

March
2020

EDGEWAYS

The Sacred Heart Parish magazine

Vol. 32 No. 3

sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk



Spreading joy

The vital work of the
Catholic Children's Society

* FREE * but donations are always welcome

EDGEWAYS – now in its 32nd year – is published every month except August. Thanks to the Parish Council, it is now free, although any donations towards our running costs are more than welcome in the box to the right of the inner church doors. Articles from readers are always welcome.

Contact the Editor

John Symes

Edgeways, Sacred Heart, Edge Hill, London SW19 4LU

07745 100 596

or via our mail basket by the bookshop in the Presbytery, or email editoredgeways@icloud.com

Advertising

Our very reasonable rates are as follows:

	1/6 page	1/3 page	Full page
1 issue	£12	£24	£72
6 issues	£60	£120	£360
12 issues	£108	£216	£648
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Rates for colour ads are available upon request

For details, contact David on **07716 284 287**
email dthurst52@googlemail.com

Please make cheques payable to **Sacred Heart Parish**

*Our next edition is published on APRIL 18/19
Deadline for contributions and ad copy is APRIL 8*



SACRED HEART PARISH SOCIAL CLUB

President: Rev John Clark

Chairman: Sr Patricia

We are a small group of friends doing a large amount of work to facilitate the Social aspects of the Sacred Heart Parish.

We organise and fund a Senior Citizens party in January every year. We organise an annual BBQ for the Parishioners. We provide bar facilities to various Parish Organisations. We donate surplus funds to various Charities.

- Manna, Passage
- Raphael Pilgrimage
- Sacred Heart Youth, Sacred Heart Church

We also partly fund, maintenance of the lounge.

Our Opening Times

Fridays 9.00-10.30. Sundays 8.30-10.30

To Join please contact: Sr Patricia – 07973 950755

News from the PPC

- Canon John and the parish team have responded quickly with a range of precautions in church and at services aimed at lowering the risks of catching Covid-19 coronavirus.
- Plans to develop the orchard area of the grounds have been prepared by the Environment Group, which will probably start when the land ownership issues have been resolved.
- After two successful trials, the Faith Formation team will seek to recruit and train leaders and they will prepare a timetable to run more CCO Discovery Programmes later this year.
- The parish is hosting up to 14 homeless guests per night in the lower hall as part of Merton Night Shelter run by Faith in Action and volunteers have been recruited, trained and briefed.
- The PPC are looking at ways of finding and keeping in touch with lonely and socially isolated members of the parish using practical ideas that have worked well elsewhere.
- Membership of the PPC is open to all parishioners and new members are needed from 1 April. Please ask one of the parish team for more information if you are interested.

Save the date!

Pentecost Sunday,
May 31

The Year of the
Word – A Live
Celebration of the
God Who Speaks

Performances and
activities from
2pm, ecumenical
service at 6pm



THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

Merton Christians will be invited to join us at this special family event taking place in and around the church grounds. Put it into your diaries now!

www.godwhospeaks.co.uk

Invitation to London Citizens Mayoral Assembly, Copper Box, Olympic Park Tuesday April 21, 2020, at 6pm

Our parish has been active members of Merton Citizens since April 2018.

Together with 16 local schools, and faith and other groups, including Wimbledon College, Merton Citizens have held authority to account over issues including mental health in schools, housing and homelessness and refugees and migrant families with significant achievements.

At 6pm on April 21 at the Copper Box in the Olympic Park, Mayor Sadiq Khan has agreed to meet London citizens face to face to account for his promises over a range of issues that are important to all.

As committed members, our parish are invited to field a team of parishioners who will stand up for justice at what promises to be another exciting and moving event organised by London Citizens.

For more information or to register your interest in attending, email dthurst52@gmail.com



CITIZENS UK

A star of hope shining brightly

Dr ROSEMARY KEENAN, CEO of the Catholic Children's Society – one of the beneficiaries of last year's Christmas Crib Appeal – explains the charity's vital work among youngsters living in poverty is an age of plenty



My eyes have seen, my ears have heard, mothers in despair weeping with tears of relief and joy.

Relief, because their desolate flat now has beds for their children, somewhere to sit, the means to cook a meal.

Joy, because the world has people like you, the parishioners of Sacred Heart, Wimbledon, who, without even knowing them, want to help them to 'get on' in life and not just to struggle to 'get by' in life. You may even wonder, how and when you did this?

You made this difference when you each contributed to the crib offering at Christmas. Your individual offerings amounted to an amazing £736.13. Just as the star resting over the stable at Bethlehem guided the three wise men to Our Saviour and signalled hope to the world, so your generous

offering to the Catholic Children's Society Southwark Crisis Fund brings the warmth of hope to those children and families in desperate need living in the Archdiocese of Southwark.

