



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
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12th November 2023

Newsletter

Vol 9, Issue 38

Thirty-Second Sunday (A)

Thirty-Second Week in Ordinary Time
Vol III, psalter week 4

Readings: Wisdom 6:12-16 Psalm 62:2-8 1Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13

Remembrance Sunday: Fr David is representing the Parish at the Wimbledon War Memorial at today's Act of Remembrance.

Second Collection: Archbishop's Appeal 2023

The Archbishop's Appeal is a major Diocesan Second Collection which funds key areas of ministry: Youth & Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (including Caritas), and Clergy Care & Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese to support innovative projects in Catholic parishes and schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please be generous.

You can donate via

- the Second Collection as you leave church
- online at www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal
- via telephone weekdays 9am - 5pm (020 7960 2504).

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: in the original Greek 'wisdom' ('sophia') is a grammatically feminine noun, hence the references to 'she' and 'her' in this extract. This should not obscure that wisdom in the Old Testament is taken by Christians to refer to Christ. If we look for Christ we shall find him.

Psalm: a psalm expressing confidence in God's steadfast love and protection.

Second Reading: as we near the end of the liturgical year the Church's Lectionary gives us readings from St Paul's first Letter to the Thessalonians. In this extract Paul deals in some detail with the future destiny of those who believe in Christ, both those who have already died and those who are still alive.

Gospel: the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Bridesmaids (or, more accurately, Virgins). The bridegroom represents Jesus Christ, the Messiah; the virgins represent Christians who await the return of Christ. The bridegroom's delay alludes to the fact that Jesus has not returned as soon as many had hoped. The marriage feast symbolises the

life of the ages to come. The closed door stands for the last judgement.

But what does the oil represent? Faith? Love? Good works? The latter is most likely in view of Jesus urging his followers to let their light so shine that people will see their good works and glorify the Father in heaven (*Matthew 5:16*). Whichever is the case, the basic point is that the Christian disciple should be ready at all times to meet Christ.

Fr David

Upcoming Events

Friday 17 November

- Baroque Concert 8.00pm, Church; pre-concert talk at 7.00pm, wimf

Saturday 18 November

- Farewell Mass for/by Fr Michael Barnes SJ, 6.30pm, followed by reception in the Lounge

Sunday 19 November

- Children's Liturgy during the 10.00am Mass

Wednesday 29 November

- Newmar Circle, 7.30pm Lounge, Talk by Julian Burling (see p.3)

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

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Cathy Lynch has served the Finance Committee for some 10 years reporting on the parish finances. Cathy is moving out of the parish shortly and we are looking for someone with accountancy skills to replace her. The role involves liaising with Amy Lam our Finance Assistant and presenting accounts and other relevant information at monthly committee meetings. If you are interested in helping the parish in this way, please contact Chris Woodward, the Committee Chair (finance@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk) to arrange a chat.

WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER THIS ADVENT

Following the enthusiastic response from many that attended the week of guided prayer during Lent, the parish is organising another *Week of Guided Prayer* during Advent, from 3 - 9 December: it is a time to deepen one's prayer life with the help of a personal prayer guide over the course of the week.

Opening group meeting: at 4pm on Sunday 3 December, a time of guided prayer and an opportunity to meet your prayer guide to confirm time & place of your daily meetings. A closing group meeting will take place at 4pm on Saturday 9 December. You will commit to spend some time in prayer each day, to meet your prayer guide and share your experience of your prayer time.

What better way to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas!

Please complete the form at the back of the church (contact details, preferred time slot for meeting your prayer guide); to be returned to the Presbytery by Tuesday 21 November.

Parish Notices

HOLY SOULS IN NOVEMBER

If you would like to have your deceased family members remembered in the Masses during November, write their names on a paper and put them into the Holy Souls envelopes provided at the back of the church. They will be placed in a box at the altar during Masses this month. Any donations enclosed will go towards Masses for the Holy Souls during the year.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

These are the lay people who are commissioned by the Archbishop to assist the Ordinary Ministers (i.e. the priests and deacons) in administering Holy Communion both at Mass in Church and to the housebound in their home. We are in need of some more EMOHCs. According to *Immensae Caritatis* - the Vatican docu-

ment which instituted this ministry - such ministers '*must be persons whose good qualities of Christian life, faith, and morals recommend them*'. They must have a '*devotion and reverence towards the most august sacrament of the Altar. No one is to be chosen whose appointment the faithful might find disquieting*'.

