



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
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12th March 2023

Newsletter

Vol 9, Issue 10

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Third week of Lent

Vol II, psalter week 3

Next Sunday's Readings

- I Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13
- Psalm 22
- Ephesians 5:8-14
- John 9:1-41

Upcoming Events

Wednesdays and Fridays

- Stations of the Cross after the 6.30pm Mass

Sunday 12 March

- Jesuit Missions Parish Appeal
- Children's Liturgy during the 10am Mass
- Meeting for Week of Guided Prayer, 4pm, Lounge

Thursday 16 March

- Lent talk, 7.30-8.30pm, Upper Hall

Saturday 25 March

- Sacred Heart Chorus Workshop, 2pm, Parish Lounge

Wednesday 29 March

- Newman Circle meeting, 7.30pm, Lounge see p. 3

Discovering the Heart of Jesus - Fount of Life

An encounter with Jesus results in an inevitable change. The change is internal, and the outside world doesn't experience it except in seeing in us the newness of a different way of life.

The change brought about by Jesus in the Samaritan woman was both private and public. When Jesus refers to her husband, he is not just alluding to her adultery but to idol worship.

The Samaritans, in fact, were hated by the Jews because they worshiped Baal, the fertility God of the pagans whose translation from Hebrew means 'husband'. In fact, idol-worship in the Old Testament was often likened to marital infidelity because the covenants made by God to His people were considered a form of marriage pact sealed forever in blood. Indeed, Samaritans were hated above all because they had once been Jews but infringed the covenants by intermarrying with pagan nations and had abandoned temple worship at Jerusalem to adopt their idolatrous practises based on fertility cults.

To add emphasis, the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan takes place at Jacob's Well which is where Jacob, father of the kingdom of Israel, met his wife Rachel. Jesus, therefore, when speaking to the Samaritan, is making a sort of marriage proposal. The dialogue between them only makes sense when seen in this light. Indeed, Jesus moves the conversation on from her personal morality, and her many husbands, to that of right worship.

Jesus alludes to her idolatry when speaking of Himself: '*He you have now is not your husband*'. In other words, I am not just one of your Baal's (idols), but the Christ, the Son of the living God.

When Jesus talks to her about 'water' he's talking about the newness of the life in God that only He (Jesus) can give - only Jesus can forgive sin and restore us to the Father in a new form of life - God's own life communicated to us by grace.

Indeed, when the Samaritan quizzes him on the right way to worship, Jesus tells her that the time is coming when the Father will be worshiped neither in Jerusalem in the temple, nor as an idol (a sort of fertility symbol) but He rather seeks those who worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

The Church presents us with the theme of living water this week to illustrate the nature of this true worship, that of the worship of the Father in Spirit and in truth. Jesus is the Way the Truth and Life, only through Him can right worship to the Father be given by those immersed in the waters of Baptism and endowed with the gift of the Holy Spirit - the permanent indwelling of God in the soul. They (you and me) are those now empowered to carry on the works of the gospel through the spirit of Jesus.

The water that gushed forth from the rock at Meribah in the first reading, and the living fountain springing up to eternal life spoken of by Jesus at Jacob's Well, find ultimate expression in the pierced heart of Jesus from which flowed blood and water from the cross

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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

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- it's there that the sacramental life of grace begins; first with Baptism, then reconciliation, and then, ultimately, communion with God in the Eucharist through the holy sacrifice of the Mass.

The challenge to us is to relive and engage in the newness of life which sprang forth in us at our Baptism. To re-engage with the Spirit of God by restoring His presence through confession, and to then seek ultimate union with the Father through Jesus in the Eucharist. This is where our Lent is leading - the pierced heart of Jesus still alive in the Eucharist.

Our biggest obstacle, like that of the Samaritan woman, are our idols. Jesus makes the same marriage proposal to us today. Once having left the hedonistic and self-indulgent idols the world has to offer, to which we become so dependent and absorbed, we are able to live a spiritual form of life in union with God Himself: through Jesus Christ in virtue of the outpouring of His spirit upon us from cross, given us in abundance through the sacraments of the Church.

Fr Matthew Donnelly

SECOND COLLECTION

The 2nd collection next weekend, 18/19 March, will be in support of those still suffering the aftermath of the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Thank you for your generosity towards this cause.

THANKYOU

'The Sisters of Christ wish to thank parishioners sincerely for sympathy messages, cards, Mass offerings, flowers, food! which encouraged and supported us immediately after the sudden death of our beautiful Sister Ita Conlan'.

The funeral dates: Thu 30 Mar, 10am, Funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Church; Fri 31 Mar, 10.30am Mass for Sister Ita followed by burial in Sittingbourne Cemetery.