In addition to essential help from the Crisis Fund, and with other support from parishes and schools, the Catholic Children's Society gave food and new toys to over 1,300 children at Christmas.

As well as the children we already know, for example through our counselling and family centres, we also worked with headteachers, social services, health visitors and others to identify not just children in desperate need but also to understand their individual interests and what they may like as gifts.

Throughout the year we respond to requests for assistance from our Crisis

Funds made by priests and head teachers who know children and families going through a crisis. We receive applications most working days of the week. The Archdiocese of Southwark Crisis Fund receives contributions from Southwark and is only spent on children in Southwark; this already includes helping children at schools in Wimbledon and your local Merton Deanery.

If you are a school teacher reading this and know of children that could benefit, please ask your head teacher to contact us.

We have other similarly ring-fenced funds for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton, the Diocese of Westminster and also the Grenfell Fund which began after



the fire at Grenfell Tower, less than half a mile from our head office.

I know some people think children living in poverty have parents who can't be bothered to work.

Based on figures from the Department of Work and Pensions, 70% of poor children are in families with a parent in paid employment. There were 4.1 million children living in poverty in the UK in 2017-18. That is 30% of children, or nine in a classroom of 30.

Being poor, in a society where you are bombarded by images of affluence, can lead to loneliness and hopelessness. Consider these questions: how do children with nowhere to sit at home invite their ➔

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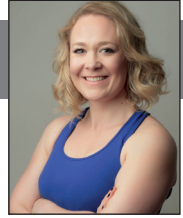
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Bereavement support

On the last Saturday of every month from 10.30 to 11.30am, in the Parish Lounge. The Bereavement Group invites everyone experiencing loss in their lives to DROP-IN for a coffee and a chat. Grief is a particular isolating experience that can affect all aspects of your life, physically, emotionally and socially. If you would like to a confidential chat with someone, please call us for an appointment convenient to you. We offer you a warm welcome. For more information call 020 8946 5198 or on the parish website.

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friends around to play? When they can only afford to eat cereals or bread for an evening meal, how can they reciprocate the hospitality of attending a birthday party? When they have no table and chair to sit at or IT to help with their homework, how do they keep up at school? Without warm clothes and shoes in winter and proper food in their stomachs, how do they stay healthy and avoid days lost at school through sickness? When they have no money for heating water, how do they wash and keep their clothes clean?

Getting by in life is hard enough but without the basics getting on in life is even harder. We know that improving the home environment of a child improves their academic progress at school and this in turn enhances their employment prospects. Suddenly, the world is not such a hard and indifferent place and your position within it has started to change.

The Crisis Fund brings not just material help but relieves the anguish and mental health problems experienced by children in poverty.

Above all it brings hope. Hope, along with faith and charity, is one of the theological virtues which are supernatural gifts of God. (More mature members of

the parish will begin quoting the Penny Catechism to themselves!).

Seeing the world as a better place brings hope and transforms the lives of those who experience it. Hope is a spiritual gift and complements the charitable gift of alms-giving.

It is hope that we look forward to during another time of alms-giving, namely Lent, which we have just entered. This is particularly so over the Easter Triduum, when the suffering and death of Jesus on Good Friday gives way to the joy of the resurrection on Easter Sunday. With the resurrection of Jesus, we know that the Kingdom of God on earth is now but not yet. Our individual acts of kindness, generosity and faith give witness to our hope and belief. Through these acts, we see the Kingdom of God through a glass darkly.

In other words, faith, hope and charity mirror the values of, and give witness to, the Kingdom of God.

In his inaugural homily, Pope Francis calls each one of us to be a star of hope shining brightly and to bring this hope to others. You can give no greater gift to children in need. Thank you for your support; know that it makes a very big difference - just where it is needed.

See over the page for a case study ➔

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Lily's story

St Francis Family Centre (St Francis), a project of the Catholic Children's Society, is based in Tower Hamlets. This area has the highest rate of child poverty in the country.

Here we help give disadvantaged children like Lily the best possible start in life.

Lily's mum Claire had Lily at the age of 17. On discovering Claire was pregnant, her boyfriend left and her family threw her out.

Claire moved to a bedsit on the ninth floor of a tower block in Tower Hamlets. It was cramped, dark and full of mould.

She didn't know anybody in the area, felt isolated and anxious about going outside and became increasingly reclusive.

It was in this environment that Lily spent the first years of her life. She had never had any friends or toys to play with and rarely went outside.

By the age of two Lily could not speak a word. Concerned about Lily's development, a Health Visitor referred the family to St Francis.

