



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
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25th September 2022

Newsletter

Vol 8, Issue 32

**Twenty-Sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time (C)**

**Twenty-Sixth Week
in Ordinary Time**

Vol III. Psalter week 2

A Tale of two Souls

Today's gospel presents us with a tale of two souls who knew each other in life but ended up in two completely situations.

The fact of one being rich and the other poor is incidental compared with their relationship with God.

Jesus in relating the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, wants to illustrate the point that the perspective on life we adopt during our time on earth we take with us into eternity. Jesus, once again, emphasises the danger of wealth, not as an evil in itself - wealth can be used for good after all - but as a means for self-indulgence: it is in the extravagance and the luxury of the rich man's life that he becomes fatally blinded to the danger of spiritual atrophy.

Indulgence in luxury when taking the form of gluttony, produces a desensitization of the spirit in the rich man. He becomes unable to love at very basic level; to love your neighbour as yourself which is an act of justice in the natural order. We note that the rich man does not end up in Hades for having committed murder, or adultery or stealing which are sins of commission, but for the sin of omission: because of a way of living centred entirely on self, with no reference to God or the other: he is unfaithful to his very nature as a person, a human being whose purpose is to be in relationship and consider the good of the other.

To indulge pleasure to such a degree induces a spiritual blindness in the rich man to the extent that he no longer sees the plight of the poor man Lazarus; he is incapable of empathising with his plight, let alone try to alleviate his suffering by giving him something to eat: he just doesn't see him.

The pride of riches and their possession, and the indulgence to excess in pleasuring the senses has robbed the rich man of the natural ability to seek the good of the other by giving of himself, and some of his own substance, to alleviate the suffering in the other. The greatest spiritual enrichment we can hope for is to give of ourselves, because by giving we attain to spiritual freedom and union with God by seeing and serving Christ in our neighbour. Indeed, in offering us the model of Lazarus Jesus is asking us to see in the despised, marginalised and dejected a model of Himself.

By contrast with the rich man Lazarus has no choice but to look beyond the goods of this world to spiritual goods. Poverty is deprivation, but paradoxically, it broadens the perspective of one who suffers it by considering God and a life beyond this earthly existence as their ultimate good. To desire that good is wisdom which ultimately leads to union with God in eternity.

The greatest good we possess in this life is the spiritual ability to love, and to perform the works of love; the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy that Jesus requires of us his disciple in the gospels. In the short time we have on earth, these works are the means Jesus offers us for growth into true and lasting happiness, both in this world and eternal union with God in the next.

Fr Matthew Donnelly

Next Sunday's Readings Twenty-Seventh Sunday (C)

- Habakkuk 1:2-3;2:2-4
- Psalm 94:1-2.6-9
- 2 Timothy 1:6-8.13-14
- Luke 17:5-10

Upcoming Events

Sunday 25 September

- Continental breakfast after 8am Mass -12noon, Lower Hall
- Children's Liturgy during the 10am Mass
- 12noon Solemn Requiem Mass for HM Queen Elizabeth II

Wednesday 28 September

- Newman Circle, talk by Denis Barry, 7.30pm, Lounge

October

- Mon, Tue, Thu 5.30-6.30pm, Rosary, church

THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest: Canon John Clark

Parish Clergy: Fr Joseph Donkor, Fr Matthew Donnelly, Deacon Julian Burling and Deacon Shaun Crocker

Team members: Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU, Sr Francis SSA

Faith Minister (Children, Young People & Families): Eleanor Bowman

SECOND COLLECTION

This Sunday, 25 September, the parish is organising a collection to contribute to the Pakistan Floods Appeal: Devastating floods have hit Pakistan, submerging vast areas of land, and leaving 6 million people in need of urgent help. Aid agencies are working in challenging conditions to meet people's basic needs such as food, clean water and shelter, and the government of Pakistan has called for international assistance to provide humanitarian aid. Thank you for supporting this appeal generously.

CONTL. BREAKFAST

We will meet again for a continental breakfast today 25 Sept after the 8am Mass until noon in the Lower Hall. Come and join us for lovely croissants, tea & coffee and a chat.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

The 108th World Day for Migrants and Refugees, an international day of prayer, is celebrated this year on 25 September; it offers an occasion to express concern for different vulnerable people on the move; to pray for them in the challenges they face; and to increase awareness about the opportunities that migration offers. Both the Bishops' Conference (<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wdml/>) and the Vatican (<https://migrants-refugees.va/>) have websites dedicated to Migrants and Refugees.

Pope Francis' theme for this year's WDMR is 'Building the Future with Migrants and Refugees'. The Holy Father asks us to proclaim the message that full citizenship of God's Kingdom does not exclude those most vulnerable.

Parish News

OCTOBER MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of *Our Lady of the Rosary* is celebrated annually on October 7. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

In this month of October, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we can use in order to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

During the month of October, Rosary will be said in the church on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 5.30-6.30pm.

MERTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

... needs volunteers in the Lower Hall over the Christmas period and for Thursday evenings from 26 January to 9 March. For details and specific times over Christmas, please email your interest to David at dthurst52@gmail.com. Thanks to all past Night Shelter volunteers in 2019 and 2020.

