



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

Tel: 020 8946 0305
Email: wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk
Web: www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk

Sacred Heart Presbytery
Edge Hill, Wimbledon
London, SW19 4LU

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Newsletter

Vol 3, Issue 43

First Sunday of Advent

Weekday Readings for
1st week of Advent
(B)

Vol I. psalter week I

Next Sunday's Readings

- Isaiah 40:1-5.9-11
- Ps 84:9-14. R.v8
- 2 Peter 3:8-14
- Mark 1:1-8

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Advent: Spreading the Sweet Aroma of Christ

Just as we often perceive a sweet aroma before identifying the source, so do we embrace the Season of Advent as we move towards Christmas. Advent is the beautiful season that helps us prepare to celebrate in the best possible way, the birth of Christ. It helps us to spread the sweet aroma of Christ far and near - the gentle fragrance of love, peace, joy and hope, indeed of goodness, kindness, forgiveness, generosity, mercy and selfless sacrifice. These make our life and our world a better place.



While Advent calls for prayers and examination of self in order to make oneself more worthy to receive our Loving

Saviour, it makes imperative and highlights the need to identify Him in the needy and suffering 'other' in the family, the neighbourhood, the community, the Church, the society and the world at large.

Each year, the Church of the Sacred Heart, through her Crib Appeal, turns a loving gaze and extends a willing hand to any place where charity is mostly needed. We follow our hearts because our charity has no

boundaries. This year, there is a call closer to home: **Christian Care Association - CCA** - in the London Borough of Merton. In times like this, when the 'weather is cold', difficult and stressful, when both money and food can be scarce, this charity each year, befriends, listens and supports over 150 families whose lives are in crisis. We shall read more on this in the following weeks. The cold weather notwithstanding, here customarily, our hearts are warm. We are always poised to spread the sweet aroma of Christ far and near. As in many other wonderful things, the parish stands out in charity!

THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest: Canon John Clark MA
Parish Clergy: Fr Thaddeus Nwokeji and Deacon Julian Burling
Also Resident: Canon Elias Vojtech, Giovanni Prandini (Student)
Team Members: Sr Francis SSA, Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU and Cristina Connolly

THE LISTENING HEART

The Listening Heart, a book of prayers, some of which are beautifully illustrated, is now available at the Presbytery Reception. It would make a lovely present for Christmas.

VATICAN DECREE ON HOLYDAYS

With effect from the First Sunday of Advent 2017, two holydays of obligation are being reinstated. This decision was made by the Bishops of England and Wales, and has been confirmed by the Holy See: **The Epiphany of the Lord** - 6 January (transferred to the adjacent Sunday when it falls on Saturday or Monday) and **The Ascension of the Lord** - Thursday after Sixth Sunday of Easter.

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK

On Thursday 7 December, the vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayer and fasting are urgently needed, and it really does save lives. Please also pray that buffer zones around abortion centres won't be introduced. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting see www.goodcounselnetwork.com

STAMP CUTTING AT JESUIT MISSIONS

The next stamp cutting and sorting session will be on Thursday 14 December at 9.30am at 11 Edge Hill, SW19 4RL. Please donate any used or old stamps, collections to this address at any time.

Parish News

AT HOME

There will be **no** 'At Home' until mid December.

SCHOOL SLIPS

School slips will be collected this weekend.

MORNING PRAYER

We continue the celebration of Morning Prayer from the Divine Office each Wednesday morning in the Sacred Heart Chapel at 9.40am before 10am Mass.

ADVENT BOOKLETS

The Advent booklets 'My Day by Day' are now available at the back of the church.

Announcements

CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS

There is a need for volunteer catechists to help with the preparation classes for next year's confirmation programme which begins in January. Should you be willing to assist, please kindly send an email to edgesw19@gmail.com (Fr Ted and the Confirmation Team).

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now your voice needs to be made

heard to tell them not to return on their promise to Catholics: visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

SH YOUNG ADULTS HOUSE

We are starting a Catholic community house for young adults in Wimbledon, based in Edge Hill and supported by the parish and the Jesuit community. We have space for 16 young adults (between 22 - 35 yrs), who are enthusiastic about the idea of living together in a way that reflects our shared Catholic faith and of being of service to the parish. For more information or to arrange a viewing, please contact edwarddequay@hotmail.com

CONFESSIONS

Please note that the First Communion children will

have their Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday 9 December at 10.30am. The 3-4pm and 6-6.20pm that Saturday confessions will take place as usual. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers during their preparation time for First Holy Communion.

NOTICES

Notices for the back of the church and the porch: Please **do not** post or fix notices on the church door or notice boards, would you please always present them to the Presbytery before putting them on display in the church!

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

The next continental breakfast with a Christmas theme will be served on Sunday 17 December in the Lower Hall after the 8.15am Mass up to 12 noon. All welcome!

Parish Organisations

WCFG

The Wimbledon Cancer Friendship Group offers friendship, information and a listening ear to anyone affected by any cancer.

