



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
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26th March 2023

Newsletter

Vol 9, Issue 12

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

Fifth week of Lent

Vol II, psalter week I

Next Sunday's Readings

- Isaiah 50:4-7
- Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24
- Philippians 2:6-11
- Matthew 26:14-27:66

Upcoming Events

Wednesdays and Fridays

- Stations of the Cross after the 6.30pm Mass

Saturday 25 March

- Bereavement Support, 10.30-11.30am, Lounge
- Sacred Heart Chorus Workshop, 2pm, Parish Lounge

Wednesday 29 March

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

The Raising of Lazarus

In today's Gospel we hear of another of Jesus' great miracles - the raising of Lazarus, and we are called to reflect on what it means to call Jesus the resurrection and the life. We recognise that the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus was a place that brought



Luccio di Buoninsegna, *The Raising of Lazarus*

Jesus comfort as we remember the welcome he was given by Martha. The journey to their house in today's Gospel is a sad one as he has learnt that Lazarus is ill: *'the one you love is sick'* which shows just how special his relationship with Mary, Martha and Lazarus is.

Jesus knows the pain that will come of Lazarus' illness, but he shows us that death cannot separate us from the unconditional love that God has for each

and every one of us. By the time Jesus and the disciples arrive, Lazarus has died and been placed in the tomb. Jesus has a deeply moving conversation with both sisters which ends with *'Jesus wept'*. This very short verse shows us just how moved Jesus was by the death of Lazarus.

It serves as a reminder to each of us that as the community of Church we are called to journey alongside those who suffer the loss of those they love and we

share in their anger, grief and tears. Like Martha and Mary, we know that Jesus is the one who can bring us life and happiness even in the darkest of times.

Jesus is moved to action: *'untie him'* and Lazarus is raised from the dead. God loves

us and God cares for each and every one of us and we will see on Good Friday the extent of this as His only Son takes on all of our pain and through the Incarnation our daily pain can be shared with God.

This week we reflect on that command of Jesus: *'untie him'* and we think of the things we need to let go of in our own lives to truly live in the freedom of God's love.

Eleanor Bowman

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

The second collection this weekend, 25/26 March, will be in support of Poor Parishes (formerly the 'Needs of the Diocese' collection), a collection which enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the smaller parishes in the Diocese.

THANK YOU

'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.

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 Fri 31 March at 12.30pm, St George's Cathedral, SE1 7HY.

GUILD OF ST STEPHEN ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

Altar Servers 45th Annual Rally at The Friars, Aylesford Priory Kent on Monday 1 May starting with sung Mass at 11.30pm, principal celebrant Bishop Paul Hendricks; all welcome ... to worship... to witness... to play football with other servers...

For further information please email the Southwark Guild chairman at john.bonnici@btopenworld.com

Parish News

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.

EASTER BOOKLETS

The Easter 2023 booklets are now available at the back of the church. Please refer to the booklets for dates and

times for the services during Holy Week and Easter.

EASTER CARDS

Easter cards are now available at the Presbytery Reception.

SAVE THE DATE

Dear parishioners, the date for Canon John's retirement party will be on Friday 12 May 2023 at

7.30pm in the Upper Hall. Further details to follow.....

NEWSLETTER

Please note that next weekend's Newsletter (1/2 April) will be the last before the Easter break, we will resume the NL distribution on the weekend of 22/23 April.

Announcements

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, this Sunday 26 March at the 12noon 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.

CHILDREN'S GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

A special service of the Stations of the Cross for children will be held at 11am on Good Friday, 7 April.

A rehearsal for all actors and readers will take place at 9.30am until 10.30am on Good Friday; please email Rachel Marshall (rachel@marshallemail.net) if your child would like to take part. Adult help welcomed!

SPECIAL BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS

We invite parishioners to come to the church on Holy Saturday 8 April at 11am for the blessing of the Easter baskets, a long-established European tradition that has been introduced to our parish last year. Please come along with your Easter food basket for this special service.

Parish Organisations

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

The Bereavement Team invites everyone experiencing loss in their lives, no matter how long ago, to drop in for a coffee and a chat this Saturday 25 March from 10.30-11.30am, in the Parish Lounge.

For more information, please email bereavement@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk

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 14 April, at 2.30pm in the Lounge: your *Desert Island Discs*; do join us for an afternoon of music, tea & cakes. Everyone is welcome!

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 mem-

bership. The usual structure involves reflection on a spiritual text and sharing on how it makes sense in one's own life. For more info, please email soc.wimbledon@gmail.com (new email address!!).