When Claire first arrived at St Francis she said that she felt lost and did not know how to be a mother.

We helped Claire develop her parenting skills; we also lent her educational books and toys from our toy library so she could read and play with Lily at home.

This has greatly improved their relationship.

At first Lily clung to the nursery door, too scared to go in. But with the gentle support of our staff, she began to settle.

After just a few months Lily start-



ed to speak. Claire cried when she heard her first words. She had been so scared she had failed her daughter, and was overjoyed to see Lily making such good progress.

Last summer the society's supporters even sent Lily and Claire on their first-ever holiday.

They spent a week at the seaside, playing on the beach and splashing around in the sea. When they came back Claire said she had never been so happy.

It has now been a year since Lily and Claire joined St Francis. Claire has grown in confidence and is currently applying to college. She plans to become a nurse, something she never thought would be possible.

Lily is a different little girl. She is now a chatty, happy four year old and will thrive when she starts school.

In the mornings she runs into nursery excited to play with her friends with a huge smile on her face.

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Catholic
Children's
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Heeding the signs of the times

ALISON WILLIAMS reports on a timely address to a well-attended Newman Circle meeting about the hidden factors at play behind the Church's seeming dysfunction – and how they can be tackled

Father Brendan Callaghan's talk to the Newman Circle in January on *Signs of the Times for the Church* was informed by over 30 years of teaching and practice as a clinical psychologist as well as his decades of service in the Jesuit community. He was once a familiar face in Wimbledon and maintains ties with the parish as chaplain to one of the Teams of Our Lady.

A quotation in his introduction set the tone for his main message: a character in Arthur Miller's *Playing for Time*, set in the women's section of Auschwitz, says: "We know a bit more about the human race now and it's not good news."

The bit more we know about the Church isn't good news either but Fr Brendan hopes that "the truth may set us free" and enable the Church to become what it is meant to be.

An analysis of "functional" and "dysfunctional" groups was instructive. In the latter, power lies with a few, roles are identified with individuals who adhere to them rigidly and anxiously and self-worth is depreciated.

In a functional group, power is distributed, roles are distinct from individuals and they are enacted in flexible ways which enhance self-worth. In a dysfunctional group there is a "no talk" rule: some topics may not be discussed; feelings are internalised, expectations unspoken and attitudes rigid. The outcome is jealousy, suspicion and chaotic values in a system which reveres past traditions.

In a functional group, there is open communication, feelings are expressed and rules are explicit. There is respect for individualism and the outcome is open-

mindedness, trust and love with a consistent value system and the creation of new traditions.

Given that the Roman Catholic Church has had many of the dysfunctional characteristics, the question is why. Fr Brendan offered two answers: the issue of sexual practice within a "celibate system" and lack of "the Good Authority".

A survey on clerical celibacy conducted in the US found that about half the priests were or had been in either homosexual or heterosexual relationships. Asked how they felt about the celibacy rule, a few at either end of the spectrum had no problem with it or didn't even try to observe it. The majority keep trying.

The phenomenon of "big systems denial" comes into play here. Large organisations like IBM, General Motors and the Catholic Church develop cultures of protective denial and cover-up. When abuse occurs, individuals in the system are expected to offer unthinking obedience and loyalty at whatever cost to their personal integrity. Fr Brendan recommended Donald Cozzens' *The Changing Face of Priesthood* (2000) for insights on this subject.

He referred to another book in connection with the matter of authority, co-written by Tom Pitt-Aikens and Alice Thomas-Ellis: *Loss of the Good Authority: The Cause of Delinquency* (1989). Good authority is a complex, benign presence which offers the right guidance and support. If it hasn't been experienced, it can't be passed on and Fr Brendan thinks some in the Church reflect the negative consequences of uncritical obedience being offered at the cost

of compromise.

He recommended the new film, *The Two Popes*, for an understanding of the psychological burden imposed on those required to exercise authority within this system.

Approaching a positive conclusion, Fr Brendan referred to his own favour-

ite Jesuit, canonised by Pope Francis: St Pierre Favre, who worked with Protestants in Reformation times and said, "Take care never to close your heart to anyone."

Pope Francis is of like mind. He would like to see an end to vanity labels for his office (e.g. "Universal Ruler") and all marks of hierarchical privilege. He told the Romanian Jesuits that "God's people understand things better than we (Jesuits and clergy at all levels) do". In Canon Law, the laity have the right and even the duty at times to speak out.

For the Church, these are Kairos times. Yes, there is crisis but while one model is collapsing, growth and renewal are hap-



The Two Popes: Provides an understanding of the psychological burden of exercising authority

pening too. Pope John Paul II called for a pastoral style which was open and Pope Francis's Synodal Church elaborates the new direction.

