



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
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7th January 2024

Newsletter

Vol 10, Issue 1

The Epiphany of The Lord (B)

First Week in Ordinary Time
Vol 1, psalter week 1

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 71:1-2.7-8.10-13.Rcf.v11 Ephesians 3:2-3.5-6 Matthew 2:1-12

TODAY'S MASS

There are different propers for the Vigil Mass (Saturday evening) and Mass during the day, but the Readings are the same. The Epiphany of the Lord is one of the most important Solemnities in the Church's year, second in rank only to the Paschal Triduum.

First Reading: Isaiah's vision of the gathering of the nations came true - we believe - when the magi came to see Jesus in Bethlehem.

Psalm: this psalm was soon adopted by the early church as the set psalm for today's feast. It pictures a king (Jesus) who governs wisely and justly and who is concerned for the poor and weak.

Second Reading: this asserts that it had always been God's plan that salvation through Jesus Christ would be available to the Gentiles (non-Jews) as well as the Jews themselves.

Gospel: the Gospel could hardly be anything other than *Matthew's* account of the visit of the magi or wise men to the Christ child in Bethlehem. The main point is the revelation of Jesus to the Gentiles, who - represented by the magi - pay Him homage. The gifts symbolise that Jesus is a king (gold), divine (frankincense) and the suffering Saviour (myrrh). Myrrh is a fragrant gum resin; it was used at the time in the embalming of dead bodies.

Fr David



Adoration of the Magi, Stefan Lochner, ca. 1440, Cologne Cathedral

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

Faith Minister: Rob Hitchcock

This Week

MONDAY: BAPTISM of the LORD

This Feast is the last day of the Christmas Season. It is, therefore, the last day when you can venerate the Christmas Crib and make your Crib Offerings. The Crib Offerings will be sent via the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre to the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem for humanitarian aid, especially in Gaza. You can Gift Aid your donation, either by using an envelope with your name and 'GA' written on it or by making a bank transfer, giving 'Crib Offering' and your name in the reference.

ORDINARY TIME

Ordinary Time begins on Tuesday. In Ordinary Time no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather on Sundays we work through the Gospel of *Mark* (with a few readings from *John*). The Mass readings this week

will be from Week I of Ordinary Time, cycle 2. Green vestments are worn, unless it is a saint's day or other feast.

TUESDAY: MONTHLY CONVENT MASS

The monthly Mass at the Daughters of the Heart of Mary (41 Murray Road, SW19) is on Tuesday at 8.00am.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FORMS

Fr David will be available on Tuesday at 4.00pm and again at 7.00pm in the Hall to countersign Supplementary Forms for Catholic Primary Schools. Please bring the child concerned as well as the form(s). If you are genuinely unable to attend then, contact Thelma in the Office to make an alternative appointment. Do not hand forms in to the Presbytery and do not approach Fr David after Mass; if you do, the forms will not be processed.

TRANSFER FROM THE JESUITS

Wednesday marks the 10th anniversary of the withdrawal of the Society of Jesus from the parish and the commencement of service in the parish by Diocesan priests. This is commemorated by a plaque near the Baptistry.

THURSDAY: MASS AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Mass at 9.00am on Thursday in the School Hall. Parents and family members are welcome to attend, and indeed all parishioners are invited to attend.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Peace Day, a day of prayer for Peace on Earth. Visit <https://paxchristi.org.uk/> for information on Peace Sunday and on how to donate to *Pax Christi UK*.

Parish Notices

THANK YOU

The Christmas Liturgies all went well and were very well attended. Enormous thanks are due to our Altar Servers, Choirs and musicians, Mass readers, Ministers of Holy Communion, Sacristans and welcomers, as well as those who organised the Crib Service. Enormous thanks are also due to our flower arrangers and to all those who decorated the Church and the Crib.

Especial thanks are also due to those who organised the Christmas Lunch, to the volunteers, and to the caterers; it was an excellent occasion and enjoyed by all.

The Clergy also wish to thank parishioners for their kind messages, cards and presents over Christmas.

Fr David

NEW FAITH MINISTER

We welcome Rob Hitchcock, who has started work as our new Faith Minister. He will be particularly responsible for catechetical programmes and for youth work in the parish. His

email is wimbledonpfm@rcaos.org.uk and he can be telephoned on the parish number.

Information about this year's First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes will be available shortly.

SUNDAY 21st: UNITY SERVICE

This year the local Unity Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is here at Sacred Heart Church at 6.30pm on Sunday 21st January. Can you come and pray for Unity?

AGENCY FOR EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS 2024

Leaflets from the diocesan Agency - advertising their 2024 events - are available with the Newsletters. Do take one or visit <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk>.

YEAR OF PRAYER - 2024

In preparation for the Jubilee Year of 2024, Pope Francis has designated 2024 as a Year of Prayer. This is intended to remind people of the centrality of both individual and community prayer, and there is a particular focus on the *Our*

Father; this gives us a great opportunity to go back to the basics of prayer. Note that this is not a year *about* prayer but a year *for* prayer.

Accordingly, I invite every parishioner to reflect on their life of prayer: what you pray, how you pray, and why you pray. I hope that this will encourage you to deepen your prayer life and love of God, and that each parishioner will help at least one other person to pray during this Year of Prayer.