Announcements

NEWMAN CIRCLE

The Newman Circle will hold a meeting on Wednesday 28 September at 7.30pm, Parish Lounge, on *'Is the right to strike consistent with the Common Good?'* To consider this issue we have invited Denis Barry, an excellent speaker, who has been a criminal barrister for 24 years, to explain why Criminal Barristers have recently decided to strike. Denis is a past pupil at Wimbledon College and a former parishioner at Sacred Heart.

SACRED HEART DEVOTION GROUP

The group is organising an Adoration Service in the church on Friday 7 October, the first Friday of the month, after the 6.30pm Mass. There will be devotional prayer held on Saturday 8 October after 10am Mass at the chapel of the Sacred Heart in the church. All are welcome to join the group to adore the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

ST BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR

In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette will journey on

pilgrimage to England, Scotland and Wales for the very first time. This very special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes, near them. The relics are due to visit St George's Cathedral from the morning of Wednesday 19 until the morning of Friday 21 October; they will also visit Aylesford from Monday 24 until Friday 28 October. Please consult the website of each venue for further details.

Parish Organisations

MEMORY LANE CLUB

This popular club for people with dementia and their carers is open every Wednesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm in the Parish Lounge with tea, coffee & cake along with lots of chat, laughter, snooker and different activities. For more information please ring Jenny on 07906 856 183.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

On Friday 7 October at 2.30pm in the Lounge meet for the film: *'Breakfast at Tiffany's'* starring Audrey Hepburn & George Peppard. Ice creams, tea and biscuits. All welcome!

THURSDAY GROUP

The Thursday Group founded by Fr Mitchell SJ is for anyone with, or who has

had mental health problems. The purpose of the Group is to offer support and friendship. The group meets on Thursday afternoons at 3pm in the Parish Lounge. If this could be of interest and help to you please ring 07507 672 833 for more details.

Social & Cultural

PANTOMIME AFTER CHRISTMAS

Following Edge Hill Players' very successful *The Sound of Music* production, the parish pantomime after Christmas is to be *Jack and the Beanstalk*. The primary school children's sign-up is this week, 4 - 5.30pm on Thu 29 Sept in the Upper Hall - all are welcome. The evening launch for everyone else will be at 7.30pm on Tue 4 Oct, also in the Upper Hall.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wimbledon Music Festival opening concert: Sat 12 Nov, Berlioz' *'L'Enfance du Christ'* (Academy Choir & London Mozart Players); Mon 28 Nov Brahms *'A German Requiem'* with star soloists Sophie Bevan and Roderick Williams. All in the church, details & tickets available at wimbledonmusicfestival.co.uk
Tue 29 Nov in the church, we are showing Cecil B de Mille's epic 1928 silent film *'King of Kings'* with an improvised accompaniment by

David Briggs on our wonderful Walker organ. David played the memorable inaugural recital after the restoration in 2012, and is one of the world's great organists. We are co-hosting in association with the Wimbledon Music Festival, for further details & to book tickets please visit wimbledonmusicfestival.co.uk.

NINTH WIMBLEDON (SACRED HEART) SCOUT GROUP

There are vacancies for boys in the three sections of the Parish Scout Group. Age ranges are: Beavers 6-8 yrs, Cubs 8-10 yrs and Scouts from 10-14 yrs. All sections meet on Monday evenings in the Parish Hall. Places in the top year in the Scouts, Year 9 at school, are full, but there are places available for boys in Years 6, 7 & 8. The Autumn Term is full of exciting opportunities, including an Adventure Weekend for all Scouts in Years 6, 7 & 8 at Walton Firs Activity Centre, Cobham in November, and a Paintball Weekend for

Years 8 & 9 in February. Enquiries to the Group Chairman, Michael Orbell at michaelorbell@hotmail.com.

LONDON MARATHON

Alan Fernandes is joining the Jesuit Missions' Team of runners in the London Marathon on Sun 2 Oct. Funds raised will go to support the work of the Development Projects in South America, Africa and Asia. You can sponsor Alan at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alan-fernandes or at JM, 11 Edge Hill. Thank you for your support for the work of Jesuit Missions.

VACANCIES

The Southwark diocesan Marriage & Family Life team is seeking a married couple, both being practising Catholics, to present six courses/year in various locations in S-London & Kent, as well as providing cover in case of colleagues' illness; all training given. For full job description & details, please contact liamgallagher@rcaos.org.uk. Closing date: 14 October.

New to the Parish?

Please introduce yourself to a member of the Parish Team after Mass and register online at <https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/> or by filling in a registration form, available at the back of the church.

OPEN EVENTS

Ursuline Prep. School: the 1st event of the academic year on Wed 12 Oct at 9.30am is for parents looking for Reception to Year 6 entrance for their daughters. Parents can sign up at [Open Events | Ursuline Preparatory School](#)

A Nursery (boys & girls) specific Open Event for parents will be hosted on Wed 2 Nov.