Fr Brendan thinks three sacraments are essential – baptism, confirmation and the eucharist – and that "we make too big a fuss of ordination".

Pope Francis says infallibility is a gift to the Church and that the entire Christian community is infallible when its members discern together and speak with one voice on faith and morals.

For disciples of Jesus, the only authority is the authority of service and the only power is that of the cross.



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A Lenten pilgrimage

Some years ago, ANTHONY HOWARD, a parishioner of St Thomas of Canterbury, Fulham, set himself an unusual challenge: to attend Mass at a different church on each and every day of Lent. It turned out to be as much an exercise in logistics as it was in faith...

The penitential season of Lent is upon us once again and our thoughts turn to the coming forty days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to bring ourselves closer to Christ in preparation for Easter.

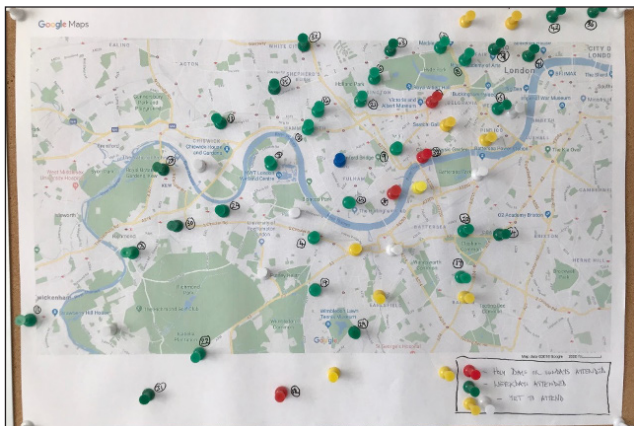
Each year at this time I cast around for an alternative Lenten discipline to more fully immerse myself in the true meaning of the season.

Some years ago, I read an article in the Catholic press by Adrian Chiles, the television presenter, who set himself the challenge of attending Mass every day of Lent at different churches, a total of 46 different locations. His rationale was that his flexible work schedule made it possible, and as his time was divided mainly between London and Birmingham, there were more than enough parishes to choose from.

When I mentioned this to my son as we left Mass on Ash Wednesday a few years ago, he suggested that I take up the same challenge.

I was self-employed, master of my own timetable, and living in London. He said it was feasible, but was it and did I have the will-power to attempt this marathon?

That evening after a short deliberation, I decided to give it a go, but with little expectation that I might sustain it for longer



'Something close to a military campaign': One of the maps that adorned Anthony's walls

than a week. My parish church backs onto my house and there are four other churches within a reasonable walking distance, so I started to research Mass times and drew up a spreadsheet to plan the week ahead.

For the main part, Mass times were generally between 7.00 and 10.00am, but often varied on a daily basis at each church, so that my spreadsheet got ever more complex.

I quickly realised that apart from the commitment this was also going to be a complex logistical undertaking, which could easily fail unless I maintained a daily back-up plan. This turned out to be crucial decision, as on more than one occasion, I arrived early in the morning at a distant parish only to find that the advertised time was incorrect or rescheduled.

I resolved to hold the 9.30 Mass at my ➔



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local parish in reserve for as long as possible, and in the case of other unforeseen events I could fall back on lunchtime services in central London.

The first day started gently with a 12.15pm Mass at St Augustine's in Hammersmith, a peaceful haven from the heavy traffic under the shadow of the fly-over, attended by over 40 people.

On the second day I decided to go further afield and headed off to St Elizabeth of Portugal, a beautiful gem of a church in Richmond, and one of the oldest in the Diocese of Southwark. And so a pattern was set.

Gradually I started to visit parishes vaguely familiar to me from the past and others that I had never visited, but which I knew about. London offers such a wide variety of churches, and as a child I remember attending three or four different churches together with visits to Westminster Cathedral and the Oratory. Later, friends married, children were baptised, funerals were held and my exposure to different parishes increased. Here was an opportunity to visit so many of those churches and many more.

What an experience it was, and what a joy to engage with so many different communities and receive the Blessed Sacrament each day.

Every church offered something different and enriching, and there were many



Heavy snow did not stop Anthony getting to Holy Trinity in Brook Green

memorable moments which I still recall vividly. I think of my visit to Tyburn Convent at Marble Arch, dedicated to the Sacred Heart and the English Martyrs.

It was a frosty Saturday morning. A simple plaque on the outside of the building proclaimed the Catholic martyrs who lost their lives just a short distance away on what is now a non-descript traffic island at a major road intersection. Inside all was peaceful as I arrived to hear the nuns singing Terce behind a grille, which separated the dozen worshippers from the sanctuary. The cantilevered canopy above the altar, almost like a ciborium, was decorated with an image of the Tyburn tree. This was followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, something that I was to come across regularly on my Lenten journey.