If you can recommend a suitable person, please speak to Sr Dorothy or Fr David. Training will be given by Fr David, and the next diocesan commissioning is expected to be in February.

Meanwhile we thank Cathy Dickenson, our EMOHCs coordinator, and all those who help administer Holy Communion in this way.

Day of Recollection:

On Saturday 18 November, starting with Mass at 10.00am, at which Extraordinary Ministers will renew their commitment. The day will be conducted by

Fr Michael Barnes SJ, and end by about 4.00pm. It is desirable that all Ministers of Holy Communion attend this if possible.

HOLY ROSARY

We continue to meet on Saturdays at 9.30am before the 10.00am Mass when the Rosary is offered for World Peace. Do come and join in this very powerful prayer.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We are pleased to announce that our Christmas Lunch is back on, after a volunteer has generously offered to organise it. No parishioner need be on their own on Christmas Day. Please find the invitation forms at the back of the church and return them to Thelma in the Parish Office if you wish to attend

NO EXPOSITION

Please note that there will be no Exposition after Mass until 12noon on Wednesday 29 November.

Other Notices

FAREWELL TO FR MICHAEL BARNES SJ

Fr Michael will celebrate the 6.30pm Mass on Saturday 18 November, followed by refreshments in the Lounge. Please bring a plate and come and bid *au revoir* to Fr Michael.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL CHOIR

Our School Choir will sing at the 10.00am Mass next

Sunday 19 November, joining our regular choir. If your child would like to join the choir, just go up to the musicians after Mass and introduce yourself.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

A number of parishioners have enquired about the proceedings of the recent Synod on Synodality. The Archbishop, who was one of

the delegates from England & Wales, has produced a summary; to obtain a copy email Thelma in the Parish Office. An official Synthesis Report can be downloaded from the Bishops' Conference website (<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/news/> click on Synod Report and then download), but beware: it has 41 pages!

Parish Organisations

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Come and join us on Friday 1 December at

2.30pm in the Lounge for a Christmas Singalong with Songs on Wheels, Sherry,

Tea and Cakes, Mincepies Everyone is welcome!

Social & Cultural

CONCERT IN CHURCH
Wimbledon Intl. Music Festival on Friday 17 November at 8.00pm: *Celebrate the Baroque with Vivaldi and Scarlatti*, with the Armonico Consort. Pre-Concert Talk at 7.00pm written; for tickets please visit <https://wimbledonmusicfestival.co.uk/wimf2023/programme/>

NEWMAN CIRCLE

The next Wimbledon Newman Circle meeting will be on Wednesday 29 November at 7.30pm in the Parish Lounge. The meeting will be a repeat of Julian Burling's talk *'The History of the Church in the British Isles.'* A number of parishioners were unable to attend the meeting in September and requested Julian to give the talk again. It was an excellent talk & is well worth attending. All are welcome!

CO-EDUCATION/ SEPTEMBER 2024

Donhead Preparatory School is delighted to announce that they will become a fully co-educational school from September 2024, when girls will be able to join all years of

the school. They will also be welcoming girls and boys from 3 years old in their new Pre School. Please contact the school on admissions@donhead.org.uk for further information and admissions details.

EDGEWAYS RETURNS

Edgeways will return from Sunday 3 December by email viewable online - but we need your help! If you are interested in submitting your ideas and helping to prepare the monthly parish magazine, then please join us at 7.00pm on Wednesday 15 November in the Parish Lounge to see how you can get involved. Please just turn up or email David on dthurst52@gmail.com.