Wimbledon College: prospective parents and pupils for admission into Year 7 in Sept 2023 are welcome to an *Open Evening* on Thu 29 Sept 5.30-8.30pm. Talks of the Headteacher & tours during the evening (last tours at 7.30pm). Open Mornings: for current Year 6 pupils and by appointment only. 3-5 Oct, 9am www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA

Catholic charity *Stella Maris* invites you to join a webinar on Tue 27 Sept from 7.30-9pm to learn more about the issue of seafarer abandonment, and how donations like yours on Sea Sunday are supporting those in crisis. If you would like to attend, please register in advance at www.stellamaris.org.uk/abandonment.

Exploring our Faith

LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT

You are welcome to a 1-day retreat of quiet reflection on Sat 1 Oct, 11am-4.30pm at Our Lady of Assumption & St Gregory, Piccadilly, W1F 9JR: Rosary, Holy Mass (celebrant priest: Fr Mark Elliott Smith), scripture based talk on *'Suffering'*, Christian Meditation,

Blessed Adoration with Divine Mercy, healing prayers (www.lovehealsbodymindspirit.com).

LONDON JESUIT CENTRE

Amoris Laetitia-Course on the Holy Family: exploring Church teaching on family life and life experience, using Pope Francis' letter to all Christians *Amoris Laetitia*

(*The Joy of Love* 2016): online (7-8pm) and in person (11-12noon) at London Jesuit Centre on Tuesdays 27 Sept to 25 Oct; this course offers an opportunity to reflect on and share own experiences, and explore how they can relate to Church teaching in hopeful and helpful ways. For information and to register call 020 7529 4844 / 4847.

SAFEGUARDING

It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. Further safeguarding information can be found on the parish website.

CELEBRANTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

6.30pm (Sat) Fr Matthew Donnelly
8.00am Fr Joseph Donkor
10.00am Fr Michael Barnes SJ
12 noon Fr Michael Barnes SJ
5.00pm Fr Joseph Donkor
8.00pm Fr Matthew Donnelly

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 24 6.30pm Anne Donaghy RIP
Mon 26 10.00am George Smith RIP
6.30pm Kate Maurice Neville RIP
Tue 27 10.00am Nell Murphy RIP
6.30pm Thomas O'Connor RIP
Wed 28 10.00am Edward Patel RIP
6.30pm Isabelle Walsh RIP
Thu 29 10.00am Teresa Tharatan RIP
6.30pm Forster Family Intentions
Fri 30 10.00am Mariam Tadeusz Owec
6.30pm Anne Donaghy RIP
Sat 1 10.00am Joy Laundry RIP

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.

St George's Hospital: Fr Mark Higgins (020 8725 3069)

St Heliers and Epsom Hospital: Fr Philip Pak (020 8296 2000)

Kingston Hospital: Fr Tony Oleh (020 8546 7711)

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Chelsea Malava-Madaka, Zulema Dene, Alexander Smith, Eira Nancy Smith, Desmond Gunning and Loughlin Callahan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Alfred Mullings, Anthony Bellamy, Fr Patrick Cooper SJ, Desmond Worth and Horace D'Cruz

The sick: David Steele, Saforah Singh, Shanu Mathew, Maureen May, Ryan Lyndsey, Patrick McManus, Samar Staussi, Matthew Bees, Emily Grey, Andrew Tan and Caroline Worrell.

Please note that for data protection reasons, individuals must explicitly agree for their names to be mentioned in our newsletter. Please let the Parish Office know in writing if either your name or the names of your relatives and friends should appear in our sick list.



FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

Sun 25 Sept Day of Prayer for the Harvest
Mon 26 Sept Ss Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs
Tue 27 Sept St Vincent de Paul, Priest, Memorial
Wed 28 Sept St Wenceslaus, Martyr
Thu 29 Sept Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels, Feast
Fri 30 Sept St Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

EXPOSITION

Wednesdays & Fridays
after the 10.00am Mass
and from 5.25 - 6.25pm

RECONCILIATION

Monday - Saturday:
6.00 - 6.20pm
and Saturday morning
10.30 - 11.30am

MUSIC AT THE 12 NOON MASS

Introit: Requiem aeternam (plainsong)
Kyrie: Mass XVIII (plainsong)
Offertory motet: *Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts*, Henry Purcell
S/B/A: Mass XVIII (plainsong)
Communion motet: *In Paradisum* (from Requiem) Gabriel Fauré
691 *The day thou gavest Lord is ended*

If you wish to include items in the weekly newsletter, please keep them brief, - if possible no more than 40 words - send them by Tuesday before publication to newsletter@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk / wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk

PARISH SERVICES

Parish Office/Reception Hours: 9am - 4pm (Mon-Fri), 020 8946 0305

Executive Assistant & Hall bookings: Thelma D'Costa (Mon - Fri 9am - 4pm) Caretaker: George McLennan

Parish Pastoral Council: ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk

Baptism, Marriage, First Sacraments, Funerals contact the parish office.

Bereavement Support: one to one support or bereavement drop-in, please call 07702 339000 between 9am -5pm, more information please contact the co-ordinator by email bereavement.group@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk

Sacred Heart SVP Conference meets to help those living locally in need. All enquiries are dealt with confidentially. Leave contact details with the parish office or email presidentA190704@svp.org.uk.