One morning I woke up to heavy snow and wondered if I would manage to get to my destination, Holy Trinity in Brook Green, Hammersmith.

Setting off early, the roads were amazingly clear. My newly purchased daily missal told me that it was St David's Day, and I arrived at my destination sliding across



Tyburn Convent, Marble Arch, with its cantilevered canopy over the altar

the pavement, to join the small congregation who had also braved the weather.

On another occasion I attended the little Romanesque church of St Anne on Kingston Hill, backing on to Richmond Park. There I came across a congregation of 15 praying the rosary before Mass. A visiting priest delivered a moving homily, and afterwards I was invited to join a Lenten lunch where I enjoyed some wonderful homemade food provided by the parishioners.

When leaving St Mary's Clapham, home of the Redemptorists, I almost stumbled over a prostrate form lying face-down in the aisle with both arms outstretched. Her penitential act left me truly humbled.

At Our Lady of the Assumption in Warwick Street, Central London, I was privileged to be only one of the two congregants attending 8am Mass on a Thursday morn-



Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Ignatius in Chideock



***In Memoriam*, the Carravaggio-esque work by Andrew White at The Immaculate Conception, Farm Street**

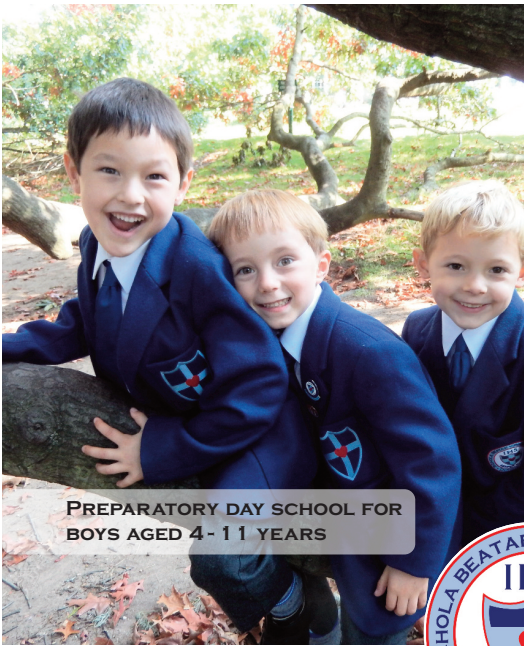
ing. Initially the liturgy confused me, with unfamiliar tracts, until I realised that I was attending an Ordinariate Mass incorporating elements of the Divine Worship. The church had been constructed in the 18th century following the Gordon Street riots and stood on the site of a chapel to the old Portuguese embassy.

At the Immaculate Conception in Farm Street, Central London, after Mass, I was drawn towards a painting exhibition inside the church by the artist in residence, Andrew White.

There was an extraordinary oil painting of the Last Supper entitled *In Memoriam*, which was utterly mesmerising with White's use of dramatic light and shadow, reminiscent of a contemporary Carravaggio.

I attended the vibrant Polish church of St Andrew Bobola in Hammersmith. The service was completely in Polish and well attended. There was a side chapel dedicated to St Maximilian Kolbe, and another to St John Paul II, while outside was a small surrounding cemetery interspersed with Stations of the Cross. On Friday this would be packed with people.

The largest weekday attendances I came across away from Central London was at the magnificent Italianate church of Our Lady of Grace and St Edward in ➡



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➔ Chiswick attended by 50 worshippers. A coffin lay before the altar in repose, but this was not a requiem Mass, which was scheduled for later that day.

Over the Lenten period I left London for a couple of weekends, and begging my hosts forbearance, I plotted my services around Oxfordshire, attending tiny little parish churches that were wonderfully attended.

In Portsmouth I went to St John's Cathedral, in Guildford I went to St Joseph, and in Dorset it was Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Ignatius in Chideock, and Holy Trinity in Dorchester. Once again I found myself on the pilgrim path as I was witness again to the men from Chideock who gave their lives for their faith in penal times.

They were taken to Dorchester and there, after attending 9.00am Mass on a Saturday morning, I visited the site of their execution. I was deeply moved to find that this was commemorated in detail with a number of statues and a plaque set in the ground at the precise location of their martyrdom, which simply stated: "For Christ and Conscience Sake".

By this time my spreadsheet had developed into something close to a military campaign and maps adorned my notice board covered in pins of different colours. I had entered into a steady rhythm and attending Mass every day was deeply enriching.

