



## THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Presbytery

Edge Hill, Wimbledon

London, SW19 4LU

### NEWS and VIEWS 18

26 July 2020

#### A NEW BEGINNING:

This week saw the beginning of a new stage in the academic careers of many of our young people. Those in year six in our primary schools said goodbye to the familiar surroundings of the school and well-established friendships as they now prepare to start on the secondary level of their education journey. The traditional events that usually mark this transition have had to be amended to comply with the restrictions of the coronavirus. Even so the staff have helped the young people to make the transition. We hope to mark the movement of year 5 to year 6 at the beginning of the new year in September. For Year 13 these months are always stressful as they await their A level results. This year they can't be blamed if they are feeling the pressure more acutely. Exams this year have given way to assessment. The results of these will dictate the future opportunities open to our young men and women leaving school this year. Please remember these young people in this important stage in the academic career, remember also in your prayers all entrusted with their education and personal development.

#### CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC MASSES

##### Track and Trace

We are severely limited to the numbers able to attend each Mass. We can accommodate 72 parishioners in the church and 70 in an overflow in the main hall. Places at all Masses in the church and at the overflow in the hall will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis. A number of seats will be retained for the elderly and their carers in the church. Stewards will be available to help parishioners to their seats. May I remind you that the bishops have withdrawn the obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday, so for some it may suit them better to attend a weekday Mass for the time being.

When you arrive for Mass you will be given a short enquiry form provided by the NHS *Test and Trace*. These forms must be completed and returned to one of the stewards at the door. They will be retained for 21 days and then destroyed. Additional forms will be available after all Masses for you to take home and complete anytime you visit the church during the week. Copies of this form are also found at the end of will be available this email.

Those attending Mass in the church are asked to keep to the seats open for parishioners. The church is marked out to ensure that you are safely in a 2m distance from other worshippers.

Face coverings are not required in the church, however if you feel more comfortable wearing a face covering, please do so. If you are attending Mass in the hall where the legal separation is 1m, then all present are obliged to wear a face covering.

### **Stewards**

We have been so fortunate to date with the number willing to act as stewards enabling us to have the church open each day. Without their help we would not have been able to open the church. The same applies to the Masses. We need stewards to disinfect the seating before each Mass, to show parishioners to their seats and to ensure numbers are observed, to direct communicants to their minister of the Eucharist and after Mass to collect any waste and disinfect seats in preparation for the next Mass. If you feel you could offer this service to the parish, please contact Alison Lobo by email (radar1972@hotmail.com).

We are only able to keep the church open each day through the generosity of the stewards who give of their time. Without the stewards being present throughout the opening times and constantly upgrading the cleaning of the benches we would have had to restrict access to the church. It has been great to see a steady flow of parishioners making use of this time for private prayer. I would like to give a special word of thanks to all our stewards. I really appreciate what you do! Also, a special word of thanks to Alison who has given so much of her time in organising the stewards and the preparation of the church.

### **The Mass and Holy Communion Revised**

I am grateful for the suggestions which have come in, helping to make the church more secure for the congregation. I encourage you to follow the following procedures at communion time. There will be no prayers of the faithful and no sign of peace. The biggest change is in the way we receive Holy Communion. Just before his own communion the priest will raise first the host and then the chalice. He presents them to the congregation with the words. '*The Body of Christ*', '*The Blood of Christ*' to which the congregation answers '*Amen*' to each act of faith. The priest then receives his communion and the congregation moves to the altar in a single line up the central isle to receive communion in silence. Please join the line for communion from the back do not try to join the line at the top where communion is being distributed. Having received communion, they return to their seat by the side isle. Communion will be distributed in the hand only. You are encouraged to hold your hands at full length to receive the host. Any request to receive communion on the tongue will be refused.

**The collection** will not take place during Mass. Boxes will be made available near the exit points of the church where the contribution can be left. Alternatively, there is the facility to donate online through the parish website.

### **Times of Services**

Mass will be celebrated each day at 10am with additional evening Masses at 6.30pm on Monday and Friday. Masses on Sunday will be at 10am, 12noon, 5pm and 8pm. If numbers require it, we will increase the number of Masses both on Sundays and weekdays. Confessions will be on Saturdays at 10.30 - 11.30am and 1.30 - 2pm.

The church will be open for private devotions Monday - Friday from 11am - 2pm. There will be exposition during that time. Because of the weddings and baptisms there will be no private prayer on Saturday (from the first Saturday in August) and Sunday, though the church will be open for confessions and services.

### **Music at the Sunday Mass (Non-Congregational)**

No hymns at Mass this week. We are only allowed incidental music and Cantors responses at appropriate times during the Mass.

### **IN NEED OF PRAYERS**

Please pray for those who are sick; We pray for all affected by the Coronavirus and Samar Staussi, Lisa and Moses Mendoza, Harriette Cahill, Olga Herbert, Catherine Gapp, Peter Kosciolk, Pauline Hearn, Brendan Hollingsworth, Ian Parr, David Carrier, Maria Keaveney-Jessiman, Annette Wheatley, Paul Jong, Sheila Soodin, Maureen Searle, Kieran Walsh, Paul Saunders, Carol Donnelly, Damji Vadhia, Manjula Topno, Alina Hancock, Lalita Nagar, Cath O'Neill, Andrew Tan, Tom Searle, Donald Derx, Electa Almeida, Philip Chapell, Alec Smith, Alfred Quantrill, Michael Paice and Oscar Carrier-Sippy.

We pray for those who have died including all killed by the Coronavirus.

We also pray for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Francis Shannon, David Winterbourne, Denis Geoghegan, Mary Morton, Conor O'Duffy, Rudy Webber, Irène de la Bédoyère.

### **HOSPITAL CONTACTS**

If you or a member of your family are admitted to one of the local hospitals, do please let the hospital catholic chaplain know. Our main hospital is St Georges and the chaplain Fr Mark Higgins can be contacted on 020 8725 3069.

### **WEDDINGS**

We send our best wishes to Aiden and Katja who marry on Saturday afternoon. They are the first couple marrying after the lockdown, with many to follow over the coming weeks.

### **EVANGELII GAUDIUM**

You are invited to a study group on Zoom on Monday evening from 8 - 9pm or Tuesday morning from 11am - 12noon, to look again at *Evangelii Gaudium* to help us plan a way forward when lockdown comes to an end. To join in, please let Sadie Smith know by email on sadiesmith3@talktalk.net. Sadie will then issue the invitations to zoom.

### **MASS BY PHONE**

For those who do not have internet and cannot come to church, you can listen to Mass on the phone from St Mary's Cathedral Middleborough. The number to ring is 01642 130120. Calls are charged at a local rate and free if included in your minutes.

## **VACANCY**

A Parish Secretary is required to provide administrative support to the parish Priest at *Our Lady and St Peter Church*, SW19 6AD. Hours of work: 10 hours/week, 9am - 2pm, Wednesday and Friday @ £14/hour, closing date 7 August. Flexibility around school holidays. Start September 2020. For detailed information, or to apply for this position, please email Fr Philip at [philipdefreitas@rcaos.rg.uk](mailto:philipdefreitas@rcaos.rg.uk).

Every blessing on you all.

**Canon John**

**NHS TEST AND TRACE**

*“To manage the risk of the virus re-emerging.”  
Attending public worship in the Archdiocese of Southwark*

**Name:**

**Contact:** *(mobile number, email, other phone number, postal address)*

**Date:**

**Time of Mass:**

*This information is being collected at the direction of the UK Government. It will be kept secure and will be destroyed 21 days after the act of public worship.*

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