THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART



Tel: 020 8946 0305 Sacred Heart Presbytery Email: wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk Edge Hill, Wimbledon Web: www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk London, SW19 4LU

NEWS and VIEWS 35

29 NOVEMBER 2020

First Sunday of Advent (B) Vol I psalter week 1 This Sunday's Readings: Is 63:16-17;64:1.3-8 Ps 79:2-3.15-16.18-19 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITING THE CHURCH DURING THE COMING WEEK

Monday 30 November until Wednesday 2 December:

10am & 6.30pm: live streamed Mass (church closed to parishioners)

10.30am - 12 noon: private prayer with Exposition (church open to all)

From Thursday 3 December Masses open to parishioners will resume again.

Masses are celebrated at 10am and 6.30pm on weekdays and at 10am & 6.30pm on Saturday, at 10am, 12 noon, 5pm and 8pm on Sunday.

Please note that the 6.30pm Mass on Saturday 5 December will be the first of five Confirmation Masses (5, 7, 12, 14 and 18 December - all at 6.30pm)

Confessions: Saturday 10.30 - 11.30am and 6.00 - 6.20pm

The church will be open for private prayer and Exposition from 10.30am - 12 noon Monday - Friday. There will be no private prayer or Exposition at weekends.

Funerals can take place in the church, but are limited to 30 people only, they will normally be live streamed.

The funeral Mass for David William Fyfe will be celebrated on Tuesday 1 December at 12.30pm. The funeral Mass for Dr Maryann Barone-Chapman will be held on Thursday 3 December at 11.30am (no private prayer and Exposition that day).

Any time the church is open, there will be stewards on duty to ensure we observe the COVID-safety practices, parishioners are asked to wear face masks when entering the church and will have to complete the track and trace forms provided by the stewards.

For further information please visit the parish website https://www.sacredheartwimble_don.org.uk or telephone the Presbytery (020 8946 0305) between 9.30am and 4pm on weekdays. Please note that you should not visit the Presbytery without a prior appointment.

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to act as stewards to enable the church to be kept open for private prayer and for Masses (again from Thursday 3 December). If you would like to help, please contact Alison Lobo at radar1972@hotmail.com or call 07711 583 414.

CALLING ALL THOSE ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

The Parish now has a Facebook Page and Twitter account. We warmly invite you to 'like us' on https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartwimbledon and follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/SHWimbledon. During this period, we'll be using these platforms, in addition to *News & Views*, to post information about Masses, parish groups and other news. We also have a Parish Facebook Group, www.facebook.com/groups/221586015725496/ where you can share anything that has encouraged you spiritually, prayer needs or questions with fellow parishioners.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Please pray for those who are sick, Kim Perrot McGroaty, Simon Wood, Pamela Hannigan, Samar Staussi, David Carrier, Oscar Carrier-Sippy, John Clancy, Mary Razvi, Andrew Tan, Ian Parr, Harriette Cahill and Paul Saunders.

We pray for those who have died recently, and all who have died due to the effects of the Coronavirus, Maureen Kelleher, Maria Rynsaard, Davy Kenny, Dr Maryann Barone-Chapman, David Fyfe and Paul Jong.

We remember all whose anniversary occurs at this time: James Westbrook, Ella Stephen, Agnes Degnan, Elisabeth Ann Hussey and Serenella Randolph.

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

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES

On Sunday 29 November there will be a blessing of the graves. **Please note the new beginning time, 2.00pm,** at Garth Road Cemetery (the actual cemetery, not the cemetery with the nearby crematorium). Canon John and Fr Joseph will go to each grave and give a blessing. There will be no communal prayer. They. There should be no more than 5 people at each grave.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

The R.C.I.A. journey is on-going and we welcome anyone who would like to join us. Please get in touch with Sr Dorothy in the parish (020 8946 0305 or dorothyperrott@ aol.com), see also the Sacred Heart Parish website for more information.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Mustard Seeds: During this second lockdown, at 11am on Sundays there will be a short session led by Eleanor (Youth Minister) unpacking the week's Gospel message for families particularly with children in primary school. For more information and Zoom details please email Eleanor (eleanor.bowman@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk).

