to the children and young people of the parish, based on the principle of parents as first educators. The post is open to committed and practising Catholics, an enhanced DBS check required, salary: £29,736/year for 35hrs/week.

Please contact [wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk) for a job description and a person specification. Further information may be obtained from Fr David.

Closing date: 16 October

### JESUIT MISSIONS STAMP CUTTING

Volunteers welcome to help trim & sort used stamps to raise money for JM: Thu 5 Oct, 9.30am-12.30pm - coffee provided, please bring your own scissors. 11 Edge Hill.

## Parish News

### FAREWELL TO FR JOE

To celebrate Fr Joe's time at Sacred Heart, everyone is invited to Mass at 6.30pm this Saturday 30 September followed by a 'bring a plate' reception in the Upper Hall. The collection this w/e will be for Fr Joe (donations can also be left with Thelma at the Office).

### SR FRANCIS SSA

Sr Francis SSA from the Parish Team will be retiring after 20 years' service with the Sacred Heart Church. We are truly grateful for her commitment and the time she has spent with us and wish her well in her retirement, God's many blessings and the best of health.

### A WORD OF THANK YOU

Fr David sends his thanks to all who helped with and attended his Induction Mass and the reception afterwards, to make it such a splendid and grace filled occasion.

## Announcements

### FR MICHAEL BARNES SJ

We wish to express our deep appreciation and profound gratitude to Fr Michael Barnes SJ for the many years of helping out at our Parish. Fr Michael will now be taking on a new apostolate and will no longer be able to say Sunday Masses at our church. He will, however, still be celebrating Masses for the Donhead School & Wimbledon College. We wish him all the very best!

### SCHOOL FORMS

There will be a second date for signing of school forms on Tuesday 10 October from 6.30-8pm in the Lower Hall.

### COMMUNION/ CONFIRMATION

We are in the process of making arrangements for the reception of the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Information about the new programmes will be advertised in the Newsletter.

### OCTOBER, THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of *Our Lady of the Rosary* is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. In this month of October, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we can use in order to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

### Rosary for peace

Independent of the above, a group of parishioners will be starting to pray the rosary for peace at 9.30am before the 10am Mass every Saturday. All are welcome!

### RACIAL & CULTURAL INCLUSION

There will be a seminar entitled '*Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion in Our Parishes, Schools and Communities*' at the Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark, from 9.30am-4pm on Saturday 28 Oct. You are welcomed to this archdiocesan initiative by the Commission for Promoting Racial & Cultural Inclusion chaired by Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the Southeast, a stimulating and hope-filled day of discussion. There will be contributions from a range of speakers, including Archbishop John Wilson. For more info & registration (free), please visit <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/commission-for-promoting-racial-and-cultural-inclusion/what-we-do/>.

## Parish Organisations

### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

The Bereavement Team invites everyone experiencing loss in their lives, no matter how long ago, to

drop in for a coffee and a chat: Saturday 30 September from 10.30-11.30am, in the Parish Lounge. ([bereavement@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:bereavement@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk)).

### FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Friday 6 October at 2.30pm in the Lounge: '*It Happened One Night*' film with Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert. Ice creams, tea and cakes; all welcome!

## Social & Cultural

**KATY'S SONGBIRDS**  
Katy's Songbirds are back with a *Jambo Bwana Concert* featuring Fr Joe Donkor, Sacred Heart School Junior Choir and guests on Thursday 5 October at 8pm, Sacred Heart Church, Edge Hill. An unforgettable evening of singing, raising money to complete the build of Pope John Paul II School in Ghana. Pre-concert refreshments in the Upper Hall, tickets by donation on the evening; donations via [justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Jambo-Bwana](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Jambo-Bwana).