The festive period is around the corner and to celebrate you are invited to a Christmas Party in the dining room of the Wimbledon Guild on

Thursday 14 December, 7.30

-9pm. Food and drinks will be provided, so please let them know if you can attend. 30/32 Worple Road (side door on right-hand side of the building), SW19 4EF; 07948 767 936, wcfg@live.co.uk Please note that there will be no December drop-in due to the holidays.

ART GROUP

The Art Group will have its last meeting of the year on Tuesday 5 December from 2.15 - 4.15pm. The theme is 'seasonal plants in art' or bring your own work. Some materials available. All welcome.

Social, Cultural & Notices

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2017

Invitation & volunteer forms for this year's Christmas lunch are available at the back of the church. Please return the slip to the Presbytery. We will contact you with further details.

'T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

MyRaynesPark will once again be presenting an 'open mic' evening of stories, poems and other readings relating to Christmas on Monday 4 December from 7.15-9pm at the Raynes Park Library. If you want to read your own compositions or a favourite piece from the treasury of Christmas literature, email reading@my_raynespark.co.uk to be sure of a performance space, or simply come along and enjoy the evening.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

St Augustine's Church in

Hammersmith are requiring volunteers to help to teach English to refugees 3x/week. If you are interested please contact Marie Marin la Meslee on 020 8748 3254 or info@austin-forum.org.

THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS

The Sacred Heart Chorus would like to invite singers to join them for a performance of this work on 9 June 2018. If you are interested, please register via <http://www.sacredheartmusic.co.uk/concerts/the-dream-of-gerontius-chorus-call/>

WINTER FUEL ALLOWANCE

If any older parishioner in receipt of this allowance from the Government would like to donate some or part of their allowance to a local charity working in our community to help those in pov-

erty and with poor or no housing, please think of either *Christian Care Merton* www.christiancaremerton.org.uk or *Faith in Action Homelessness Project* www.mertonfaithinaction.org. Tax-payers can add to the value of their donation at no cost to themselves by using Gift Aid. Thank you.

VACANCIES

Wimbledon College are seeking to recruit a term time only Kitchen Assistant for 5 hrs per day, please contact Val Turpin on 020 8879 9355 or see the School Website www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk for full details. Wimbledon College require a Clerk to Governors, please contact the College Secretary, Mrs Annette Lawlor collegesecretary@wimbledoncollege.org.uk or 020 8879 9323 to enquire.

New to the Parish?

Please introduce yourself to a member of the Parish Team after Mass and complete a parish registration form available at the back of the church.

BABES IN THE WOOD

The Edge Hill Players are busy rehearsing for our next pantomime *Babes In The Wood* and tickets are now available at www.edgehillplayers.com Performances will take place on Saturdays 27 January 2018 at 2.30 & 7pm and 3 February at 2.30 & 7pm. Book your tickets now for a special early bird price (£12 for adults, £6 for children or £30 for a family of four. For further ticket information please contact edgehillplayers@gmail.com or 07742 230493.

CHRISTIAN CARE

CC have a number of families in need of furniture at the moment and their stocks are very low, they would require:
Double beds & mattresses
Single beds & mattresses
1 King size mattress (fire label required, stain free)
Chest of drawers
Small wardrobes
Bedside cabinets
Sofas
Dining tables for 2 or 4 pers
Coffee tables
Pots and pans
Kitchen implements
Sets of cutlery
Ironing boards
Any offers can be made by contacting 020 3302 0181 or christiancaremerton@gmail.com

Exploring our Faith

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The SH Charismatic Prayer Group will be meeting in church on Monday 4 December for Prayer, Praise and Worship at 7.30 - 9pm. All are welcome! Any enquiries contact: 07958 782779 Audra.

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

You are invited to a talk of a series of Evenings of Faith led by Fr Luiz Ruscillo on 'Life in the Spirit: A call to continual conversion' on Tuesday 5 December at 7pm at the Challoner Room, 24 Golden Square, W1F 9JR; pizza & wine/juice served. For more

info visit www.faith.org.uk/events/evenings-of-faith

LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT

Love Heals Body Mind and Spirit Team welcome you to come to a half day Retreat of quiet Reflection on Saturday 9 December 10.30am - 1pm at the Sacred Heart Church. For enquiries please contact Eileen and David Brum (lovehealsbodymindspirit@gmail.com or 020 8542 2476)

A DAY WITH MARY

Do come for a day of instruction, devotion and intercession on Saturday 16 December at Sacred Heart

from 10.45am - 5.45pm. Entry Procession of Our Lady, Angelus, Crowning, Sung Litany, Mass in honour of Our Lady; celebrant and preacher Canon John Clark, sermons on Our Lady by Canon Elias Vojtech and Fr Thaddeus Nwokeji. Please visit www.adaywithmary.org for more information.