What had started as an unlikely challenge became a wonderful pilgrimage through Lent. I had taken to dedicating each day's Mass to a member of my family, either living or dead, and day by day the circle broadened.

And what of the churches I visited? The



The cemetery at St Andrew Bobola in Hammersmith

numbers attending were much greater than I had anticipated, and while inevitably the age bracket was high, that was not unexpected given that most Masses were during the working day; however whenever I attended lunchtime Masses the average age dropped considerably.

Everywhere, without exception, people were warm and welcoming. I found great examples of piety and devotion from the simplest to the greatest churches that I visited.

In passing, I gathered some statistics, which provide an interesting snapshot. Overall, I estimate that I attended Mass with 3,200 other souls.

In the churches that I attended, 30% still retained an alter rail, 11% offered Holy Communion kneeling down, and 68% provided a homily. My estimated average age of the priests was about 55.

The final leg of my journey took me to the Easter retreat at Stonyhurst College in Lancashire. The three Masses of the Triduum together with Easter Sunday were celebrated in the magnificent parish church of St Peter's, adjoining the school.

That meant that effectively I failed in one aspect of my task at the final hurdle, but of course I gained immeasurably and by the most important measure, I entered Holy Week more deeply engaged than I had for many years.

For anyone who has the time and the inclination to undertake this challenge, I promise you: you will not regret it.

Incidentally, I never did manage to attend my own parish church, St Thomas of Canterbury in Fulham, only a stone's throw from my own home.



Come and join Love to Move

Home Instead Senior Care, in partnership with the British Gymnastics Foundation, run a chair-based gymnastics programme specially designed to get older people moving and functioning better.

The science bit...

Almost every part of this chair-based exercise programme works on bi-lateral asymmetric movement patterns. This benefits all older people including those with dementia and mild cognitive impairment, by enabling the left side and right side of the brain to process information independently, thus improving cognitive function, co-ordination and the ability to carry out activities of daily living more independently... so basically it's great for all!

**Our programme runs every Monday throughout the year at the
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from 10.30am to 12 noon**

We serve tea, coffee, cake and biscuits in what is a friendly and encouraging environment. We ask for a contribution of £4 to attend.

**For more information please contact Clare on 020 8942 4137 or
clare.jefferies@homeinstead.co.uk**

www.homeinstead.co.uk/wimbledonandkingston

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Love to move

Our first year of recycling – the verdict

It is one year since the parish installed new recycling bins in all parish facilities. What difference has it made?

An old school assessment would probably read “a promising start, but could do better”!

We have increased the proportion of waste we recycle to around 60%. And for the first time we can separate food waste to make renewable energy.

This saves the parish money and it stops food waste going to landfill, where it decomposes under uncontrolled conditions, releasing methane which is 23-times more powerful as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

Overall, the new recycling arrangements mean that as a parish we have:

- Cut carbon equivalent emissions by six tonnes;
- Recycled enough paper and card to save 36 trees; and
- Generated 2600 kWh of electricity (enough electricity to keep a small to medium household going for one year)

If you are one of the huge number of parishioners and volunteers who have scraped food waste into the caddies, rinsed out bottles, cans and single use plastics or taken time to sort waste into the correct bins, thank you!

Pope Francis likens such “little daily actions,” to St Therese of Lisieux’s little ways of love and says, “We must not think that these efforts are not going to change the world.”

To increase our rate of recycling further, here are some simple tips:

- Sort items into the right bins (if in doubt, check the posters displayed near all bins);
- Place all food waste in the caddies;
- Rinse items first, as packaging

smearred with food waste cannot be recycled;

- Flatten large boxes;
- Only use the First Mile sacks provided (spares can be found in bottom of bins or if you are planning a large event, please ask our caretaker, George McLennan, for extras)

One final thought: overall, we produced a total of around 10 tonnes of waste in the first 11 months – imagine two African elephants! Some simple ways we can reduce this waste include: using real crockery and cutlery, avoiding single-use items and over-packaged produce, not over-catering, printing only what we need to print and using both sides of the paper.

By following these steps we ought to be able to get our waste down and our recycling up over 2020!

