



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
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15th October 2023

Newsletter

Vol 9, Issue 34

Twenty-Eighth Sunday (A)

Twenty-Eighth Week in Ordinary Time
Vol III, psalter week 4

Readings: Isaiah 25:6-10 Psalm 22 Philippians 4:12-14.19-20 Matthew 22:1-14
Special Diocesan Appeal for the Society of African Missions – all Masses

Our Gospel reading this Sunday is a continuation of the dialogue at the Temple, after Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, between Jesus and the chief priests and Pharisees, who would not accept Jesus's teachings or authority, or that of John the Baptist before him. The first reading, from Isaiah, can be seen as a prologue, emphasising the boundless generosity and extravagance of the eternal feast to which all nations are lovingly invited by God. When the king in Jesus's parable invites the guests to his son's wedding feast, a lavish celebration which would normally last several days,

the first invitation is declined or ignored by those initially invited. The invitation reminder is again ignored or violently rejected, the king's servants being maltreated and killed (the treatment of many OT prophets sent to Jerusalem). The murderers are subsequently punished, and their town burnt (often taken to be a reference to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in AD 70). The invitation is then extended to anyone else the king's servants can find, bad or good. The wedding hall is filled. But when the king comes in to meet the guests, he notices one of them inappropriately dressed and asks him how he got in. The man, unwilling or unable to explain himself, is thrown out into the dark. Many are called but few are chosen. This is a parable in two parts: the invitations and the ejection, designed to make the chief priests and



Codex Aureus Epternacensis, Parabel of the Wedding Feast, 1045

Pharisees, and maybe their audience, think about their position and attitude. It should make each of us think about ours too. What is it about the man's garment that led to his exclusion?

The kingdom of God, the wedding feast, is presented in a double aspect: something that is already present and which can be entered now, but also something that will be eternally enjoyed only by those who are judged worthy at the last judgment, those who repent their (our) sins of commission or omission, and who live changed lives, loving God and our neighbour. *Deacon Julian Burling*

Upcoming Events

Saturday 14 - Sunday 15 October

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

Sunday 22 October

- Children's Liturgy during the 10.00am Mass

Wednesday 25 October

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

Friday 3 November

- Friendship Group, 2.30pm, Lounge

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

SECOND COLLECTION

Next Sunday is World Mission Day, the second collection will be in support of Missio, the Church's official organ for support of foreign missions. The collection taken that day goes in its entirety to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. To find out more about Missio please visit <https://missio.org.uk/>.

CLOTHING COLLECTION FOR JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE

The Jesuit Refugee Service supports destitute refugees, who are in particular need of adult trainers and puffa jackets in good condition. All donations gratefully received; they may be dropped off at the entrance to the church on the weekend of 28/29 October.

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

LETTER OF APPRECIATION FROM FR JOE

'It is with joy that I write to express my profound gratitude to all for the hospitality and support you have offered me that enabled me to serve in Sacred Heart, Wimbledon. Again, thank you very much for your very kind and generous farewell present – it is very much appreciated.

I hope you will continue to hold my future in your prayers, as I will continue to hold Sacred Heart, Wimbledon, in mine.'
Fr Joseph Donkor

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

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/>.

MARCH FOR LIFE UK

Annual solemn witness in Parliament Square on Friday 27 October from 12noon-2.00pm, to commemorate the passing of the Abortion Act in 1967. A Rethink Abortion Training Day is available on Saturday 11 November, 10.00am-5.00pm at St Dominic's Priory in London, £25 p/p. Book at www.marchforlife.co.uk/rethink-abortion/. This is for anyone wanting to develop

skills in how to talk about abortion and learn some of the tools and facts to use.

SPECIAL MASS

Catholic Women Praying Together: You are invited to a special Mass on Wednesday 15 November at 2.00pm Mass at St George's Cathedral, London, SE1 7HY; theme: 'Affirming the Church's teaching on marriage and family'. All are welcome! Preacher: Rev Canon Michael Branch, Dean of St George's. Mass followed by tea & light refreshments in the Amigo Hall. For more information please visit www.catholicwomenprayingtogether.com.

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 November at 2.30pm in the Lounge: We

have invited Father David to join us for tea.

As always, everyone is welcome.!

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.

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>).

