



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
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18th February 2024

Newsletter

Vol 10, Issue 7

2024 Year of Prayer

First Sunday of Lent (B)

First Week of Lent Vol II, psalter week I

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading (Gen 9:8-15): After the flood, God places a rainbow in the clouds as a sign of his covenant with his people. The flood of Noah is portrayed as being like a new creation, and this is what happens in Baptism. As the Prayer over the Water in the Rite of Baptism puts it (addressing God): *“The waters of the great flood you made a sign of the waters of Baptism, that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness”*.

The **Psalm** (Ps 24:4-9) picks up on the idea of God's covenant with us, and what it means in practice.

The **Second Reading** (1 Pt 3:18-22) makes two points. First, the saving waters of Noah's flood prefigure the saving waters of Baptism. Secondly, the ark prefigures the believing community (i.e. the Church); it is only if we are in the Church (the ark) that we can be sure of being saved.

The **Gospel** on the First Sunday of Lent is always the account of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness and His temptation by the Devil. This sets the length and the abstinence and penance of the season of Lent.

Interestingly, it is The Spirit who drove Jesus out into the wilderness. Although the Son of God, the human Jesus had to struggle against the Devil and be tested in this way.

Fr David

SECOND COLLECTION

‘Do not reject me in my old age, nor desert me when my strength is failing’ (Psalm 71). The Second Collection this week is in support of the Clergy Support Fund for the Archdiocese of Southwark. This important fund provides care and support for priests in their retirement and old age, and at their time of ill health, after their lifetime of service and devotion to Christ, His Church and His People. Your donations to this worthy fund ensure a dignified retirement for all of our priests. You can donate today:

- in the Second Collection as you leave the Church; please use one of the envelopes if you can *Gift Aid* your donation (the Archdiocese gets the *Gift Aid* refund)
- via the Diocesan website (<https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk>)
- via the QR code
- by the card reading machine; or
- by making a bank transfer to the Parish Account, giving the reference ‘Clergy Support’.



‘I kindly ask that you pray for our sick and elderly priests and consider donating to this worthy fund. Thank you for your generosity of heart.’ + John Wilson (The Archbishop)

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

After the 8.00 & 10.00am Masses in the Lower Hall. All are welcome: come and have a cup of coffee or tea, a bacon roll, and a chat.

THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest: Canon 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

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Burlington Road, KT3 4ND
school@sacredheart.merton.sch.uk
Headteacher: Lorraine Dolan-Walsh

This Week

FRIDAY: CAFOD FAST DAY

Fast as a family on Friday and put the money you save in next Sunday's Second Collection. Visit <https://cafod.org.uk/> for information on the CAFOD Lent 2024 Appeal, their latest news, and prayer and family resources.

MARY AGNES ARULNESAN RIP

Funeral Mass at 12noon on Friday, followed by Interment at the Merton & Sutton Cemetery.

There will be no Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday morning.

FRIDAY: STATIONS OF THE CROSS

At 7.15pm in Church, after the 6.30pm Mass.

SATURDAY: MUSICAL EVENT

The Communion and Liberation group in the parish would like to invite everyone to "The Search for Beauty" on Satur-

day at 8pm in our Church: the concert, dedicated to Fr. Luigi Giussani, is a sign of gratitude for the welcoming the CL has received in the parish.

The concert includes pieces by for cello and piano by F. Schubert, R. Schumann, S. Rachmaninov and A. Pärt interpreted by Caterina May and Elisa Cerri.

Lent 2024

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday in Lent, at 7.15pm after the 6.30pm Mass. The traditional Lenten devotion. You can follow it via the live streaming on the Parish website if you can't come in person.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Confessions in Lent are at the normal times: Monday to Saturday 6.00-6.20pm and Saturday 10.30-11.30am.

LENT TALKS

A series of Lent talks on Tuesdays in the Upper Hall, with refreshments at 7.00pm and the talk and questions from 7.30 - 8.30pm. The overall theme is 'Let us remember the past with gratitude, live

the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence' from *Novo Millennio Inveniente* of John Paul II).

The talks are separate, you can attend one or as many as you wish. Please make an extra effort to attend one or more of these talks!

Tuesday 27th February

Dr Caroline Hull, Director of *Aid to the Church in Need UK*. Dr Hull will describe the work of ACN in supporting Christians persecuted and attacked in so many parts of the world.

Tuesday 5th March

Fr Michael Holman SJ, well known to

many in this parish will speak about the work of the Society of Jesus.

Tuesday 12th March

Mr Martin Kuchanski, Creator of *Universalis* and author of *The Creed in Slow Motion*. He will talk about prayer, especially praying the Divine Office, and about the meaning of the Creeds.

Tuesday 19th March

Mr John Coleby, Project Manager, Caritas Southwark, will tell us about the practical works in the diocese to aid those of our brothers and sisters in need.

