



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
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8th October 2023

Newsletter

Vol 9, Issue 33

Twenty-Seventh Sunday (A)

Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families

Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time (Prisons Week 8-14 October)

Vol III, psalter week 3

Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 79:9.12-16.19-20 Philippians 4:6-9 Matthew 21:33-43

Children's Liturgy during the 10.00am Mass

Second Collection: The Second Collection will be taken for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day: CAFOD, the official aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, aims to tackle poverty globally; your support for the Harvest appeal will share hope with vulnerable families by providing them with the practical help they need (cafod.org.uk).

Today's **First Reading** from the prophecy of Isaiah is almost like a charge sheet in a law court: God finds the people of Israel guilty of failing to produce fruit from the vineyard, and will suffer the consequences. We, as the new People of God, are charged with producing fruit for the kingdom of God. How are you going to plead?

The **Psalms** continues with the same vineyard theme and is addressed to God. Having suffered the consequences of forsaking God, the people of Israel implore God to forgive them.

Second Reading: St Paul is telling the Philippians (and us) not to worry. This does not simply mean being cheerful but having a serene and joyful trust in God. Prayer and thanksgiving are the basis for our Christian life and our supplicatory prayer will bring peace from God. Likewise, if we fill our minds with what is true, noble, good and pure then the God of peace will be with us.

Gospel: The Parable of the Wicked Tenants has many echoes of the vineyard in the First Reading. The vineyard symbolises Israel, while the tenant farmers are the religious leaders, who have always persecuted the prophets sent by God. Having rebelled against God they will be replaced. Like the charge in the First Reading is this parable a warning to us as well?

Or does the vineyard represent the kingdom of heaven? Perhaps Christ is here referring to the kingdom of

God being taken from the existing People of God and given to the new People of God, the Church; or possibly taken from the Jewish nation and given to the Gentiles.

A key feature of this Parable is not the cheating of the tenant farmers but their violent treatment of the owner's envoys, including his son. There was general understanding in Christ's day that Israel had always persecuted the prophets sent to it by God. How do we react to the voices of prophecy in our own times?

We can take this parable as a 'parable of Christ's passion', with its emphasis on the murder of God's Son by the leaders of Israel (no mention of the Romans, notice). This should not lead us into any antisemitism, but rather into a self-examination of our own response to the preaching and teachings of Christ and His Church.

Fr David

Upcoming Events

Saturday 7 October

- Half-day retreat, LHBMS, 10.30am-1pm, Lounge (see p.3)

Saturday 14 - Sunday 15 October

- Exhibition Fr Luigi Giussani, Lower Hall, see p. 3 for times

Wednesday 25 October

- Newman Circle, 7.30pm, Lounge, talk by David Hurst

THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr David Gibbons, KCHS

Parish Clergy: Fr Matthew Donnelly, Fr Jackson Sebastian and Deacon Julian Burling

Team member: Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU

PACT

This Sunday is Prisoners' Sunday - the National Day of Prayer and Action for prisoners and their families. It is an important opportunity for us all to direct our thoughts and prayers to the needs of prisoners, their families and those who work to support them. *Pact* is the national Catholic charity working to support prisoners, people with conviction, and their children and families who may be struggling with stigma, isolation and hardship, as a result.

From 8-14 October we mark *Prisons Week*, a week of prayer for the needs of all those affected by prisons; it aims to encourage prayer and awareness.

Find out more about *Pact* and *Prisons Week* and about ways to support them at www.prisonadvice.org.uk; www.prisonsweek.org/

VACANCY - PARISH FAITH MINISTER FOR YOUTH

A replacement for Eleanor Bowman is sought as the Parish Faith Minister for Children, Young Persons and Families. The person appointed will assist the Parish Priest to promote the mission of the Church to the children and young people of the parish, based on the principle of parents as first educators. The post is open to committed and practising Catholics, an enhanced DBS check required, salary: £29,736/year for 35hrs/week.

Please contact wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk for a job description and a person specification. Further information may be obtained from Fr David.

Closing date: 16 October

Parish Notices

WELCOME

We warmly welcome Fr Jackson Sebastian into our parish of the Sacred Heart. With gratitude for his ministry, we pray that his service in our parish will be strengthened by the Holy Spirit. May God bless him as he serves our community!