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

On Sunday13 December at 3pm we will be hosting an online Christingle Service for families to help us prepare for our Christmas celebrations. If you would like to join us, please let Eleanor know by emailing her (eleanor.bowman@sacredheartwimble don.org.uk) so that you can receive resources and the link to join!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

While it seems Children's Liturgy will not resume in person for some time, we have found an alternative resource for parents to use with their children from home. CAFOD have produced a virtual Children's Liturgy which can be accessed via their website or the following link: https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy

SHORT FILMS FOR ADVENT

The Sacred Heart Parish is hitting the small screen this Advent! Each Sunday of Advent, we will be releasing a new film with prayers, video clips from around the parish and some wonderful singing brought to you by our parish schools and our own musicians. All in just 3 minutes! An opportunity to pause and reflect on the meaning of Advent. And a great way to stay connected as we prepare for Christmas at a time when it is not so easy to get together in person. You can view the first film this Sunday by visiting the parish-website www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk or by following www.facebook.com/sacredheartwimbledon or www.facebook.com/sacredheartwimbledon or www.sacredheartwimbledon or <a href="www.sacredheartwimb

PARISH BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

The Parish Bereavement Support offers individual (confidential) support by appointment to ANYONE who is experiencing the pain of bereavement, irrespective of when or where the bereavement took place. Grief is a particular isolating experience that can affect all aspects of your life, physically, emotionally and socially, there are so many

kinds of grieving. We are here for you. Sadly, during these difficult times, we are restricted to support by telephone. But you are very welcome to talk to one of our trained group members for a friendly conversation, to help you to cope with your sadness. This group has been working in the Parish since 2012. Please feel very welcome to contact us at any time – call Sadie Smith 020 8946 5198 or email sadiesmith3@ talktalk.net.

On **Saturday 28 November, the 10am Mass** will be for all who are bereaved. Sadly, this will have to be scaled down to a very simple liturgy this year, but it will be streamed so everyone can join in.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC BY CANDLELIGHT

Calling all concert lovers! We are delighted to announce a live, socially distanced concert of Christmas music at Sacred Heart on Saturday 19 December at 8pm with 6 professional singers performing repertoire from across the ages. The concert will last for approximately one hour with no interval.

It has been a particularly difficult time for singers and musicians since March and this is an opportunity to support a struggling industry by providing work and donating half of the profits to Help Musicians



UK. The other half will support the Parish *Christmas High Tea Hampers* (see below). There are 72 zones in our church for audience members: single occupancy will be £15 and multiple occupancy of up to 4 people will cost £25. As per Mass, track and trace forms will be needed and face masks should be worn. Please contact rachel@marshallemail.net for ticket reservations. This is a rare opportunity to enjoy live festive music. Please do support them!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE CRIB SERVICE

We are determined that the Crib Service on Thursday 24 December at 3.30pm will go ahead this year albeit in a slightly different and reduced way. We are looking for groups of siblings to form the following acting groups: a brother and sister for Mary and Joseph, 2+ siblings for innkeepers, 2+ for angels including Gabriel, 2+ for shepherds and 3/4 for the Kings and star (optional) and one family in reserve. There will be two microphones for readers, so we would like either two individual readers or two families of readers. Social distancing will be necessary and we would like parents to be present for the rehearsal and service to ensure this. The rehearsal will be on the day at 2pm followed by the 3.30pm Crib Service. Please email rachel@marshallemail.net if you would like your children to participate. Actors should be between 5 and 11 years old (to avoid the need for face masks) with readers preferably in years 7-9. Please do volunteer your children and help us to make this service as beautiful as usual.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2020

Sad News and Happy News:



We cannot have our very enjoyable Christmas Lunch this year and sadly, we are not allowed to send out a hot meal, or meal that needs to be heated, which is very disappointing to all of us.

So, Canon John, the Clergy and the Parishioners would like to send out a *Christmas High Tea Hamper* to anyone in Wimbledon and Raynes Park who will be on their own this Christmas. Please let us know if you know someone who would appreciate receiving a hamper and a goodie bag by calling Sadie Smith.

If you would like to volunteer to help in the preparations, or are able to deliver the hampers just before or on Christmas Day, please contact Sadie.

Donations will be most welcomed to offset the costs. Cash and Cheques should be made payable to Name: SACRED HRT COVENNT and marked '*Christmas Lunch*' (Send to The Presbytery, Edge Hill, SW19 4LU).

