



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

NEWS and VIEWS 25

13 SEPTEMBER 2020

TIMES OF SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

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. Confessions will be on Saturdays at 10:30am to 11:30am and 3:30 to 4:00pm

The church will be open for private devotions **Monday to Friday from 11am to 2:00pm** except on the dates below when there is a funeral when the private devotions will be from 12.30 – 2 pm. Because of the weddings and baptisms there will be no exposition and private prayer on Saturday and Sunday, though the church will be open for confessions, and services.

Friday 18th September: Funeral for Ann Grant in the Sacred Heart Church.

Friday 25th September: Funeral for Philomena Una Byrne in the Sacred Heart Church

Please remember that numbers of guests at funerals and weddings are limited to 30. So, unless invited by the family to attend the service please do not attend funeral services. The services are normally streamed.

CAFOD OPEN AIR MASS: This will be held on Thursday 24th September at 6:00pm in front of the Church to mark the anniversary of the publication of Pope Francis' letter Laudato Si. Places will be limited to comply with the requirements of the present social spacing.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES.

First may I thank the children and parents on this year's first holy communion programme for their patience as we manage the issues around the Coronavirus. The limitations imposed on us have caused some difficulty in enabling our children receiving their first holy communion.

We are now in a position to announce the arrangements for this year. There will be special Masses for the 140 children. These will take place from Monday 28th September to Friday 2nd October and from Monday 5th October to Friday 9th October. All Masses will be at 6:30pm, and parents will be advised as to which Mass their child has been invited to. Each child will be able to have their two parents with them and two other guests. Regrettably these masses will not be

open to the parishioners as we are limited to the numbers that can attend each of the Masses. Kelly and Eleanor will be in touch with each family in the coming weeks and will advise them of the arrangements for reception of First Holy Communion for their child. When all restrictions are lifted we hope to have a party to celebrate.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITING THE CHURCH DURING COVID

Following instructions from the government may I remind you that face coverings must now be worn in places of worship whenever you visit. The stewards do have spare masks available at the back of the church if you have forgotten to bring one with you today. Thank you for your co-operation.

During the week Mass will be said for 72 people each day at 10am and at 6:30pm on Monday and Friday. If numbers require it we will increase the number of masses both on Sundays and weekdays.

We have arranged for an overflow of parishioners to join a streamed Mass in the upper hall when Holy Communion can also be received. With the numbers at the 10 am Sunday Mass increasing, please be prepared to be directed to the upper hall if asked to do so by the stewards.

At all times during the Mass people are encouraged to ensure good social distancing.

May I remind you that the Bishops have withdrawn the obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday, so for some it may be 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 with you and complete anytime you visit the Church during the week.

The collection will not take place during the Mass. There are two contactless card readers at the back of the church and we encourage you to use those to make your weekly offering if you are not doing so by standing order. You can make offerings from £1 upwards. You simply tap the amount you want to contribute and then touch your card on the reader. If you wish to register for Gift Aid, press the relevant button and register your details. You only need to register once. After that each contribution you make with that card will be paired with your Gift Aid Registration.

We are sorry that the card readers were 'declining transactions' this week. This was due to a technicality which has been resolved and no reflection on potential donors!!

Alternatively, there is the facility to donate online through the parish website.

As always, I must thank you all for your continued generosity at a time of restricted finances.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

We pray this week for Caroline Wickware and Henry Tregidogo who will marry in this church next Saturday 19th September. We wish them every blessing for their lives together.

Please pray for those who are sick; We pray for all affected by the Coronavirus and Samar Staussi, Angela Byrne, Harriette Cahill, Olga Herbert, Catherine Gapp, Peter Kosciolk, 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, Patricia and Harold Codd, Edward Brauer, Peter Brown, Michael Paice and Oscar Carrier-Sippy.

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

We remember all whose anniversary occurs at this time, Lucy Dantas, Margaretha Taylor, Roy Ernest Haslehurst, Rosemary Zarri, Donald Millar Keith, Maureen Coleman Stromborg.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace amen.

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 0208 725 3069.

FAMILIES IN NEED

If you are in need of help or know of a family who is in need, please contact The Sacred Heart Conference for SVP, in confidence, either through the website https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/Groups/290592/SVP_The_Society.aspx or phone the presbytery 020 8946 0305 and ask to be put in touch with SVP.

