



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
Edge Hill
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London SW19 4LU

29th January 2023

Newsletter

Vol 9, Issue 4

Fourth Sunday (A)

Fourth Week
in Ordinary Time

Vol I. Psalter week 4

Next Sunday's Readings

- Isaiah 58:7-10
- Psalm 111:4-9
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
- Matthew 5:13-16

Upcoming Events

Saturday 28 January

- Bereavement Support, 10.30am, Parish Lounge

Saturdays 28 January & 4 February

- Edge Hill Players, Panto, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, 2.30 & 7pm, Upper Hall; see p. 3

Friday 3 February

- Friendship Group, 2.30pm, Lounge
- Eucharistic Adoration, after the 6.30pm Mass, Church

The Secret of Happiness

Although Christianity is considered a separate religion to Judaism in the minds of most people, it is, in fact, the completion and perfection of Judaism: all of the promises made to Abraham, Moses and the prophets came to fulfilment in Jesus Christ the Son of God. (Hebrews 1: 1-2)) Indeed, to be a disciple of Jesus engages the gentile (non jew) to observe the 10 commandments, which are summed up in the command Jesus gave to love; but with a love of a particular kind, 'love one another as I have loved you'. (Jn 13; 34) Love of this kind is impossible unless God himself dwells within the soul through the grace of Baptism which is why Jesus makes Baptism a universal pre-requisite to salvation, 'go and teach all nations baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit'. (Mt 28: 19-20)) Indeed to be a disciple means to take on the attitude and perspective of Jesus Himself: it's only then that we can love like Him, and it's in obedience to his command to love that produces happiness in the soul.

Jesus, when teaching the way of discipleship gave us the beatitudes which present the necessary predispositions of those called to discipleship - in other words those called to love after the example that Jesus, a love that produces beatitude i.e. true happiness.

The Beatitudes, therefore, apply to all of us. And so whether rich or poor, when we hear Jesus say 'Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven', we understand that, as disciples, we are detached from earthly wealth as not to make what we can buy and accumulate the centre of our lives, and rather, to put the nurture of faith and the performance of goodness at the heart of our existence. That interior freedom to do good with the wealth we have produces happiness. Similarly, 'blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted'; in other words happy will you be if your consolation when suffering comes from God, because it certainly does not come from the spirit of the world which lets us down time and time again. Interior freedom to love is what lies behind the beatitudes, and so freedom from attachment or longing for worldly power and influence is what lies behind the beatitude 'blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth'. By being detached from the ego, which seeks to exert itself over and against the other, we practise meekness, and allow God to be the power for good flowing through us to the lives of others in a spirit of service. To be persecuted and considered happy at the same time may seem like a paradox, but actually the spirit of this world and the spirit of God are by nature at enmity with each other, and so to be persecuted in the cause of right, that is, for the sake of love in the performance of goodness can draw criticism and condemnation. This even happens in the church when a soul decides on doing some good, they are criticised and undermined by those who seek power and attention for themselves - who do they think they are? Is the common complaint against those who are persecuted in the cause of right.

St. Thomas Aquinas said, if you want the most perfect exemplification of the Beatitudes look to Christ crucified. If we want to be happy, we must renounce

continued on page 2

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

Continued from page 1

what Jesus despised on the cross and love what Jesus loved on the cross.

Wealth, worldly pleasure, earthly power and honour, the things in which we typically seek our joy, are renounced by Christ on the cross. Instead, like Jesus, let us love what Jesus loved; that is, to do the will of His Father. (Jn 14: 15-24). Only in obedience to the Word of God can we carry out the command to love which produces exquisite joy, peace and lasting happiness, not as the world gives it, but only as God can give. (Jn 14:27) Jesus Crucified, who alone mends the breach between God and ourselves, is the true peacemaker, and who alone grants happiness to those who keep His Word.

Fr Matthew Donnelly

THANK YOU

The beneficiary of the Crib Appeal 2022, the charity *Care4Calais*, who looks after refugees, including many children living in our area, would like to thank parishioners for their generosity (and for the warm coats and scarves donated!) at a time when money is understandably tight.

The charity welcomes volunteers (particularly if available during the day) to work with asylum seekers, either in direct contact (conditions apply) or to help sorting donations & other tasks. Please contact David (dhurst52@gmail.com) for more details.