Bank Transfers are also welcome payable to

Name: SACRED HRT COVENNT Sort code 60-24-07 Account no. 33138672 (please reference: 'Christmas Lunch' to avoid confusion).

You will find weekly updated details on how you can contribute and offer help, in the *News and Views* and on the Parish Website. Contact details for Sadie Smith: 020 8946 5198, email sadiesmith3@taktalk.net

We are very grateful for any kind of support!

HOSPITAL CONTACTS

If you or a member of your family are admitted to one of the local hospitals, do please let the hospital's Catholic chaplain know. Our main hospital is St George's, and the chaplain Fr Mark Higgins can be contacted on 020 8725 3069. The contact number for Fr Philip Pak, chaplain at St Heliers and Epsom Hospital, is 020 8296 2000; for Fr Tony Oleh, chaplain at Kingston Hospital, it is 020 8546 7711.

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 St Vincent de Paul, 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.

EDGE HILL PLAYERS

Edge Hill Players are presenting a streamed Christmas entertainment from mid-December for parishioners to view on YouTube over the Christmas period. It will be an upbeat

collection of Christmas carols and songs, together with cracker jokes, Christmas preparations etc., all in Christmassy costumes. We are also planning Zoom excerpts (in costume) of *A Christmas Carol*, and Dancers from Sacred Heart School.

There will be a family feel, with five talented families singing in groups, to remind us of the family ethos of Christmas. Children will feature, as it is very much their time of year. We will light the Advent candles one by one through the show. We hope the moving finale will be Katy Lees singing *O Holy Night* in the church to the accompaniment of the organ and the parish choir (socially distanced).

Ideas for Christmas preparation videos, which will appear between the main items, are: cracker pulling, present wrapping, present opening, card writing, Christmas decorating, mulled wine prepping, cake mixing, cake icing and wreath making.

The link to the final show will be on the *Edge Hill Players* website. Contributions must be submitted by Friday 4 December. The final show will be available from 7pm on Friday 18 December.

ONLINE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Macmillan Fair Online

As the Macmillan Christmas Fair can't be held in the normal way this year, you might be interested to know that an online fair with *Brilliant Little Brands* as host will be held instead.

BLB is a new website set up in order to give an outlet to those small businesses who can no longer attend fairs and house sales. They have recently upgraded the site to that of a market place, i.e. like *Amazon* and *Not on the High Street*, so you are able to purchase multiple items from different 'stalls' in one shopping trolley.

What makes this different to those online giants is that BLB give 10% of every sale to charity - just as they would at the fairs, they wish they were able to attend. No codes to enter, it's brilliantly set up as the site gives the 10% to the fair you attend. The Macmillan Fair is open and may be found at www.brilliantlittlebrands.com/mertonmacmillan. If you wish to make a donation you can find a *Donate* button on the fair home page or alternatively visit https://macmillan-org.enthuse.com/merton/profile. Thank you for supporting this good cause!

THE PASSAGE

The Passage - To Ending Homelessness is raising funds through the Big Give from Tuesday 1 December 12 noon –Tuesday 8 December 12 noon to support its work helping homeless people this winter. 'Double your Donation, Double your impact': This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. If someone (can be a company, individual or trust) gave £10 online, matched giving of £10 would bring the Gift up to £20 (and

for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). For more information contact Andrew Hollingsworth at 020 7592 1886 or andrew.h@passage.org.uk

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Burlington Road is conducting 1:1 bespoke tours and open mornings each week in December. They would be delighted to welcome you to their Outstanding Catholic school (S48 inspection). Please contact them on 020 8942 0215 or school@sacredheart.merton.sch.uk or visit https://www.sacredheart.merton.sch.uk/open-mornings/

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON FAITH ENGAGEMENT

Colin Bloom has been appointed, as the Faith Engagement Adviser at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, to lead an online review into how best the government should engage with faith groups in England.

This seems to be a rare but valuable opportunity to let the government know how we feel about their current and ongoing ways of engagement. We are all encouraged, if possible, to take this opportunity to show the government the depth and reach of our commitment to our faith and all that it stands for.

The review closes on Friday 11 December. More details about how to respond to the review can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/independent-faith-engagement-review-call-for-evidence.

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 helping and supporting others in so many ways since the first lockdown started eight long months ago in March.

Every blessing on you all.

Canon John