Secondly, I ask every parish group and organisation (even those groups which don't seem to be concerned with prayer) to consider, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, how you can pray better as a group and how you can encourage prayer generally.

Various resources, ideas and suggestions will be advertised throughout the year. The Jesuit Institute has produced a booklet called *Pilgrims of Prayer*, which you can download from <https://www.jesuit.org.uk/news/a-symphony-of-prayer>.

Fr David

Parish Organisations

MEMORY LANE CLUB

Memory Lane Club will reopen its doors for people with dementia and their carers on Wednesday 10th January from 10.30am to 12.30pm (Parish Lounge) with tea, coffee and cake along with lots of chat, laughter, snooker and different activities. For more info please contact Jenny (07906 856 183).

EDGE HILL PLAYERS' PANTO

Wakey, wakey, it's Panto time again (oh yes, it is)! The Edge Hill Players present ***Sleeping Beauty*** on Saturday 27th January and 3rd February at 2.30pm and 7.00pm in the Upper Hall. For tickets and further information please visit www.edgehillplayers.com or call 07742 230 493.

Diocesan Notices

SPECIAL MASS

The diocesan Racial and Cultural Inclusion Commission invites you to the celebration of Racial Justice Sunday on 28th January. Archbishop John Wilson will be celebrating the event at St George's Cathedral, London SE1 7HY at the 10am Mass (everyone is gently requested to be seated by 9.45am).

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

As part of the preparation for the 2025 Jubilee year, the Southwark *Marriage & Family* Team will be running a *Building a Better Marriage* course throughout the Archdiocese from February 2024. The one-day

course is for married couples (whether married for one year, 60 years or anywhere in between). It seeks to help husbands and wives to make their marriage better and to improve their communication skills. There is no group sharing and private information remains private to each couple. Couples who have attended previously have found it enjoyable, informative, and uplifting. For more information contact the *Marriage & Family Life* Team through the Archdiocese of Southwark website: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life>.

Exploring our Faith

MEDUGORJE RETREAT

The Medugorje Apostolate invite you to their annual retreat from Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th February at the Kairos Centre, Roehampton, led by Fr Svetozar Kraljević OFM, a Franciscan who has spent 16 years serving the parish of Medugorje, the author of several books about Our Lady's apparitions in Medugorje has given many talks on the subject and conducted many retreats. This is a residential retreat (places for day participants available). Info & booking: Paul Spencer (pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com).

PILGRIMAGE 2024 CAMINO DE SANTIAGO

A great opportunity for young adults (20s & 30s), and an invitation to join the British Province of Carmelites on pilgrimage, Easter week 2024 (exact details/dates to be confirmed as flights have not yet been released). The walk starts from Sarria on the *Camino*

Francés, and pilgrims will walk 70 miles to Santiago de Compostela, staying in hostels each evening. Travel will consist of a week away, walking for 5 days. For further details and to register interest please visit <https://carmelite.org/camino-2024/> or email hello@carmelite.org.

PRAYER INTENTION

Each month Pope Francis shares a prayer intention as part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. The prayer intentions express the Holy Father's concerns for humanity and the mission of the Catholic Church. In January we join in praying for the gift of diversity in the Church: *we pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of the different rites within the Catholic Church.*

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.

SURPLUS CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Parishioners are invited to donate their surplus gifts and bring them to the Parish Office after the Christmas break. Unwanted Christmas presents will be donated to a charity, some presents will be raffled to raise money for the crib appeal. All donations are welcome!

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WEST WIMBLEDON

A performance at the Lantern Arts Centre on Saturday 20th January at 7.30pm, when Paul Kerenza gives a 'recreation' of the BBC's very first religious broadcast. Tickets (£10) are available through [ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/) on the Lantern Arts Centre website.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Maria Tavares, John Abreo, Tom Kinsella, Finuala Holford and Josephine Moreno

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Coyle, Alastair MacDonald and James Conboy

The sick: Olivia Chiemieliska, Frances Barden, Jason & Kevin Moreno, Ken Wogan, Jane McVeigh, Harriette Cahill, Martin Moretti, Hui Lee Ng, Audra Wamsteker, Paul Stromborg, Luca Buttaci, 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 8 January The Baptism of the Lord

10.00am Joanne Thiru RIP
6.30pm Patricia Howell RIP

Tuesday 9 January Feria (OT Week 1, Cycle 2)

8.00am Holy Souls at DHM Convent (Murray Road)
10.00am Matilda Bastiampillai RIP
6.30pm Tom Pilkington RIP

Wednesday 10 January Feria

10.00am Michelle Staussi-Gomes Ints.
6.30pm Kit O'Brian RIP

Thursday 11 January Feria

9.00am Holy Souls at Sacred Heart School
10.00am Tom Pilkington RIP
6.30pm Paddy Noone RIP

Friday 12 January Feria

10.00am Mr & Mrs Kim Joseph
6.30pm Mary Baxter RIP

Saturday 13 January The Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00am Teresa Santiago RIP
6.30pm Rita Westbrook RIP - 100th 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

Solemn Latin Mass

Missa de Angelis

Tribus Miraculis, Luca Marenzio

Bethlehem down, Peter Warlock

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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

First Reading I Sam 3:3-10.19
Responsorial Psalm 39:2.4.7-10 R.vv8.9
Second Reading I Cor 13:15.17-20
Gospel Acclamation John 1:41.17
Gospel John 1:35-42

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.

