



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Presbytery
 Edge Hill, Wimbledon
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Newsletter

Vol 5, Issue 43

First Sunday of Advent

**First Week of Advent
(A)**

Vol. I psalter week I

Next Sunday's Readings

- Isaiah 11:1-10
- Ps 71:1-2,7-8,12-13,17. R.cf.v.7
- Romans 15:4-9
- Matthew 3:1-12

Inside this issue:

The Season of Advent	1
Parish News	2
Announcements	2
Parish Organisations	2
Social, Cultural & Notices	3
Exploring our Faith	3
Mass times & Intentions	4

The Season of Advent

Therefore, ...you too must stand ready...

We finished the liturgical year last Sunday with the Feast of Christ the King.

Today we begin the new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent, and we will be guided through the coming year with the help of St. Matthew, the Evangelist.

This Season of Advent is a time when we prepare for two comings. The first is the appearance in our world of Christ on the very first Christmas Day; we get ourselves ready to celebrate the anniversary of that great event in the life of the world. But while we are doing this, we are also preparing ourselves for that Last



Day, the day of Christ's second coming. It is often like this in the liturgy, we frequently find ourselves doing two things at once, and during Advent we do precisely this. On the one hand we look back in time two thousand years as we prepare to mark once again Christ's birth in the stable of Bethlehem.

And on the other hand, we look forward to the end of time as we anticipate Christ's second coming. But in looking back and at the same time looking forward we are actually considering the same thing our salvation. Recognising the significance of 'the time' Paul warns the Romans to wake up now. Following this challenge will give us integrity and strength and we will stand in confidence before the son of God. As Jesus says in the final line of our Gospel today, he wants us stand ready because the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect (Matt 24:44).

THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest: Canon John Clark MA

Parish Clergy: Fr Joseph Donkor MA, Fr Dennis Bukenya CSSp and Deacon Julian Burling

Team Members: Sr Francis SSA, Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU and Cristina Connolly

Youth Minister: Eleanor Bowman

Adult Faith Formation Officer: Kelly Hockey

COLIN MAWBY †

Colin Mawby passed away last Sunday 24 November. He was a prolific composer of English Catholic music, particularly (on the invitation of the Holy Father) for the new translations following Vatican II. He was Director of Music at Westminster Cathedral from 1961-1976 and here at Sacred Heart Wimbledon from 1978-1981. May he rest in peace.

CRIB APPEAL 2019

As part of this year's Parish Crib Appeal we will support the *Catholic Children's Society*, their great work to fight child poverty and neglect, and help all children have a better chance in life. Since its launch it has been extremely effective in supporting vulnerable children and their families. The charity's vision and mission are to give every child in this country the greatest possible chance in life. Your contribution can help make sure no child feels alone or is at risk of abuse and neglect this Christmas. To find out more about the *Catholic Children's Society* please visit <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/>. Thank you for generously supporting this appeal.

THIS ADVENT

Advent is a very special season of the year – and yet it can sometimes pass us by. For the past couple of years, the Southwark diocesan Spirituality Commission has produced a series of short daily emails, to help us focus on the true meaning of Advent. These have been very well received, so we would like to make more people aware of them. To sign up, please visit <http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/>

Parish News

AT HOME

Please note that there will be NO At Home until further notice.

SCHOOL SLIPS

School admission forms will be collected this weekend.

ADVENT BOOKLETS

The Advent booklets *My Advent Day by Day* (infant/junior/adults), a perfect vademecum through this season of advent, are now available at the back of the church and at the Presbytery Reception. They are free to collect, donations welcome.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards are now available for sale at the Presbytery Reception. The proceeds of the card sale go to the Sacred Heart Church Appeal.

PARISH ACCOUNTS

The parish accounts for the period January to the end of September have been posted in the church entrance and can also be accessed via the Finance Committee page on the website <https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk>

MIDNIGHT MASS

On Christmas Eve, 24 December, parishioners attending Midnight Mass are cordially invited to join us in the Lower Hall, after Mass for a glass of mulled wine and mince pies.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Parishioners are invited to celebrate Midnight Mass on Tuesday 31 December at 12pm (there will be Exposition & Benediction between 11-12pm).