Parish News

JESUIT MISSIONS PARISH APPEAL

This weekend, 11/12 March, Paul Coia will be visiting our parish to speak on behalf of Jesuit Missions for their annual appeal. Jesuit Missions is the intl. mission and development office for the Jesuits in Britain. They support Jesuits and their partners who work with poor and marginalised people in Africa, Asia and

Latin America. A diverse range of projects, including environmental sustainability, skills, training, women's empowerment, education and anti human-trafficking help to create a more just world. Learn more about their programmes & campaigns, and ways that you can get involved. For more info see <https://jesuitmissions.org.uk>

AMDG

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

You are invited to follow the Stations of the Cross in the church, every Wednesday and Friday after the 6.30pm Mass during Lent.

NO CONFESSIONS

Please note that there will be **no** confessions in the morning of Saturday 18 March.

Announcements

LENT TALKS

We continue to explore the significance and importance of reconciliation in our faith and meet again on Thursday 16 March from 7.30-8.30pm in the Upper Hall, and - using the book *The Return of the Prodigal Son* - unpack, reflect & discuss the importance of the story of the Prodigal Son.

R.C.I.A.

There will be a special prayer and blessing for members of our parish R.C.I.A. group, who have begun their final preparation for full reception into the Catholic Church at Easter, on the following 3 Sundays: 12 & 26 March at the 12noon Mass, and 19 March at the 5pm Mass.

Let us continue to keep Daniel, Ian, Kirsten, Linda, Sarah and Sam, also Katie, Sophia and Victor, who will be confirmed, in our prayers.

WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER

The parish is offering a week of guided prayer, also known as a *Retreat in Daily Life*, this Lent from 12-18 March. The week offers the great opportunity to meet a personal guide each day and to share one's prayer. There is commitment to spend some time in prayer each day. A gathering of guides & participants (room for 50 participants) is this Sunday 12 March at 4pm in the Lounge.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING

You are cordially invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Ministry of the late Archbishop Peter Smith to be followed by the unveiling of his portrait and a Reception in Amigo Hall on Friday 31 March at 12.30pm, St George's Cathedral, SE1 7HY.

CHURCHES TOGETHER WEST WIMBLEDON

This annual act of witness starts at 10am on Good Friday, 7 April, at the Lantern Methodist Church, Worple Rd and ends at 11am outside Raynes Park Station; procession, stops at various stages, enacting parts of the passion of our Lord, conclusion with a homily and hymns. It is a wonderful joint act of witness with our brothers and sisters in other Christian Churches. If you are interested in participating (guitar players, flautists, ..) or in taking part in reading or enacting some of the parts, please email the parish (wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk for the attention of Cathy Dickenson).

Parish Organisations

SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY

This is the catechesis proposed by *Communion and Liberation* local community every Friday at 7.30pm in the

Lounge. The meetings are simple and there is no requirement of formal membership. The usual structure involves reflection on a spiritual text and sharing on

how it makes sense in one's own life. For more information, please contact soc.wimbledon@gmail.com (new email address!!).

Social & Cultural

WEST BARNES SINGERS

Come and join the West Barnes Singers for their Passiontide Concert on Saturday 18 March, 7.30pm, at St Saviour's Church, Grand Drive, SW20 9D9; tickets £12 (children under 12 free). For more information contact Carmel Swords (020 8542 4595).

SACRED HEART CHORUS

The Sacred Heart Chorus are performing Bruckner's *Te Deum* and Poulenc's *Gloria* on Saturday 24 June. We would welcome any more parishioners, who would like to sing these marvellous works, and are holding a workshop to introduce the music on Saturday 25 March in the Parish Lounge from 2-5pm. £10 (students free) - email [concerts@sacredheart](mailto:concerts@sacredheartmusic.co.uk)

music.co.uk to let us know if you'd like to attend.

NEWMAN CIRCLE

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 29 March at 7.30pm in the Parish Lounge: Talk and film on the life and assassination of St Oscar Romero. Speaker: Julian Filochowski, former chair of CAFOD & the Romero trust. All welcome.

FREE TRAINING

Along with 13 other local school and faith groups, including Wimbledon College, the parish has been an active member of *Merton Citizens* since April 2018. *Merton Citizens* is part of Citizens UK who use community organising to challenge authority and achieve real change.