JESUIT MISSIONS STAMP CUTTING

Volunteers are welcome to help trim & sort used stamps to raise money for JM: Thursday 2 February, 9.30am-12.30pm - coffee provided, please bring your own scissors. 11 Edge Hill SW19 4LR.

Parish News

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) at Sacred Heart represents you. Members of the PPC are volunteers who meet monthly to discuss various aspects of parish life. The next meeting is on Thursday 2 February, and everyone's thoughts are invited! If you have something you want discussed, please tell us here <https://forms.gle/nDqE9TVeMidJd2Ef8>

PARISH BUDGET 2023

The Finance Committee have set a budget for this year

which, based on current income levels, is estimated to result in a deficit of £46,000 by the end of the year. Details are published on the parish website at https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/Articles/653789/Finances_2023.aspx.

DIGITAL PLATE DONATIONS

We are changing the permanent display on the Digital Giving Plates at the church door to include an option for those attending Baptisms and Weddings wishing to make a donation to the officiating

priest. In the past this had been done by inviting cash donations. To make a donation to the parish, opt for: 'Parish-General Donation-Priests-Baptism-Wedding' and the usual options for giving will be displayed.

PRESBYTERY RECEPTION

The Parish Office would like to hear from you if you can help out at the Presbytery Reception on Wednesday mornings. Please contact Thelma D'Costa at 020 8946 0305.

Announcements

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please note that during the coming weeks the front few pews at the 10am and 5pm Masses on Sundays will be reserved for the children preparing for the sacrament of First Holy Communion.

SACRED HEART DEVOTION

There will be Eucharistic Adoration on the first Friday of the month, 3 February after the 6.30pm Mass in the church. On Friday 10 February the Devotion

Group will meet to pray at the Sacred Heart Chapel after the 10am Mass. All are welcome.

POPE FRANCIS' MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION

You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for his special intention in February: *'We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and*

welcome towards those most in need.'

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

All are invited to the Racial Justice Sunday Mass celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson at St George's Cathedral on Sunday 5 February at 10am. The Mass will also be live-streamed (<https://bit.ly/RJS2023>).

Those attending Mass in person are encouraged to wear cultural dress and are asked to be seated by 9.45am.

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

Friday 3 February at 2.30pm in the Parish Lounge: talk by Simon Potter. *'The Happiest Days of our Lives?'*, a humorous look at schooling from 1960. Tea and Cakes. All welcome.

ENCOUNTER YOUTH GROUP

Our youth group for those in year seven and above will meet again this Sunday 29 January, Youth Room from 6 - 7pm.

Social & Cultural

EDGE HILL PLAYERS 2023 PANTO

Jack and the Beanstalk

Leave the January Blues at home and come and have a giggle at the Edge Hill Players Panto, *Jack and the Beanstalk*. This Saturday 28 January and Saturday 4 February, 2.30pm at 7pm, Upper Hall. Tickets are available from www.edgehillplayers.com or tel: 07742 230 493.

VACANCIES

Wimbledon College: Wimbledon College Inclusion Supervisor and Deputy DSL vacancy: for further information visit www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk under 'about us'/job opportunities' or apply by online ap-

plication form via eteachmerton.org.uk/volunteering website.

Christian Care: Children's and families' activities coordinator: *Christian Care* is offering you an exciting volunteering role where you can make a real difference.... Do you have a heart for children? Do you have the vision to develop the work our team already does through carefully chosen birthday presents, outings, Polka Theatre workshops, activity camps and holidays to give these youngsters new opportunities and to help them know that they are special?

To find out more please visit <https://www.christiancare>

or phone the *Christian Care* coordinator (07932 628 840).

ENRICHMENT COURSE

Marriage Encounter England and Wales are promoting an upcoming *Experience* in Henden on the Sat 11 & Sun 12 Feb at St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, St Joseph's Grove, The Burroughs, Henden, London, NW4 4TY.

The marriage enrichment courses offer a unique opportunity for couples to rekindle their relationships and focus on what is important to them. Please visit <https://wwwme.org.uk> for info & to book an *Experience*.

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 Preparatory School is holding open events and parents are invited to visit the school on Wednesday 1 February at 9.30am and on Wednesday 15 March at 9.30am.