Announcements

CONFIRMATION 2020

Closing date for registration (via the parish website) for young people in Y8 or above interested in the Confirmation programme for 2020 is 1 December. For further details or if you have any queries please contact Eleanor (eleonor.bowman@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk)

FIRST FRIDAY VIGIL OF PRAYER

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for vocations to the priesthood and religious

life and for World Peace will be on Friday 6 December after 6.30pm Mass continuing to midnight. Silent prayer followed by meditations and prayers. Please come, if only for a short visit.

CRIB SERVICE

There will be a rehearsal for the 3.30pm Children's crib service on Christmas Eve on Monday 23 December at 10.40am - 12.15pm. Readers (age 8+) and actors wishing to take part please email Rachel Marshall on rachel@marshallemail.net.

marshallemail.net. Parents' help welcomed!

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Delicious continental breakfast will be served today in the Lower Hall after the 8.15am Mass until noon.

LIVE STREAMING OF SUNDAY MASSES

Please note the link for live streaming of each Sunday 8pm Mass: www.churchservices.tv/wimbledon.

Parish Organisations

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Friday 6 December at 2.30pm in the Lounge: Seasonal Singalong with Songs on Wheels, Sherry for lubrication! Tea, cakes, mince pies ... All welcome!

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

There will be a Christmas Jumper Swap this Sunday in the Lower Hall after the 9.45am Mass: come along,

buy a pre-loved Christmas jumper for £1 if you have donated an unwanted Christmas jumper, or £5 without a donation. All proceeds go to the Parish Appeal.

And if you are feeling crafty and want to make gift wrapping without the plastic & glitter, join the Environment Group there and then for a cup of coffee and a chance to make some sustainable gift-wrapping decorations.

FAMILY CRAFT MORNING

On Sunday 8 December we will be having our next craft morning themed around Advent and Christmas. This will run from after the 9.45am Mass - 12noon (Lower Hall). For more information please contact Eleanor.

Social, Cultural & Notices

GREAT GATSBY CHARITY DANCE

LHBMS presents for one night only a Great Gatsby Charity Dance with live music ('The Supers'), buffet, bar, raffle, best dressed Gatsby prizes and much more; Upper Hall on Saturday 11 January 2020 from 7.30-11.30pm. Tickets £18, available at the Presbytery Reception or call David & Eileen 020 8542 2476.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Wimbledon College presents a musical production of Dick-

ens' 'A Christmas Carol'. December 11th, 12th and 13th at 7.30pm. Tickets £4, contact Paola Cray on 020 8879 9355 or paola.cray@wimbledoncollege.org.uk to book or purchase tickets on the door.

GOTTA DANCE?

Calling all potential dancers from yr 9+: The *Edge Hill Players* are looking for boys and girls to grace future productions. Bonnie and Marie-Claire will be holding a workshop in the Upper Hall on Sunday 15 December 10am - 2.30pm. You've seen

'Anything Goes' or 'Singing' in the Rain' and maybe thought you'd like to have a go? Come along and try it - you don't know what you can do until you've done it!

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Katy Lees, Giles Kennedy and Katy's Songbirds invite you to join their Christmas Celebration on Thu 19 Dec at 7.30pm in our church, an evening of traditional carols - this time in aid of those who may be alone and isolated around Christmas.

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.

'T'WAS THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS

MyRaynesPark's 'open mic' evening of stories, poems & other readings relating to Christmas on Wed 4 Dec, 7-8.45pm at Raynes Park Library. Read one of your own compositions or a favourite piece from the treasury of Christmas literature (max 4 mins.). If you want to be sure of a performance space, email reading@myraynespark.co.uk

NIGHTFEVER

Open Church - Open Heart There is a *Nightfever* Advent Special taking place on Sat 7 Dec at St Patrick's Soho Square (London W1D 4NR). *Nightfever* evenings begin with the celebration of Mass at 6pm, followed by Adoration, music, priests hear confessions, evening continues until Compline, Night Prayer, at 10.30pm. For more info please call Kelly at the Parish Office (020 8946 0305).

ADVICE ON LEAVE TO REMAIN IN THE UK

The Sacred Heart SVP Conference would be very grateful for any parishioner who can offer expert advice on applying for *Leave to Remain* in the UK for a client. If you can help please email in strict confidence Chris Woodward on president190704@svp.org.uk.