**CALLIGRAPHERS**  
Jesuit Missions is looking for volunteers who are calligraphers and who would be willing to share their skills to help create the *Jesuit Missions Book of Remembrance* in honour of JM's deceased supporters. Hundreds of Jesuit Missions supporters have made their work possible

throughout the decades. This November, at the Mass for Holy Souls at Farm Street, JM wants to show their gratitude through prayers and in this unique collection. Please get in touch with [jessica@jesuitmissions.org.uk](mailto:jessica@jesuitmissions.org.uk).

**CATHOLIC PARENTING**  
The Intellectual Formation Group of St. Boniface Catholic Church is delighted to announce that *Ciro Candia*, a distinguished expert in Catholic Parenting, will be delivering a talk on 'Catholic Parenting'; St. Boniface Cafe in Tooting, SW179PG on Thursday 19 October, 7pm. You are warmly invited.

**OPEN MORNING**  
Donhead Preparatory School - celebrating 90 years of outstanding pastoral care and academic achievement - would like to welcome you on Tuesday

17 October. You will witness firsthand their boys in action and experience the spirit, warmth, and ethos in the Donhead community. Introductory talk from the Headteacher at 9.30am, followed by a tour of the school with our Yr 6 pupils. (Register at <https://www.donhead.org.uk/admissions/open-morning-registration>)

**SCHOOL TOURS**  
If you are looking for a nursery or reception place for 2024 please book a school tour to discover what makes Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School special <http://www.sacredheart.merton.sc.h.uk/admissions>.

**VACANCY**  
Wimbledon College: FT Finance Officer, please visit [www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk](http://www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk) for detailed information; closing date 11 October.

### New to the Parish?

Please introduce yourself to a member of the Parish Team after Mass and register online at <https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/> or by filling in a registration form, available at the back of the church.

**WINTER NIGHT SHELTER**  
Our parish would like to continue the support of the Merton Winter Night Shelter run by *Faith in Action*, providing homeless people with food and secure shelter over 14 weeks from December-March. For more detailed information and to find out how you can get involved and support this cause please contact Nandita Nelson or Suzie Wallat-Vago at [sacredheartWNS@hotmail.com](mailto:sacredheartWNS@hotmail.com).

**RETRouvaille**  
*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. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next face to face w/e in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October, contact 07887 296 983 or 07973 380 443, [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk).

## Exploring our Faith

**LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT**  
You are invited to a half-day retreat of quiet reflection at Sacred Heart Church (Lounge) on Saturday 7 October from 10.30am-1pm with Holy Rosary, a video talk by Sr Doctor Betty Nina (MD/Physician, The Medical Sisters of St Joseph's, Kerala, India, Spiritual Director LHBMS), followed by discussion; Christian Meditation, Healing Prayers; starting with tea & coffee. ([www.lovehealsbodymindspirit.com](http://www.lovehealsbodymindspirit.com)).

**PILGRIMAGE TO YORK**  
On the w/e of the 21/22 October, Young Catholic Adults and the Traditional English Association of Catholic History will be organising a pilgrimage to York to visit the shrine of St. Margaret Clitherow, York Oratory, the Bar Convent and St. Mary's Abbey - an event aimed at young Catholic adults & Catholics interested in history. For details & booking visit <https://bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-yorkpilgrimage-2023>

**HOLY FATHER'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION**  
The Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month and we are invited to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention: *For the Synod, we pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.*

### SAFEGUARDING

It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. Further safeguarding information can be found on the parish website.

### CELEBRANTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

6.30pm (Sat) Fr Joseph Donkor  
8.00am Fr Matthew Donnelly  
10.00am Fr Joseph Donkor & Deacon Julian Burling  
12 noon Fr David Gibbons & Deacon Julian Burling  
5.00pm Fr David Gibbons  
8.00pm Fr Matthew Donnelly

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 30 6.30pm Marian Tadeusz Owoc RIP  
Mon 2 10.00am Tom Meegan Ints., prayers for the family  
6.30pm Pat McManus RIP  
Tue 3 10.00am John Colaco Ints.  
6.30pm Cynthia Rebello Birthday Ints.  
Wed 4 10.00am Peter's Conversion  
6.30pm Neville Newton RIP  
Thu 5 10.00am Thanksgiving Mass  
6.30pm Elizabeth Rose Tan Ints.  
Fri 6 10.00am Sheela Valavi Thanksgiving  
6.30pm Anna & Naldo Javelosa RIP  
Sat 7 10.00am Sisters of St Anne Thanksgiving

### HOSPITAL CONTACTS

If you or a member of your family are admitted to one of the local hospitals, do please let the hospital's Catholic chaplain know.

