



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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19th November 2023

Newsletter

Vol 9, Issue 39

Thirty-Third Sunday (A)

World Day of the Poor

Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time

Vol III, psalter week I

Readings: Prov 31:10-13,19-20.30-31 Psalm 127:1-5 1Thessalonians 5:1-6 Matthew 25:14-30

Children's Liturgy during the 10.00am Mass

World Day of the Poor: This Sunday is the seventh World Day of the Poor, with the theme of not turning away. This theme is taken from the elderly Tobit, who says to his son 'Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor' (Tobit 4:7). More information and resources can be obtained on the Caritas Social Action Network website at www.csan.org.uk

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading: at first sight, this passage appears to describe the perfect wife (such as a future bridegroom will be looking for), and it does. But it also describes the ideals of wisdom. So feminists need not fear that it belittles women; on the contrary, the virtues women display are the ones all wise people should have.

Psalm: this 'wisdom psalm' continues the theme, that the truly blessed are those who 'fear the Lord'. 'Fear of the Lord' does not mean servile fear (being afraid of a master), it means filial fear (having respect and reverence for God as one would have to one's parents). Proverbs 9:10 states that 'the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom'.

Second Reading: fittingly as we approach the end of the Church's year, St Paul focuses on the Day of Judgement to come, but he carefully avoids giving specific dates or times for that event. But as we are 'children of the light and of the day' we need not fear it if we stay awake and sober in our spiritual lives.

Gospel: in the Parable of the Talents, the problem with the third servant is that he had no concern for, no love for the master. We, to whom many gifts have been entrusted, must demonstrate our love for Christ by using those gifts in service of God



The Parable of the Talents, Rembrandt, c.1652

Upcoming Events

Saturday 18 November

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

Tuesday 21 November

- Creative Project Club, Youth Room, 6.00pm (see p. 2)

Saturday 25 November

- Bereavement Mass, 10.00am

Wednesday 29 November

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

and of neighbour.

What are the gifts God has given you? And do you use them to build up the kingdom of Heaven?

Fr David

NEXT SUNDAY

is the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, the last Sunday of the liturgical year. It is also Youth Day, and the Second Collection will be for the Catholic Youth Services; this supports youth work in the diocese and beyond.

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

MANNA SOCIETY COLLECTION

Next Sunday, 26 November, the Manna Society will be holding a collection after all Masses. If you wish to support this good cause, please (only) bring dry or canned goods e.g. pasta, sugar, tinned tomatoes, biscuits etc.; collection boxes will be placed in the church porch. Thank you for your support.

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, please contact, the Committee Chair, Chris Woodward, at finance@sacredheartwimble.don.org.uk to arrange a chat.

WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER THIS ADVENT

You can still register for the *Week of Guided Prayer* held 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; closing group meeting on Saturday 9 December at 4.00pm.

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 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.

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 document 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:

This 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.

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 should 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 the 10.00am Mass until 12noon on Wednesday 29 November.

Other Notices

FAREWELL TO FR MICHAEL BARNES SJ

Fr Michael will celebrate the 6.30pm Mass this 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 this 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.

TRAVELLING NATIVITY

This Advent will see the return of the *Travelling Nativity*. Throughout Advent, starting on Sunday 3 December, a different household from the parish will have the Nativity figures present in their home for 1 evening and pass them on to the next household until Christmas Eve. If you would like your family to

have the travelling nativity, please collect a form from the back of the church and return it to the Presbytery for the attention of Thelma or Sr Dorothy no later than Sunday 26 November.

BEREAVEMENT MASS

We will be celebrating a special Mass for the deceased members of our Parish at 10.00am on Saturday 25 November; followed by refreshments in the Lounge.

Parish Organisations

CREATIVE PROJECT CLUB

Tuesday 21 November from 6.00-9.00pm, Youth Room: join an informal group looking to explore faith through beauty, discuss your

creative projects, help others in their creative projects, or simply get on with their projects in the company of others. Bring your own materials & supper.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Friday 1 December, 2.30pm, Lounge: Christmas Singalong with Songs on Wheels, Sherry, tea & cakes, mince pies. Everyone welcome!

Social & Cultural

NEWMAN CIRCLE

The next Wimbledon Newman Circle meeting, a repeat of Julian Burling's talk 'The History of the Church in the British Isles' will be on Wednesday 29 November at 7.30pm in the Parish Lounge. All those who were unable to attend the meeting in September are most welcome to this excellent talk.

'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. The churches are listed alphabetically by location, with history, architecture & artistic highlights. Sacred Heart Church Wimbledon, our church, features in this beautifully produced full-colour book. Get your copy from Reception today (£14.99).