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

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 this Saturday 14, 5.30-8.00pm (Italian aperitivo), and Sunday 15 October 8.30am-1.00pm (tea, coffee) in the Lower Hall.

PURCELL SINGERS CONCERT

On Saturday 21 October at 7.30pm, to celebrate the 150th anniversary year of the birth of Rachmaninoff, the Purcell Singers will be performing his well-loved *All-Night Vigil* (Vespers) at St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Rd, SE1. Tickets are £12-£60; all are welcome (please visit <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/news-events/>).

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.

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION 'LAUDATE DEUM'

Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato Si'* set out the principles regarding our duty of care for our common home and stressed the urgent need to address the issue of global warming. *Laudate Deum* is an update, making clear how much more urgent the situation is, given the very limited progress achieved over the years since *Laudato Si'*. The text is available on the Bishops' Conference website <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/10/laudate-deum-exhortation-041023.pdf> as well as on the Southwark website.

The Bishops' Conference has a short introduction to the document at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pope-francis-releases-apostolic-exhortation-laudate-deum/>. There is also good introductory material on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/news/campaigning-news/pope-francis-laudate-deum-new-call-for-action-on-climate-crisis>. One of the most immediate questions is, what can we do ourselves? For a range of useful resources, with practical suggestions please visit: <https://laudatosicentre.org.uk/>.

Exploring our Faith

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.

*New: A *Day with Mary* Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: 9-17 March 2024; the pilgrimage will include visits

to all major religious sites - incl. Nazareth, Capernaum, Lake Galilee, Tabgha, Mount Tabor, Beatitudes, Ain Karem, Bethany, Bethlehem, Jerusalem; for booking forms with full details please visit adaywithmary.com.

LONDON JESUIT CENTRE

Art & Soul, A Creative Day Retreat with Sheila Jones: an in-person 1-day retreat which offers a space of prayer and reflection with scripture, poetry, music and the opportunity to engage creatively with mixed media

art forms (such as collage) as a way of exploring and expressing the deep movements of your soul. No artistic skills are required and all materials are provided. With time for guided & silent prayer and the opportunity to share with others. Saturday 11 November 10.30am-4.30pm Suggested contribution £30; London Jesuit Centre, London W1K 3AH, to find out and to register please visit <https://londonjesuitcentre.churchsuite.com/events/jo6qouyj>.

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 Thomas J. Ryan SMA
8.00am Fr Thomas J. Ryan SMA
10.00am Fr Matthew Donnelly
12 noon Fr Jackson Sebastian
5.00pm Fr David Gibbons
8.00pm Fr Thomas J. Ryan SMA

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Robert Collins and John Jinks

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Betty Radevsky, Leonard Laundry, Margaret McNerney, Rosemary Mackett and Francie McHugh

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.



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)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday 14 October The Blessed Virgin Mary
6.30pm Kerry Gonet RIP

Monday 16 October St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin
10.00am Frances Barden Ints.
6.30pm Theresa Santiago RIP

Tuesday 17 October St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr
10.00am Gerry & Christine Smith Wedding Ints.
6.30pm Patricia Bernard Coyle RIP

Wednesday 18 October St Luke, Evangelist, Feast
10.00am Pat Lawlor Ints.
6.30pm Bridget Barrett RIP

Thursday 19 October Feria
10.00am John Quinn RIP
6.30pm Isobel Therese Joseph RIP

Friday 20 October Feria
10.00am God's Blessing/Marriage of Gemma & George
6.30pm Sandra G. & Mario Dias dos Santos (Wedding Anniversary)

Saturday 21 October The Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00am Charles & Beni Thiru Ints.
11.00am Requiem Mass for Ann Osafo

COLLECTIONS

The cash collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day raised £992.
Thank you for your generosity.

MUSIC AT THE 12 NOON MASS

Entry hymn: 688 *The Church's one foundation*

Kyrie/Gloria: 459/460

Offertory motet: *Ave maris stella*, Edvard Grieg

Communion motet: *The Lord is my shepherd*, Martin How

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-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 16:6-8
First Reading Isaiah 45:1.4-6
Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1.3-5.7-10
Second Reading Thessalonians 1:1-5
Gospel Acclamation Cf. John 17:17
Gospel Matthew 22:15-21

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.