St George's Hospital: Fr Peter Littleton (020 8725 3069 or 020 8672 1255)

St Heliers and Epsom Hospital: Fr Philip Pak (020 8296 2000)

Kingston Hospital: Fr Tony Oleh (020 8546 7711)

### EXPOSITION

Wednesdays & Fridays  
after the 10.00am Mass  
and from 5.25 - 6.25pm

### RECONCILIATION

Monday - Saturday:  
6.00 - 6.20pm  
and Saturday morning  
10.30 - 11.30am

### MUSIC AT THE 12 NOON MASS

Kyrie/Sanctus/Agnus Dei I: *Missa Aeterna Christi Munera*, GP da Palestrina  
Offertory motet: *Super flumina Babylonis*, GP da Palestrina  
Communion motet: *Agnus Dei II*, GP da Palestrina

If you wish to include items in the weekly newsletter, please keep them brief, - if possible no more than 40 words - send them by Tuesday before publication to [newsletter@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk) / [wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk)

### PARISH SERVICES

Parish Office/Reception Hours: 9am - 4pm (Mon-Fri), 020 8946 0305

Executive Assistant & Hall bookings: Thelma D'Costa (Mon - Fri 9am - 4pm) Caretaker: George McLennan

Parish Pastoral Council: [ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk)

Baptism, Marriage, First Sacraments, Funerals contact the parish office.

Bereavement Support: one to one support or bereavement drop-in, for more information please contact the co-ordinator by email [bereavement\\_group@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto:bereavement_group@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk)

Sacred Heart SVP Conference meets to help those living locally in need. All enquiries are dealt with confidentiality. Leave contact details with the parish office or email [presidentA190704@svp.org.uk](mailto:presidentA190704@svp.org.uk).

### WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

**Those who have died recently:** Annie McHugh and Liam Rabbit

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Irena Skotarczak Harding, Fr Michael O'Halloran SJ, Fr Michael Ashworth SJ, Angela Mondelli, Horace D'Cruz, John Park, Joyce Laundry, Patrick McManus, John Murphy, Josephine McCourt, Fernand Laloux and Nancy Cardew

**The sick:** Zachary Roberts, Audra Wamsteker, Penelope Sewell, Hui Lee Ng, Alexia Graham, Natalie Williams, Karolina Masica, David Fry, Paul Stromborg, Mike Greene, Teresa Escalona, Donal Weir, Giovanni Baldacchino, Kim Carr, Luca Buttaci, David Steele, Shanu Mathew, Maureen May, Ryan Lyndsey, Samar Staussi, Emily Grey and Andrew Tan

Please note that for data protection reasons, individuals must explicitly agree for their names to be mentioned in our newsletter. Please let the Parish Office know in writing if either your name or the names of your relatives and friends should appear in our sick list.



### COLLECTIONS

Last weekend's collection for the Winter Night Shelter raised £2,057.80.

Thank you for your generous support of this good cause.

### FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

**Mon 2 Oct** The Holy Guardian Angels, Memorial  
**Tue 3 Oct** Feria  
**Wed 4 Oct** St Francis of Assisi, Memorial  
**Thu 5 Oct** Feria  
**Fri 6 Oct** Feria  
**Sat 7 Oct** Our Lady of the Rosary, Memorial

For donations, please scan the QR Code with your phone; your donation will help fund the wide range of liturgical, spiritual and cultural activities which run in the parish. Thank you.