Sarah Tobin

A Love That Heals

A book of prayers written by Elizabeth Smith

Special offer this year only £5 in aid of the Church Appeal

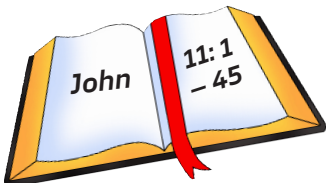
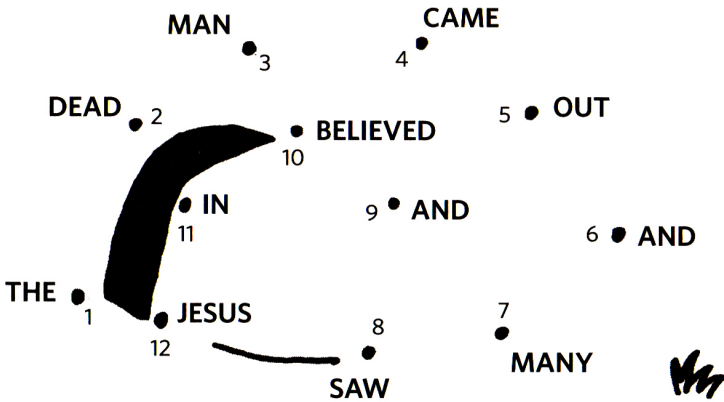
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to order a copy and share the Love!

Lazarus is alive!

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Having been told by Martha and Mary that their brother Lazarus was gravely ill, Jesus rushed to their house. But, alas, he was too late – Lazarus had been buried for four days. But Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb. Connect the dots to find out what happened next



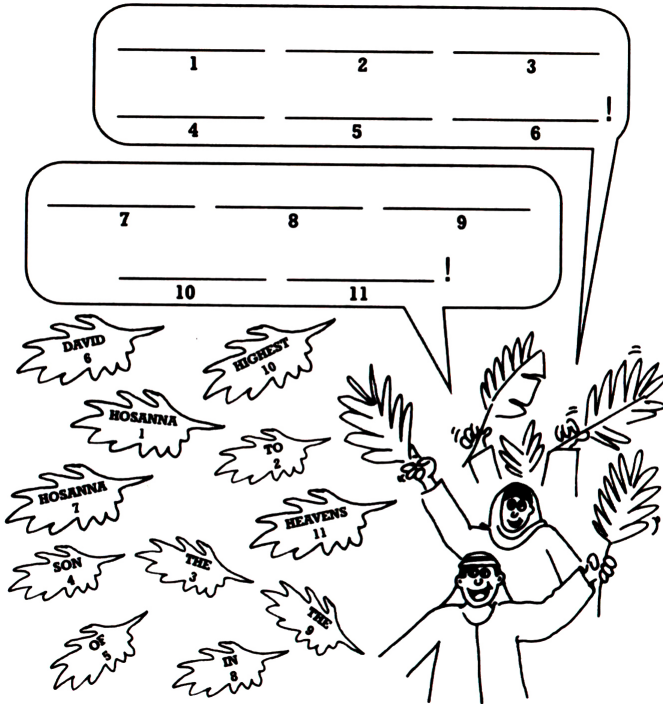
I am the resurrection and the life! Whoever believes in me will never die.
(JOHN 11:25-26)



Hosanna! Hosanna!

PALM SUNDAY

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the people spread cloaks and palms on the road. Fill in the blanks with words from the palm leaves to see what the crowds shouted



CHUCKLES

Q: Why did the chewing gum cross the road?

A: It was stuck to the chicken's foot!

Q: What did one hat say to the other hat?

A: You stay here - I'm going on ahead!

Q: What did the frog order for lunch?

A: A burger and a diet croak!

Q: Timmy's mother has three children. The first one's name is April. The second one's name is May. What's the name of the third?

A: Timmy, of course!

Q: What do you call a horse that lives next door?

A: Your neigh-our!

Q: What do you call an angry elephant?

A: An earthquake!

Q: Name three consecutive days without including Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

A: Yesterday, today and tomorrow!

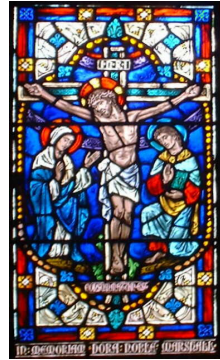
Q: What kind of coat is only put on when wet?

A: A coat of paint!

Jesus is betrayed

GOOD FRIDAY

Betrayed by his disciple Judas, Jesus was brought before Pilate, who found that Jesus had done nothing wrong. But the crowd kept shouting 'Crucify him!' so the Roman governor reluctantly agreed. Fill in the blanks with a word from the list below



1. _____ denied Jesus three times just like Jesus said someone would.
2. The Jewish leaders wanted to find an excuse to _____ Jesus, but they could not prove He had done anything wrong.
3. The High Priest asked Jesus if He was the _____ of God.
4. The people found Jesus _____ of a crime against God and was sentenced to death.
5. When _____ heard that Jesus was to die, he was sorry he had given Jesus away to the chief priests. He went back to the temple and threw down the thirty silver coins they had given him.
6. Only the Roman Governor could give the order for an execution so Jesus was sent to Pontius _____.
7. The people chose _____, the murderer to be set free.
8. The people wanted the Roman Governor to _____ Jesus.
9. Jesus was to be _____ before he was put to death.
10. A crown of _____ was put on Jesus' head.
11. Jesus had to carry a huge wooden _____ to a place called Golgotha.
12. Jesus was tired and weak from the beatings and a man named _____ carried the cross for Jesus.
13. The guards _____ Jesus' hands and feet to the cross.
14. To make sure Jesus was dead, a soldier thrust a _____ into Jesus' side.
15. _____ were placed at Jesus' tomb to make sure no one would steal the body and claim that Jesus had come alive again.