Exploring our Faith

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

The Sacred Heart Charismatic Prayer Group will be meeting in the Youth Room for an evening of prayer, praise and worship on Mon 2 December at 7.30pm. There will be a short talk by Caroline Duncan on 'The oil of gladness'. Refreshments provided. All are welcome. Audra (07958 782 779 audra.wamsteker@gmail.com)

BIBLE RETREAT

Evening Bible Retreat and Healing Service with the Divine Retreat Centre from Ramsgate at Our Lady Immaculate, 401 Ewell Rd, KT6 7DG on Thu 5 Dec, 7-10.30pm. There will be praise & worship, Holy Mass and adoration. All are welcome. Parking available at the school playground behind the church.

TAKE DELIGHT IN YOUR FAITH

The faith formation team invite you to experience a discovery taster session, an introduction & explanation of a 6 week course starting in the New Year. Discovery taster sessions are on Sat 7 Dec from 11am-12noon or 5.15-6.15pm followed by questions. If you are interested to find out more please email discoverycourse@yahoo.com



CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2019

Canon John and Frs Joseph and Dennis cordially invite you to make Christmas a very special Parish Day. Come and have lunch on Wednesday 25 December, 12 noon for 1pm and spend the day with the Clergy and other parishioners, rather than being on your own. You will receive a warm welcome and have lots of fun.

If you would like to attend or know of someone who would like an invitation, please fill in a form (available at the back of the church, Presbytery Reception) and kindly return these asap to the Parish Office.

Volunteers: We would be happy if more volunteers came forward to help, especially on Christmas Eve and Day. Volunteer forms are available at the back of the church, Reception or website.

Donations: Many thanks for your immense generosity. Further donations are most welcome, cash and cheques (payable to *The Sacred Heart Parish*). Donations can be left at the Reception. Gift Aid forms are available.

Please contact Sadie Smith (020 8946 5198 or sadiesmith3@talktalk.net) for further info.

CELEBRANTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

6.30pm (Sat) Fr D Bukenya 11.15am Fr J Donkor
8.15am Fr T Byron SJ 12.45pm Canon J Clark
8.30am* Canon J Clark 5.00pm Fr D Bukenya
9.45am Fr M Barnes SJ 8.00pm Fr J Donkor

* SH School Mass Centre

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 30 6.30pm Monteiro Family Ints.
Mon 2 7.30am Laura Dineen RIP
10.00am John, Fiona & Tim Grant Ints.
6.30pm Thanksgiving
Tue 3 7.30am Alfred Jessiman RIP
10.00am Isaac Casinder RIP
6.30pm David & Lorenza Boyce RIP
Wed 4 7.30am Maureen Rees RIP
10.00am Nicholas Waight RIP
6.30pm Theresa Roche Ints.
Thu 5 7.30am Lavinia Vale RIP
10.00am Brian Nangle RIP
6.30pm Forster Family Ints.
Fri 6 7.30am Private Ints.
10.00am Genoveva de Sousa RIP
6.30pm Francie McHugh RIP
Sat 7 7.30am Private Ints.
10.00am Margaret Folan RIP

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Margaret Folan, Stuart Constable, Colin Mawby, Mitzy Liberatore

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ella Stephen, Agnes Degnan, Elisabeth Hussey, Serenella Randolph, Natalino Falzon, Bertha D'Costa

The sick: Brendan Hollingsworth, Richard Ferris, Tilly Walters, Ian Parr, Lucy Melkees, David Carrier, Colin Sims, Mary Ann Williams, Maria Keaveney-Jessiman, Annette Wheatley, Paul Jong, Richard Conceicao, Sheila Soodin, Maureen Searle, Kieran Walsh, Paul Saunders, Carol Donnelly, Damji Vadhia, Margaret Birch, Manjula Topno, Alina Hancock, Simon Hull, Lalita Nagar, Cath O'Neill, Andrew Tan, Tom Searle, John Burke-Gaffney, Donald Derx, Margaret Lumley, Electa Almeida, Brian Sewell

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

Collection at Mass last Sunday came to £1,579 in loose plate giving and £470 from the Planned Giving envelopes making a total of £2,049. This does not include £4,000 from monthly standing orders.

The second collection in support of Catholic Youth Services raised £960. Many thanks for your generosity.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 3 December St Francis Xavier, Priest, Memorial

Wednesday 4 December St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

Friday 6 December St Nicholas of Myra, Bishop

Saturday 7 December St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

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 Domine levavi, Antonio Scarlatti

Conditor alme siderum, Plainsong

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) Caretaker: George McLennan

Parish Pastoral Council: ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk or contact Anne Waldron (Chair) at anne@annewaldron.com or 07886 034 323

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.

[St George's Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr Mark Higgins (020 8725 3069)]