ANTIPHON SHEETS

On the table just inside the church you find weekly

Antiphon Sheets. At weekday Masses please take one and join in the Entrance and Communion Antiphons. The Entrance Antiphon is said after the Priest genuflects, as he enters the Sanctuary. The Communion Antiphon is said after the bell rings to signify his reception of Holy Communion. The Antiphons are recited at these points in accord with the directions of the *Roman Missal*. The sheet

also contains the Psalm response, and the Alleluia, to assist you in saying them. Please replace the sheets after Mass.

HOLY ROSARY

During this month of the Holy Rosary, the Rosary will be recited at 9.30am each weekday, before the 10.00am Mass. On Saturdays the Rosary is offered for World Peace. Do come and join in this very powerful prayer.

Other Notices

SCHOOL FORMS

There will be a second date for signing of school forms on Tuesday, 10 October from 6.30-8.00pm in the Lower Hall.

RACIAL & CULTURAL INCLUSION

There will be a seminar entitled '*Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion in Our Parishes, Schools and Communities*' at the Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark, from 9.30am-4.00pm on Saturday, 28 October. You are welcomed

to this archdiocesan initiative by the Commission for Promoting Racial & Cultural Inclusion chaired by Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the Southeast, a stimulating and hope-filled day of discussion. There will be contributions from a range of speakers, including Archbishop John Wilson. For more info & registration (free), please visit <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/commission-for-promoting-racial-and-cultural-inclusion/what-we-do/>.

LAUDATO DEUM

On 4 October 2023, Pope Francis released what has been described as the 'follow-up' to his 2015 Encyclical Letter - *Laudato Si'* - with a new Apostolic Exhortation on the climate crisis, entitled '*Laudato Deum*', (translates as 'Praise God'). To read the new Apostolic Exhortation please visit <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/news-events/news/laudato-deum-pope-francis-apostolic-exhortation-on-the-climate-crisis/>.

Parish Organisations

THANK YOU

The members of the Parish Flower Group would like to thank you parishioners who donated flowers for the church last week: 'We set ourselves a bit of a challenge, not knowing what would be donated but enjoyed the opportunity to work with different flowers and foliage. We hope to repeat the exercise again next year, in a different season!'

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.

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, 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 info, please email soc.wimbledon@gmail.com.

Social & Cultural

CATHOLIC PARENTING

The Intellectual Formation Group of St. Boniface Catholic Church is delighted to invite you to a talk on 'Catholic Parenting' by Ciro Candia, a distinguished expert in Catholic Parenting; St. Boniface Café in Tooting, SW17 9PG on Thursday 19 October, 7.00pm.

VACANCY

Wimbledon College: FT Finance Officer, please visit www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk for detailed information; closing date 11 October.

OPEN EVENTS

Donhead Preparatory School would like to welcome you on Tuesday 17 October: you will witness firsthand their boys in action and experience the spirit, warmth, and ethos in the Donhead community. Introductory talk from the Headteacher at 9.30am, followed by a tour of the school with our Yr 6 pupils. (Register at <https://>

www.donhead.org.uk/admissions/open-morning-registration.

The Holy Cross Sixth Form New Malden, Open Evening: Wednesday 11 October 4.00-7.00pm, for entry in September 2024; external students please book your ticket at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-holy-cross-school-sixth-form-open-evening-for-entry-in-2024-tickets-525422301247?aff=oddtcreator>

If you are looking for a nursery or reception place for 2024 please book a school tour to discover what makes Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School special <http://www.sacredheart.merton.sch.uk/admissions>.

NEWMAN CIRCLE

Talk on Wednesday 25 October in the Parish Lounge at 7.30pm. Speaker: David Hurst, parishioner & mem-

ber of the Parish Pastoral Council. Topic: 'Merton Citizens & its achievements with local council decision makers for the benefit of our community'. All welcome.

LITURGICAL MUSIC WORKSHOP

A liturgical music workshop weekend in Canterbury will be facilitated by Ben Scott and the *Credo Ensemble* and will take place between 13-15 October: the weekend workshop will include hymns, psalms, chant and polyphony, liturgical music history and vocal technique, and much more. The workshop is aimed at singers, organists and clergy - but all are welcome. (Cost: £25 for the full w/e or £10/day. Reductions available for students and free for <18s). Venue: St Thomas of Canterbury Church, 59 Burgate, Canterbury CT1 2HJ. Booking & enquiries credoensemble@gmail.com.

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.

