



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

NEWS and VIEWS 27

27 SEPTEMBER 2020

URGENT:

We are now in urgent need of more volunteer stewards to keep the church open for the scheduled masses and private prayer. Last week we asked for volunteers over 70 who are fit and able to help during the quiet, private prayer sessions. This week we are calling on young people and have just enlisted a 14 year old who has volunteered as part of their Duke of Edinburgh community service. Check with your parents and then contact Alison Lobo radar1972@hotmail.com, mobile 07711583414. Every little helps!

TIMES OF SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

Mass will be celebrated each day at 10am and 6:30pm from Monday to Saturday. 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

REINSTATING THE 6:30pm MASS:

From this Monday 28th September we will be reinstating the 6:30pm Mass each evening Monday to Saturday. The Mass is open to all parishioners. Extra capacity will be available in the hall as usual. We expect that some first holy communicants will be present at these masses for the first three weeks. We invite the whole parish to pray for them, and to watch on-line if you are unable to watch in person. This supersedes previous notices and statements about invitations to guests. Everyone from our parish community is welcome at this mass and it will be in accordance with our normal Sunday and weekday safety protocols. This Mass is not a life event.

The church will be open for private devotions **Monday to Friday from 11am to 2:00pm** unless there is a funeral mentioned below 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.

Please remember that numbers of guests at funerals are limited to 30 and 15 for weddings. So, unless invited by the family to attend the service please do not attend funeral services. The services are normally streamed.

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, 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.

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.

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

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 Kosciolek, 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, Cecilia Wiggins, Michael Paice, Oscar Carrier-Sippy and Kim Perrott McGroarty

We pray for those who have died including all killed by the Coronavirus, We pray for Ileana Troiano and Joseph Faria.

We remember all whose anniversary occurs at this time Fr Patrick Cooper SJ, Ellen Harrison, Ben Lorenzo, Noel Roger Napaul, Yvonne Stephens-Tourier, Giuseppe Savatio, Maria Conception Vaamon Callanza, Desmond Worth, Sr

Kevin Dolan SSA, Horace D'Cruz, John David Breen, John Park, Peter Burns, Sidney Hunt, Sean Lynagh, Carmen Requena and Gabriele Meehan.

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 of SVP, in confidence, either through the website [https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/Groups/290592/SVP The Society.aspx](https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/Groups/290592/SVP%20The%20Society.aspx) or phone the presbytery 020 8946 0305 and ask to be put in touch with SVP.

SCHOOL APPLICATION FORMS:

Applications forms for all Catholic Schools carry a paragraph needing a recommendation from the local parish priest supporting the application. Usually this would give me an opportunity to meet parents when they come along with their forms to get them signed. This year because of the threat of the virus I am unable to meet parents as I am in the category needing shielding.

We have considered different ways in which we can work around the problem of completing the forms without getting too close to the parents. Each school will distribute the application forms when requested. The forms, when completed by parents will be handed to the school by a set date identified by the school. After 72 hours the forms will be transferred to the presbytery for Canon John to sign. After completion of the signing of the forms by Canon John, they will be returned to the school. Two reminders

only forms fully completed will be accepted by Canon John for signing and, no forms presented after the closing date advised by each school will be accepted for signing.

OUR YOUTH MINISTER AND THE LONDON MARATHON:

Eleanor, our Parish Youth Minister, will be taking part in this years 'virtual' London Marathon to raise money for CAFOD. CAFOD are an international development charity and the official agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. They reach out to people living in poverty with particular help, whatever their religion or culture. They campaign for global justice, so every woman, man and child can live a full and dignified life. If you are able to

support Eleanor and CAFOC in sponsorship, please use this web link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/eleanor-roberts01>.

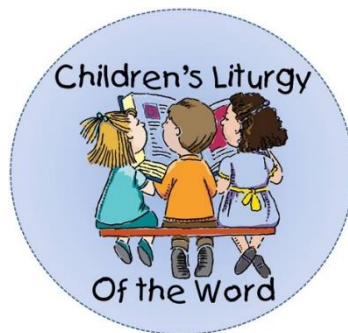
PARISH EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

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.

To the children of our Parish, a little message from your Children's Liturgy



Team, we really miss your lovely faces on a Sunday and enjoying our interesting and lively discussions. We had really hoped to resume our programme now that school is back; hopefully it won't be too long before we see you again. In the meantime, these are websites with activities and explanations of the Liturgy of the Word.

www.cafod.org.uk

www.rcdow.org.uk

Hoping that you and your families are all well,

The Children's Liturgy Team

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

SOUP RUN

The Sacred Heart Soup Run has been running for the last 20 years or so, twice a week (Tuesdays and Fridays) to the Victoria area in central London. A rota system operates and there are four groups allocated to each day, where each group goes out once in a four-week cycle.

We are supported by local volunteers who fill a number of different roles in the group. Soup and sandwich makers prepare food at home, on the day of the soup run, and drop it off at the lower hall kitchen. 'Soup-runners' prepare flasks of tea/coffee and take the ready-prepared food out to Victoria.

We've currently paused our Soup Run activities due to the Coronavirus. For more information and how you can be involved once we start again please contact sacredheartsouprun@gmail.com or Damian Finlayson on 077 0605 4951.

TRAIDCRAFT

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.

FAITH IN ACTION The parish was also very much involved in setting up a day centre for the homeless in Merton and a number of parishioners together with other faith members help to run it on a twice weekly basis.

Unfortunately, due to government restrictions, currently we are only open for pre-arranged appointments on Wednesdays and Fridays from 11am to 2pm. If you are homeless and would like to make an appointment to see one of our team members, please contact us at 07843 280419 or email us at team@mertonfaithinaction.org. Thank you.

For more information and if you would like to get involved on **Faith in Action**, please go to <http://www.mertonfaithinaction.org>

SOCIETY OF CATHOLIC ARTISTS

To celebrate its 90th year of existence the Society of Catholic Artists has an online exhibition of both religious and secular works. The society was started in celebration of 100 years of Catholic Emancipation in England. The link to this beautiful exhibition which can be shared is: <http://www.catholicartists.co.uk/90years>
It is well worth viewing

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