JESUIT JUSTICE AT COP28 CAMPAIGN

You can find out about and join this campaign at <https://jesuitmissions.org.uk/campaign/justice-at-cop28/> or on social media (<https://linktr.ee/JesuitMissions>). In particular Jesuit Missions encourage you to write to your MP, using their template. You are invited to their COP28

Prayers & March at 10.00am on Sunday 9 December at the London Jesuit Centre: go to <https://chat.whatsapp.com/KgcUom85XCylaiKAQLKKu5> for their WhatsApp group. In *Laudate Deum* Pope Francis has made it clear that we are 'near breaking point', so Jesuit Missions hope you will join them in campaigning for Climate Justice.

'ANOTHER 50 CATHOLIC CHURCHES..

to see before you die'. Author and journalist Elena Curti releases a second book celebrating historic Catholic churches; she has chosen 50 more personal favourites which, taken together, give the backdrop to the story of Catholicism in England and Wales. The churches are listed alphabetically by location, with history, architecture and artistic highlights. Sacred Heart Church Wimbledon, our church, features in this beautifully produced full-colour book. Get your copy from Reception today (£14.99). A gift to last a lifetime!

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.

CHRISTMAS ALONE

The Sacred Heart SVP Conference would like to distribute gift packages to housebound residents in the area, Catholics or otherwise, who would be spending Christmas on their own. Please let us know if you are aware of someone in this situation. We need their name, gender, address and approximate age and any information which could be relevant to what we gift. Reply in confidence to president190704@svp.org.uk or leave a message with the parish office (020 8946 0305).

DEPAUL NIGHTSTOP

DePaul Nightstop is a charity organising temporary accommodation for homeless young people. Do you have a spare room you could offer, say, one night a week to a homeless young person? If interested please visit https://www.depaul.org.uk/night_stop/ or chat to Chris Woodward on 020 8241 9703. You really could make a difference.

Exploring our Faith

COMMUNION & LIBERATION

On Saturday 18 November the CL community organises an event *'Faith, the fulfilment of Reason'* in the Upper and Lower Hall, open to all people of the parish, including families. The meeting will start at 3.00pm with an assembly for adults &

games activities for children. (secretary.cl@gmail.com)

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION

Each month the Pope offers a specific prayer intention, inviting men and women of good will to pray with him for a particular cause, recent intentions have included prayers for the Synod, for

people living on the margins, and for World Youth Day. For November, Pope Francis asks the faithful to *'Pray to the Lord that He will bless me,'* saying, *'Your prayer gives me strength and helps me to discern and to accompany the Church, listening to the Holy Spirit.'*

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
10.00am Fr David Gibbons
12 noon Fr Matthew Donnelly
5.00pm Fr Jackson Sebastian
8.00pm Fr David Gibbons

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Stephen Eaton, Thomas Pilkington and Rose David

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Marvin Macapagal, Jennifer Topley and Wassim Tappuni

The sick: Sandrine D'Unienville John Wall, 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

Monday 13 November FERIA

10.00am Holy Souls
11.30am Funeral Mass for Thomas Pilkington
6.30pm Joseph Cooney RIP

Tuesday 14 November FERIA

10.00am Past and present members of the Wang family Ints.
6.30pm Patrick Whittey RIP

Wednesday 15 November FERIA

10.00am John Carmody RIP
6.30pm Margaret McNerney RIP

Thursday 16 November FERIA

10.00am Baby Orth RIP
6.30pm Michael Dooley RIP

Friday 17 November FERIA

10.00am Private Intention
6.30pm Thomas Gabriel RIP

Saturday 18 November The Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00am Fr Joe Ints.
6.30pm Rita Westbrook RIP Birthday

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

Remembrance Sunday (Requiem Mass for the war dead)

Introit: Requiem aeternam (plainsong)

Kyrie: Plainsong Mass 18

Offertory hymn: 286 *I vow to thee my country*

Sanctus/Benedictus/Agnus: Plainsong Mass 18

Communion motet: *Thou knowest, Lord*, Henry Purcell

Communion hymn: 762 *Wait for the Lord* (Taizé)

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

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon Jr 29:11.12.14

First Reading Prov 31:10-13.19-20.30-31

Responsorial Psalm Ps 127:1-5

Second Reading 1 Th 5:1-6

Gospel Acclamation Apoc 2:10

Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

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.