RETRouvaille

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope, and helps nourish and grow your marriage. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next face to face w/e in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October, contact 07887 296 983 or 07973 380 443, retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com.

COMMUNION & LIBERATION

The Friends of CL invite you to an exhibition on the life and teaching of the Servant of God Fr Luigi Giussani, who had intuited that Christ is the unifying centre of all reality, the answer to all human questions, and the fulfilment of every desire for happiness, goodness, love, and eternity within the human heart. Event open on Saturday 14, 5.30-8.00pm (Italian aperitivo), and Sunday 15 October 8.30am-1.00pm (tea, coffee) in the Lower Hall.

Exploring our Faith

LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT

You are invited to a half-day retreat of quiet reflection at Sacred Heart Church (Lounge) this Saturday 7 October from 10.30am-1.00pm with Holy Rosary, a video talk by Sr Doctor Betty Nina (MD/Physician, The Medical Sisters of St Joseph's, Kerala, India, Spiritual Director LHBMS), followed by discussion; Christian Meditation, Healing Prayers; starting with tea &

coffee. (www.lovehealsbodymindspirit.com).

A DAY WITH MARY

You are invited to a *Day with Mary*, a day of instruction, devotion and intercession, on Saturday 28 October, at Westminster Cathedral, SW1P 1LT, 9.45am-5.30pm; celebrant & preacher: a chaplain of the Cathedral; sermons on Our Lady by Fr Stephen Boyle; Exposition & Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, Meditations on

the Passion of Our Lord, Silent Prayers.

A Day with Mary Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: 9-18 March 2024; the pilgrimage will include visits to all major religious sites - incl. Haifa, Nazareth, Capernaum, Sea of Galilee, Mount Tabor Bethlehem, Jerusalem; for more detailed information & booking forms please visit adaywithmary.com or contact gill@tangney-tours.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 Matthew Donnelly
8.00am Fr Jackson Sebastian & Deacon Julian Burling
10.00am Fr David Gibbons
12 noon Fr Matthew Donnelly
5.00pm Fr Jackson Sebastian & Deacon Julian Burling
8.00pm Fr David Gibbons

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: John Jinks, Robert Collins, Annie McHugh and Liam Rabbit

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Michael Byrne, Mary Scanlan, Dr Arul Peters, Celia Cviic and Joan Ashworth

The sick: Zachary Roberts, Audra Wamsteker, Penelope Sewell, Hui Lee Ng, Alexia Graham, Natalie Williams, Karolina Masica, David Fry, Paul Stromborg, Mike Greene, Teresa Escalona, Donal Weir, Giovanni Baldacchino, Kim Carr, 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.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday 7 October Our Lady of the Rosary, Memorial
6.30pm Mary Meehan Thanksgiving

Monday 9 October St John Henry Newman, Priest
10.00am Selena Lau & Nuria Sajjad
6.30pm Doris & Manfred Bell RIP

Tuesday 10 October Feria
10.00am James & Ellis (25th Wedd. Anniv. Blessing)
6.30pm Pamela Hannigan RIP

Wednesday 11 October St John XXIII, Pope
10.00am New Superior General Ints.
6.30pm Mr Ranula RIP

Thursday 12 October Feria
10.00am Maria Keaveney Jessiman RIP
6.30pm Lucia & Janko Zarkovic RIP

Friday 13 October St Edward the Confessor, King
10.00am Gaelle Le Coz RIP
6.30pm Michael Dooley RIP

Saturday 14 October The Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00am John Wilson Snr RIP

COLLECTIONS

The collection for the Winter Night Shelter raised £2,057.80.
Thank you for your generous support of this good case.

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 Peter Littleton (020 8725 3069 or 020 8672 1255)

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

Kingston Hospital: Fr Tony Oleh (020 8546 7711)

MUSIC AT THE 12 NOON MASS

Entry hymn: 610 *Praise we our God with joy*

Kyrie/Gloria: 459/460

Offertory hymn: 398: *Love divine, all loves excelling*

Communion motet: *O sacrum convivium*, Giuseppe Bernabei

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon Ps 129:3-4

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-10

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22

Second Reading Philippians 4:12-14.
19-20

Gospel Acclamation John 1:12:14

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

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 confidentiality. Leave contact details with the parish office or email presidentA190704@svp.org.uk.

For donations, please scan the QR Code with your phone; your donation will help fund the wide range of liturgical, spiritual and cultural activities which run in the parish. Thank you.