guilty	crucify	spear	Peter	thorns
nailed	kill	whipped	Simon	cross
Pilate	Judas	Son	Barabbas	guards

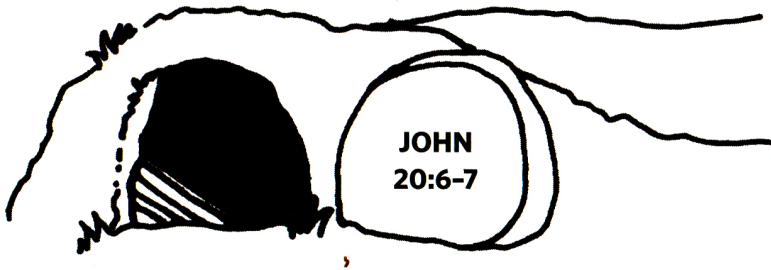
The empty tomb

EASTER SUNDAY

Alerted by Mary of Magdala, Simon Peter and John rushed to the tomb of Jesus. Use the code cracker to discover what they found

CODE CRACKER

D (1) E (3) I (5) B (7) S (9) O (11) H (13) G (15) R (17)
 U (2) N (4) L (6) T (8) F (10) A (12) Y (14) C (16) P (18)



6 5 4 3 4 16 6 11 8 13 9 11 4
 8 13 3 15 17 11 2 4 1 11 4 3
 17 11 6 6 3 1 2 18 5 4 12
 18 6 12 16 3 7 14 5 8 9 3 6 10

CHUCKLES

Q: What is the Easter Bunny's favourite kind of music?

A: Hip-Hop!

Q: What jewellery makes the best Easter gift?

A: A 24-carrot gold necklace!!

Q: Why was the Easter Bunny upset?

A: He was having a bad-hare day!

Q: What did the Easter Bunny say to the carrot?

A: It was nice gnawing you!

Q: What do you call a line of bunnies?

A: A hare-line!

Q: What did one Easter Eggs say to the other?

A: Heard any good yolks recently?



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Births, Deaths and Marriages

† We welcome into the family of the Church the following who have been baptised: Sofia Clapton-Rosa, Martha Harvey, Mia McCarthy-Bridges, Orla McGivern.

† Congratulations on their marriage to: Edward Holohan and Gyunga Choi.

† Sympathy to the family and friends of: Gerard Evans, Jeanne Garcia, John Penny.

Queen of Peace Wimbleton Medjugorje Prayer Group

March 2, 2020, message to Mirjana

“Dear children, your pure and sincere love draws my motherly heart. Your faith and trust in the Heavenly Father are fragrant roses which you offer to me – the most beautiful bouquets of roses which consist of your prayers, acts of mercy and of love. Apostles of my love, you who sincerely and with a pure heart strive to follow my Son, you who sincerely love Him, you help; you be an example to those who have not yet come to know the love of my Son – but, my children, not only with words but also with acts and pure feelings through which you glorify the Heavenly Father. Apostles of my love, it is a time of vigilance, and of you I am asking for love, that you not judge – anyone. Because the Heavenly Father will judge everyone. I am asking that you love, that you convey the truth; because truth is old, it is not new, it is eternal, it is truth. It testifies to God’s eternity. Bring the light of my Son and keep breaking the darkness which all the more wants to seize you. Do not be afraid. Through the grace and the love of my Son, I am with you. Thank you.”



Our regular prayer group meetings are on Wednesdays at 7.30pm at the Sacred Heart. Call for details on 020 8947 0310

Pilgrimages: Joe Walsh Tours 020 3468 0617 † Marian Pilgrimages 020 3808 5156

First Friday Vigil of Prayer

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and for World Peace. Starting after the 6.30 Mass and continuing to midnight.

Silent Prayer to 8.30 followed by meditations and prayers.

Please come if only for a short visit.

Next First Friday: April 3





Christ Entering Jerusalem, Giotto di Bondone, 1305

The Donkey

**When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born;**

**With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.**

**The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.**

**Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.**

G K Chesterton captures Palm Sunday from the perspective of the donkey that Jesus rode.