Parents can sign up at [Open Events | Ursuline Preparatory School](#)

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Donhead Preparatory School: Parents are welcome to visit the school on Friday 10 February to witness the boys in action and to experience the spirit, warmth, and ethos in the Donhead community. The morning will start at 9am with an introductory talk from the Headteacher, followed by a tour of the school with our Year 6 pupils. To register, please visit <https://www.donhead.org.uk/admissions/open-morning-registration>

Exploring our Faith

TAKING LITURGY SERIOUSLY

Following the Society of St Gregory's successful TLSI course, a general introduction to Catholic Liturgy, the 2023 modular study course, taking place on Thursday (9, 16, & 23 February) evenings via Zoom, will focus on all aspects of Eucharist. The next module will comprise three 1-hour sessions, 7.30-8.30pm, offering time for discussion & comments. The course is aimed at all who wish to develop a deeper knowledge of liturgy. In his Apostolic Letter *Desiderio Desideravi*, Pope Francis has once more highlighted the vital importance of the liturgy for the life of the Church by stressing the

urgent need to return to the theological and spiritual sense of Christian celebration and how the faithful are formed both by and for the liturgy. All information & booking can be found at <https://www.ssg.org.uk/taking-liturgy-seriously-2-ssg-study-course/>

DAY CONFERENCE

Catholic Voices and *Word on Fire* are hosting a 1-day conference called 'Sharing the Church's Story' on Saturday 11 February, 10am-5pm at QEII Centre, Westminster, SW1P 3EE. Come and join Catholics, passionate about the renewal of the Church in the UK and a host of speakers including Bishop Robert

Barron. So, whether you are a volunteer, parent, catechist, clergy, religious, or just want a boost for your faith life, then this conference is for you (<https://www.sharingthechurchsstory.com>).

A DAY WITH MARY

You are invited to a *Day with Mary*, a day of instruction, devotion and intercession on Saturday 11 February (Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes) at St Joseph's Church, Orchard Road, Bromley, BR1 2PR, from 9.30am-5pm; celebrant and preacher: Fr Peter Murphy; sermons on Our Lady by Fr Andrew Byrne and Fr Peter Littleton; Silent Adoration, Meditations on the Passion of Our Lord; adaywithmary.org.

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) Canon John Clark & Deacon Julian Burling
8.00am Fr Matthew Donnelly
10.00am Fr Michael Barnes SJ
12 noon Fr Michael Barnes SJ
5.00pm Fr Matthew Donnelly
8.00pm Canon John Clark & Deacon Julian Burling

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 28 6.30pm Des & Joan Matthews RIP
Mon 30 10.00am Percy James and Margaret James
12.30pm Funeral of Jacqueline Newson
6.30pm Anne McAreavey
Tue 31 10.00am Lavina
6.30pm Victoria Imbeth Ints.
Wed 1 10.00am Emily and family Ints.
6.30pm John Gerard Granahan RIP
Thu 2 10.00am Wassim Tappuni RIP
6.30pm Celine McDaid Ints.
Fri 3 10.00am Michael Jones RIP
6.30pm John Abbiss RIP
Sat 4 10.00am Sheena Wilson 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: ask for Cath. Chaplain at reception
St Heliers and Epsom Hospital: Fr Philip Pak (020 8296 2000)
Kingston Hospital: Fr Tony Oleh (020 8546 7711)

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

Entry: 98 *Breath on me, breath of God*
Kyrie/Gloria: 459/460
Offertory motet: *Cantique de Jean Racine*, Gabriel Fauré
Sanctus: 433
Communion motet: *The Lord bless you and keep you*, John Rutter
Post-communion hymn: 598 *Peace, perfect peace*

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Mary Farley, Nick Carew Hunt, Edward Holden, Jacqueline Newsom, Andre Helene, Dominic Sammons, John Abbiss and Christopher O'Brien

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Howard Philpott, Saverio Calise, John Clancy, Dermot Louis Muluihill, Diana Ferrari and Elizabeth Oliver

The sick: Anne McHale, David Fry, Paul Stromborg, Mike Greene, Jacinto Cordeiro, Teresa Escalona, Donal Weir, Giovanni Baldacchino, Kim Carr, Patricia Small, Luca Buttaci, Nancy Drapper, David Steele, Shanu Mathew, Maureen May, Ryan Lyndsey, Samar Staussi, Emily Grey and Andrew Tan.

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

Tue 31 Jan St John Bosco, Priest, Memorial
Thu 2 Feb The Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas
Fri 3 Feb St Laurence of Canterbury, Bishop, Memorial;
St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr
Sat 4 Feb St Henry Morse, Priest and Martyr

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, for 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.