Free training in community organising is offered by Citi-

zens UK from 10am-4.30pm on Sat 25 Mar at the Salvation Army, 21 Crown Lane, SM4 5BY. The training will explore how, by building relationships with decision makers, those facing injustice can win the change they seek. Find out more at www.citizensuk.org, to register visit <https://citizensuk.typeform.com/Merton1-day>

VACANCY

There is a vacancy at the Kairos Retreat and Conference Centre, Roehampton, London SW15, for an Operations Manager to manage and oversee the running of the Retreat Centre. Working Hours: 37.5 Monday - Saturday across a rota; if you are interested please email your CV to hr@psmgs.org.uk or call HR on 020 8788 4351.

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.

CARITAS SOUTHWARK

Archbishop John Wilson wishes to share with you the wonderful news that the Archdiocese is about to launch *CARITAS Southwark*, a network to co-ordinate the practical loving service of others, putting faith into action in smaller and larger ways, in service of those who are vulnerable and in need. *CARITAS Southwark* will work with parishes and schools to support them in serving those in need. Volunteers have worked hard to get to this point of a formal launch in a Mass in St George's Cathedral at 12.30pm on Saturday 18 March. Everyone is invited to the Mass and the reception afterwards where you can find out more about the participating groups and charities and about how to get involved.

SHOES & TRAINERS NEEDED

The Jesuit Refugee Service is in need of trainers & other adult shoes in good condition. Please bring any donations to the entrance to the Upper Hall on Sat 18 March between 4-6pm. Alternatively, shoes may be dropped in the box by the front door at 1 Malcolm Road any time until Mon 20 March.

Exploring our Faith

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL INTERFAITH GROUP

The Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group will study chapter 3 '*Envisaging and engendering an open world*' of *Fratelli tutti* (the encyclical by Pope Francis on human fraternity - document available online or from St Paul's bookshop) on Wed 15 March from 2-3.30pm in the Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace, SW1P 1QW. All welcome, no charge to attend.

A DAY WITH MARY

You are invited to a *Day with Mary*, a day of instruction,

devotion and intercession, on Saturday 18 March at St Frances de Sales, Tottenham, N17 8AG, from 10am-5.45pm; celebrant & preacher: Fr David Lucuy Claros; sermons on Our Lady by Frs Charles Soyombo and Walter Ezenwosu MSP; Exposition & Pro-cession of the Blessed Sacrament, Meditations on the Passion of Our Lord, Silent Prayers (www.adaywithmary.org).

LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT

You are welcome to come to a 1-day retreat of quiet

reflection on Sat 18 March from 11am-4.30pm, at the Catholic Church of our Lady of Assumption & St Gregory, Piccadilly, W1F 9JR; Holy Rosary, Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Celebrant Priest: Fr Mark Elliott Smith); lunch break (please bring your own lunch, tea & coffee available); talk based on Scripture, Catholic Christian Meditation, Blessed Adoration - Devine Mercy, Individual Healing Prayers. For more info, please visit www.lovehealsbodymindspirit.com.

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 11 6.30pm Valerie Ashdowne RIP
Mon 13 10.00am Holy Souls
11.30am Funeral of Jacinto Cordeiro RIP
6.30pm Rehana Ints.
Tue 14 10.00am Anne Donaghy RIP
6.30pm Elaine Callow RIP
Wed 15 10.00am Superior General (DHM)
6.30pm Maria Thanksgiving & Good Health
Thu 16 10.00am Canon John Ints.
6.30pm Dan O'Brien (Speedy Recovery)
Fri 17 10.00am Christopher Cooper RIP
11.30am Funeral of Peter Stephens RIP
6.30pm Yvonne D'Costa Birthday Ints
Sat 18 10.00am Anne Coughlan Ints.

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 Isah Katuka (020 8725 3069)

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 hymn: 744 *To Christ the Prince of Peace*

Mass setting: Missal tones (M2/4/9)

Offertory motet: *Sicut cervus*, GP da Palestrina

Communion motet: *The God of love my shepherd is*, Thomas Tallis

Post-communion hymn: 525 *O food of travellers*

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: Teresa Blacknell, Peter Stephens, John Redwood, Sr Ita Conlan (Sisters of Christ), Sungsook Yoo and Jacinto Cordeiro

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Benjamin Green, Rose Webber, Clara Randles, Margaret Thatcher and Ellen Mayo

The sick: Karolina Masica, Peter Boyle, Anne McHale, David Fry, Paul Stromborg, Mike Greene, Teresa Escalona, Donal Weir, Giovanni Baldacchino, Kim Carr, Patricia Small, Luca Buttaci, 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.



COLLECTIONS

PACT, the Prison Advice and Care Trust, wishes to thank you for your very generous support for Prisoners' Sunday in 2022! They are immensely grateful to members of our parish who support them, their donations will make a huge difference to the lives of the families they support.

THANK YOU!

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

Fri 17 Mar St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland, Feast

Sat 18 Mar Collect of St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

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.