THANK YOU

The *Jambo Bwana Concert* in October, featuring Fr Joe Donkor, Katy's Songbirds, Sacred Heart School Choir

& others, raised £1,046.88 for the Pope John Paul II School in Ghana. Thanks to those who participated and to those who attended and donated.

VACANCY

The Ursuline High School: vacancy for a PT Administrative Assistant/Student Services/Reprographics. Please visit <http://www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk>; applications to be sent to evelyn.davern@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk by Tuesday 21 November.

WEST BARNES SINGERS

The West Barnes Singers invite you to their Christmas Concert: an evening with *Händel's Zadok the Priest*, Mozart's *Mass in C* and, of course, Christmas Carols on Saturday 2 December at 7.30pm, St Saviours Church, Grand Drive SW20 9DL. Tickets £15, children free.

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.

JESUIT MISSIONS CHRISTMAS CARDS

Following the Ignatian call to go where the need is greatest, JM are working in areas such as anti-human trafficking, educational access, and environmental sustainability in places like India, S-Sudan & Ethiopia. By buying JM Christmas cards, you make their work possible. <https://www.charitycardshop.com/JM>.

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.

CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL

CAFOD is helping local partners in Gaza & southern Israel who are providing urgent humanitarian aid to those in need, including £100,000 to Catholic Relief Services (supporting 10,000 families in Gaza with cash vouchers to obtain essentials like food and water), £50,000 to Culture & Free Thought Association (sheltering 300 people in their centre in Gaza) and £10,000 to Sadak Reut (working in southern Israel). Sadly, many staff & volunteers in partner organisations in Gaza have been killed. You can donate to CAFOD's Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030, to help support aid workers providing humanitarian aid. And please do continue to pray for peace!

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/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.

Exploring our Faith

LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT

You are welcome to come to a 1-day retreat of quiet reflection on Saturday 25 November, 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); lunch break, talk

based on Scripture, Catholic Christian Meditation, Blessed Adoration - Divine Mercy, Individual Healing Prayers. For more info, please visit www.lovehealsbodymindspirit.com.

YOUNG ADULT ADVENT RETREAT

Advent retreat for young adults aged 18-35 Advent, time to reflect & pray to

prepare ourselves for the coming of the Prince of Peace; Saturday 16 Dec. 10.30am-2.30pm at FCJ Spirituality Centre, 32 Phoenix Rd, NW1 1TA; facilitated by Sr Anouska Robinson-Biggin FCJ (The Faithful Companions of Jesus); cost by donation. More information bookings.fcjcentre@fcjhouse-somerstown.co.uk

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 Michael Barnes SJ
8.00am Fr David Gibbons
10.00am Fr Matthew Donnelly & Deacon Julian Burling
12 noon Fr Jackson Sebastian
5.00pm Fr David Gibbons & Deacon Julian Burling
8.00pm Fr Matthew Donnelly

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Brenda Park, Patricia Brady, Stephen Eaton, Norma Patton and Philomena Dobinson

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Luka Stroh, Bernard Kirby, Joseph Osamor, Fr John Fairhurst SJ, Aimee Lydon, Michael Swanson and Althea Coleman

The sick: Finuala Holford, 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 20 November Feria

10.00am Bernie Marcou Recovery Ints.
6.30pm Gavin & Virginia Fernandes & Family Ints.

Tuesday 21 November The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Memorial

10.00am Mary & Ann Boland Ints.
6.30pm Gavin & Virginia Fernandes & Family Ints.

Wednesday 22 November St Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

10.00am Hazel Lawlor Birthday Ints.
6.30pm Maria Keaveney- Jessiman RIP

Thursday 23 November Feria

10.00am Mary Brogan Ints.
6.30pm Almeida & Pereira deceased family members Ints.

Friday 24 November St Andrew D ng-L c, Priest & Companions, Martyrs, Memorial

10.00am Peter Healy
6.30pm Veronica Mirandah RIP

Saturday 25 November The Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00am Bereavement Mass for deceased members of the Parish
6.30pm Queen of Peace

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: 39 *Almighty Father, Lord most high*

Kyrie/Gloria: 459/460

Offertory motet: *De profundis clamavi*, Christoph Gluck

Sanctus: 433

Communion motet: *O Come ye servants of the Lord*, Christopher Tye

Communion hymn: 74 *Be thou my vision*

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Entrance Antiphon Rv 5:12;1:6
First Reading Ezk 34:11-12.15-17
Responsorial Psalm Ps 22:1-3.5-6
Second Reading 1 Cor 15:20-26.28
Gospel Acclamation Mk 11:9.10
Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

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.