Social & Cultural

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@sacredheartmusic.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 Óscar Romero. Speaker: Julian Filochowski, former chair of CAFOD & the Romero trust who worked with Óscar Romero (Archbishop of San Salvador from 1977, assassinated on 24 March 1980 while celebrating Mass, canonised on 14 October 2018). Julian will introduce a powerful documentary 'Righting the Wrong', providing an excellent overview of Romero's life and martyrdom (film lasts 80 minutes, considered the best film

about St Óscar Romero currently available, Spanish with English subtitles).

Oscar Romero was a voice for those who had no voice. He spoke truth to power. He loved the poor, defended the poor and challenges us to become their advocates. All are welcome to this talk.

DESIGN HELP WANTED

Are you a professional graphic designer? Could you help the parish design an A5 fundraising leaflet? Please email Primi at primi@fontanora.com if you think you can volunteer.

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.

KATY'S SONGBIRDS: LONG COVID - HELP RAISE AWARENESS

Katy's Songbirds & Friends invite you to a Prosecco Afternoon Tea in support of Kim Elston and her family and to help raise awareness of the effects of Long Covid on Saturday 29 April 3-5pm Upper Hall, Sacred Heart Church; £25 p/p (adults only and children Year 6+) Includes performances by Katy's Songbirds and Edge Hill Players, bar and raffle (cash & credit card). For individual and group tickets please scan the QR code or email Maria at ksongbirds656@gmail.com



Exploring our Faith

A DAY WITH MARY

You are invited to a *Day with Mary*, a day of instruction, devotion and intercession, on Saturday 22 April at the Shrine of St Augustin and National Pugin Centre, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 9NY, from 10am-5.15pm; celebrant & preacher: Fr Christopher Basden; sermons on Our Lady by Fr Simon Heans; Exposition & Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, Meditations on the Passion of Our Lord, Silent Prayers (www adaywithmary.org).

I am 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).

now once more able to include support for pilgrims who need assistance for medical or mobility reasons. In Lourdes, those who are often marginalised are placed at the centre, and we who travel with them are blessed by their presence. I warmly invite you to join us.' For details, please see <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/southwark-ca>

PASSION OF CHRIST

Wintershall will once again be performing the Passion of Jesus Christ live in Trafalgar Square on Good Friday 7 April at 12noon & 3.15pm. Performances are free, all are welcome, arrival in good time to obtain a seat strongly recommended. No tickets required (<https://www.wintershall.org.uk/passion-jesus-london>).

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 this month. In his prayer intention for April we are encouraged to pray for a culture of peace and non-violence: 'We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.'

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

SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

18-25 August. Message from Bishop Paul: 'After the restrictions of the past few years, I'm delighted that we are

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 25 6.30pm Queen of Peace
 Mon 27 10.00am Joe d'Costa RIP
 6.30pm Holy Souls
 Tue 28 10.00am Joyce Shannon RIP
 11.00am Funeral Teresa Blackhall
 6.30pm Paul Savio Thanksgiving
 Wed 29 10.00am Loretta Wilson Ints.
 6.30pm M. Sagucio, D. Romano, R. Lumayad RIP
 Thu 30 10.00am Funeral Mass for Sr Ita Conlan
 6.30pm David Desmond RIP
 Fri 31 10.00am Thanksgiving to St Jude
 6.30pm Special Intention
 Sat 1 10.00am Emily Grey & family 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)

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Christina Nora Forley, Michael Cunnane, Anna Abasdal, Christopher Webb, Doug Portious, Teresa Blackhall, John Redwood and Sr Ita Conlan (Sisters of Christ)

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Ruth Wauters, Sheila Gallagher, Gail Bhagwatsingh, Margaret O'Reily, Evelyn Raimondi, Ragna Ekeroth, Damaris Potter, Philip Chappell and Gayle Moretti

The sick: Marilyn Aitchinson, Peter Thomas, Karolina Masica, 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

Thank you for your generous donations towards the collections held in February and March!

The amounts collected are as follows:

RCAS Racial Justice Sunday	ca. £810
RCAS Clergy Support Fund	ca. £1,780
CAFOD Family Feast Day	£120
Jesuits Missions Parish Appeal	ca. £1,790
Earthquake Turkey and Syria Appeal	ca. £1610

(Please note the amount do not include online payments or cheques that are paid directly to the charities.)

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 (choir): *Drop, drop slow tears*, Orlando Gibbons
 Kyrie: Mass XVIII
 Offertory motet: *Nolo mortem peccatoris*, Thomas Morley
 Sanctus: Missal tones
 Communion motet: *God so loved the world*, John Stainer
 Recessional hymn: 143 *Dear Lord and Father of mankind*

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, 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.