MOUNT STREET JESUIT CENTRE

'O Come, O Come Emmanuel' Biblical Reflections on the 'O' Antiphons, a one day workshop on Saturday 16 December from 11am-4pm facilitated Brian Purfield. For full details please visit www.pathwaystogod.org.

CELEBRANTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

6.30pm (Sat) Fr T Nwokeji 11.15am Fr C Carabott
8.15am Fr A Nunes SJ 12.45pm Fr Kinga SJ
8.30am* Fr T Nwokeji 5.00pm Fr T Nwokeji
9.45am Canon V Elias 8.00pm Fr C Carabott

* SH School Mass Centre

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 2 6.30pm Monteiro Family Ints.
Mon 4 7.30am Thanksgiving Ints.
10.00am Dced Members of the Roche Family RIP
6.30pm Barbara Kaluba Ints.
Tue 5 7.30am Nicholas Ints.
10.00am Ines Roel Miranda RIP
6.30pm Dced Members of the Hearty Family RIP
Wed 6 7.30am Paddy Rogers RIP
10.00am Bridget O'Donnell RIP
6.30pm Nicholas Ints.
Thu 7 7.30am Alice & Patrick Slattery RIP
10.00am Mary Meads RIP
6.30pm Nicholas Ints.
Fri 8 7.30am Patrick Dantas RIP
10.00am Thomas & Gretta Conway RIP
6.30pm Nicholas Ints.
Sat 9 7.30am Robert Micetich Thanksgiving
10.00am Nicholas Ints.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Marie-Josephine Nyunt, Mary Henderson

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Nicholas Howard, Patrick Kelly, Natalino Falzon, Richard Milward, Matthew De Souza

The sick: Bruno Delrieux, Bertha D'Costa, Carol Donnelly, Richard Hurst, Horace D'Cruz, Paul Helm, Brian Sewell, Cath O'Neill, Lalita Nagar, Sheila Johnstone, Judex Celine, John Burke-Gafney, John Douglas, Richard Conceicao, Fr Michael O'Halloran SJ, Linda Day, Fr Phelim McGowan SJ, Eddie Power, Tom Searle, Iris Desmier, Sandra Broadbent, Daphne Minas, Gabriel Godfrey, Sr Charmaine, Yvonna Patton, Tracy Byrne, Giena Worth, Ronnie Bradnick, Alexander Skachkov, Baby Bleu Denley Saunders, Joan Paul, Frank Micetich, Roberto Luigi Farina, Sophia Ridley, Avril Brown, Cindy Bayat, Bernadette McMurray, Anne Medicraft, Carol Escalona, David Fyfe, Mary Wallace, Rita Westbrook, Angela de Leon, Alina Hancock, Teresa Scanlon, Michael Hoskins, Electa Almeida, Caleb Edser, Julian Eddy, Troy Najair, Margaret Lumley and Andrew Tan

[Please advise the Reception when names can be removed.]



COLLECTIONS

Collection at Mass last Sunday came to £1,574 in loose plate giving and £786 from the Planned Giving envelopes making a total of £2,360. This does not include £4,000 from monthly standing orders.

The second collection for the *Catholic Youth Service* raised £1,581. Thank you for your generosity.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

Monday 4 December St John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Tuesday 6 December St Nicholas of Myra, Bishop

Thursday 7 December St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Friday 8 December The Immaculate Conception of BVM

Saturday 9 December St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

EXPOSITION

Sundays: 3.00 - 4.00pm

(Prayers for the Pope and the Catholic Church in Britain)

Wednesdays: after the 7.30am and 10.00am Masses and 5.25 - 6.25pm

Fridays: 5.25 - 6.25pm

On first Fridays of the month there is exposition from after the 6.30pm Mass to Midnight.

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays:

10.30 - 11.30am

3.00 - 4.00pm

6.00 - 6.20pm

Monday - Friday:

6.00 - 6.20pm

MUSIC AT THE 11.15am MASS

Mass XVII, Plainsong

Ad te levavi, J.C. Aiblinger

Confortamini et iam, Orlando di Lasso

PARISH SERVICES

Parish Office/Reception Hours: 9am - 5pm (Mon-Fri) 9.30am - 1pm (Sat) 9am - 1pm (Sun) [A range of religious and greeting cards are on sale at very competitive prices - please feel free to call to view.]

Executive Assistant & Hall bookings: Thelma D'Costa (Mon - Fri 9.30am - 5pm)

Parish Pastoral Council: sacredheartwimbledonppc@gmail.com

Baptism, Marriage, First Sacraments, Funerals contact the parish 020 8946 0305

Bereavement Support: For more information please contact the co-ordinator by email bereavementsacredheart@gmail.com or call 020 8946 5198, Referral forms available in the Presbytery Reception

Admission to Hospital: RC hospital chaplains will only be aware of your admission if you specifically ask for the hospital chaplaincy team to be informed. Please tell a member of the ward staff, it is also helpful to let your parish priest know.