PARISH EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Re-OPENING THE PARISH HALLS:

The Parish is keen to re-open the halls as soon as it is safe to do so. We are currently putting together a Covid-19 Risk Assessment for each of the halls, as required by the Government and the Diocese. If you would be interested in finding out more, or would like to get involved in helping in respect of your activities, please email sarah.tobin@btconnect.com. We hope to have the Risk

Assessment completed this weekend and to get the latest guidance from the Bishops Conference following the most recent instructions issued by the Prime Minister.

The EXPLORING THE GOSPEL GROUP meets every second Monday from 11.00-12.00am – at present, meetings are held on Zoom. We explore together various books of the New Testament, each of us in turn preparing and leading the discussion. It has proved to be a real joy to share the scriptures with each other, to spend time to consider the Word in depth, to hear the insights of each group member as we deepen our understanding of the texts and how they relate to our own lives and to the world we are living in. New members would be very welcome – please contact sadiesmith3@talktalk.net, or phone 07752 831 304.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

This group started over 10 years ago for people who had practically never read the Bible, and so do not fit into other groups whose members are all well versed in the Scriptures. We soon realised we were floundering and needed the support and insights of someone more experienced and in 2019 Sr Dorothy Perrott took us under her wing. We meet for about an hour on 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. So far, we have covered the 4 Gospels in great detail.

We stopped meeting at lockdown, but have resumed meeting on Zoom since June.

Enquiries to: Maggie Woo 020 7041 6115 or woo574@talktalk.net

LECTIO DIVINA GROUP.

Lectio Divina has been operating in the parish for over 25 years.

We now meet by Zoom every Friday from 11 am -12 noon.

We read the full readings for the forthcoming Sunday Mass.

It is not a Bible discussion session, but a prayerful reading and sharing and we end with some intercessory prayers.

All welcome. Contact Bridget: 07981941516.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING

At the end of a session in the parish about the Pope's encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium*, a small group of us decided that we would like to meet regularly to pray together for Evangelisation in our world and particularly in our parish. Sister Gretta offered the Sisters' chapel in their house in Mayfield Road as a possible venue for the group. The time of one hour, from 8.00 pm to 9.00 pm on Wednesday evenings was agreed by all. We are usually nine or ten people wishing to pray together. From the start prayer of intercession was envisaged as the main focus of our group. The format of meetings is informal with plenty of space for individual, spontaneous petitions. We usually start with a time of

adoration, praise and thanksgiving in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Often some Scripture is read or individuals share some inspiration for life or prayer. There are short silent pauses for reflection and private prayer. We are so lucky to have members who can sing and lead us in choruses of praise and love. During lockdown we have continued to meet through zoom! If anyone would like to join our group please let me know Sister Gretta McCormick email: grettamccormick@yahoo.com 0208 543 0594 Sisters

SIGNED MASS

Ever since the early 2000's there has been a monthly signed (and spoken) Mass in Wimbledon's Sacred Heart Parish. It has been served by several signing priests including, Father Gerard Mitchell SJ (who learned signing for this purpose whilst Parish Priest here) and Bishop Paul Hendricks. As with all churches and services, our regular signed Mass at 4pm on the fourth Sunday of every month was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic and since March of this year the event has been suspended. We were hoping to restart this September but, the fear of a second wave has resulted in the various restrictions so we will have to hold out a bit longer. All deaf, hard of hearing, hearing people and friends will be most welcome to attend once the Masses can restart. Meanwhile anyone interested is invited to our section of the Sacred Heart Wimbledon parish website at:

https://sacredheart.churchinsight.com/Groups/290393/Signed_Mass.aspx

You can also call or text Jan Chmielewski on 07711 705 771 or email janmob@gmail.com

More information on Catholic Deaf Awareness is available by emailing from the Southwark Diocese deaf service: deafservice@rcaos.org.uk

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TRAI DCRAFT

Many of you will have seen the table and bought goods outside the church for many years. While present conditions make it inadvisable to sell in this way for the foreseeable future, the need of poor producers in the third world to sell their goods at a fair price has increased. You can still help them by buying online from the Traidcraft shop, www.traidcraftshop.co.uk. Traidcraft

challenges the system by modelling a better way to do business. It's about fair terms and fair pay, ethical and eco-friendly products. Their new Autumn catalogue is just out and can be ordered from the website. Alternatively, after browsing the website, you can place an order with Celia and Maggie, have it delivered free, and get the advantage of no postage and discounted prices. Please contact celiacviic@btinternet.com. Either way, your option for Traidcraft will really make a difference.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO

In this difficult time of the COVID pandemic, a lot of very good things have been happening across the parish and we want to thank all the kind and selfless people and celebrate those who have been shopping, phoning and visiting others since lockdown started five long months ago in March.

Every blessing on you all.

Canon John