Parish Notices

CONFIRMATION 2024

All those who have made their first Holy Communion and are in Year 8 or above who have not been Confirmed should register for this programme. Confirmation is not just a pious extra for the more devout; all those Baptised should be Confirmed, to receive the Holy Spirit for living your life and to become a full member of the Church. Register by tomorrow (Monday) on the Confirmation page of the Parish website.

R.C.I.A. 'RITE OF ELECTION'

Some members of our parish R.C.I.A. group will begin their final preparation for full reception into the Catholic Church at Easter with the Rite of Election on Saturday 17th February in

Southwark Cathedral. On three Sundays during Lent (March 3rd, 10th and 17th) they will have a shorter rite consisting of a prayer and blessing during the 5.00pm Mass.

Please pray for Ben, Donovan, Garfield, James and Sarah who will be baptised; for Andrew, Louise and Kirsten who will be received into full communion with the Church and Enya-Naimh, James and Premala who will be confirmed.

FINANCE

The Christmas Crib collection, sent via the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre to support Christians in the Holy Land, and especially in Gaza at this time, totalled £1,446.99.

Thank you for your generosity.

LENT FILM CLUB

Please let Thelma in the Parish Office know this week if you are interested in a fortnightly Film Club, and which day and time would be most convenient for you.

'THURSDAY GROUP'

A friendship group which meets once a week on a Thursday to pray over the following Sunday Gospel followed by tea, to support those with struggles such as mental health. Contact Thelma in the Office if you are interested in joining this convivial and life-giving group.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Friday 1st March at 2.30pm in the Lounge. BINGO! Prizes, tea & cakes. All welcome!

Other Notices

EVANGELISING POST-CHRISTIAN BRITAIN

A lecture by Mgr James Shea on Tuesday 20th February at 7.00pm at St James', Spanish Place. Obtain tickets from guild-ransom.co.uk/events.

'LET LIFE FLOURISH'

The Knights of St Columba, in partnership with the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC), have created a Spiritual Bouquet for 2024, the Year of Prayer. You can join in the Masses, Rosaries, Holy Hours and 40 Hour Adorations please visit www.facebook.com/KofSC - or email headoffice@ksg.org.uk for information and to obtain Zoom codes.

YOUTH DAY (10-14 YEARS)

The next diocesan Youth Day for young people aged 10-14 will take place at Richard Challoner School, New Malden, on Saturday 9th March. The day will include faith input, prayer, sports, games and pizza. Parents can book for their children, and group leaders can register at www.tinyurl.com/scysyouthday. Please sign up for regular updates on forthcoming diocesan youth events at www.tinyurl.com/scysnetwork.

'FOOTPRINTS OF HOPE'

The Carmelite Shrine of St Jude in Faversham is laying bricks on a new path for the 'Footprints of Hope' project. You can remember friends and loved ones by engraving a name on a brick for just £30/brick. There is no limit to how many bricks are ordered (by 23rd February at www.stjudeshrine.org.uk/footprints or 01795 539 214).

WIMBLEDON & PUTNEY COMMONS ELECTION OF CONSERVATORS

If you live within ¾ mile of Wimbledon Common or Putney Heath you are entitled to vote in this election. Email election@wpcc.org.uk or call 020 8788 7655 asap to receive a Ballot Paper.

DIVINE MERCY AFTERNOON

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London, is holding a *Divine Mercy Afternoon of Reflection* (incl. teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Way of the Cross, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus) on Saturday 24th Feb from 1.30-4.30pm at St. Lawrence Church, Sidcup DA15 7HB. Call Millie (07957 594 646) for more info.

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.

VACANCY

Wimbledon College Science Technician vacancy: further information available at www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk under 'about us'/job opportunities' or apply by online application form via eteach website.

NEWMAN CIRCLE

Wednesday 28 February at 7.30pm in the Parish Lounge: Subject 'Love the Stranger - a Catholic response to migrants & refugees'; speaker: Liam Allmark, all are welcome!

CHURCH CAR PARK

Following some serious problems with unauthorised parking in the car park - which have prevented parishioners from attending Mass, which threaten the continuation of groups such as the Wednesday dementia group, and which in one case prevented a priest getting his car out to go to the cemetery for a funeral - it has been decided to implement a parking scheme commencing on 1st March 2024. This is how the scheme will work:

- There will be cameras recording entry to and exit from the car park.
- If you park in order to attend Mass, Adoration etc in Church, to visit the Presbytery, or to attend a function in one of the halls, you MUST register your car registration number on one of the tablets. There will be four tablets, in the Church, the Presbytery Reception, the Upper Hall and the Lower Hall.
- If you park and register, and then leave and return later in the day you must register again.
- You do not need to register as soon as you arrive as long as you do it before you leave, but it is good practice to get into the habit of registering on arrival.
- There is a grace period, so if you are dropping someone or something off you don't need to register; deliveries similarly will be unaffected.
- Vehicles which are parked without registration or authorisation will receive a Parking Charge Notice through the post.
- The system will not be operational on Sundays, so you won't need to register your car then.
- Vehicles entering the College vehicular entrance and then exiting through the car park will also be unaffected.

Please ask if you are uncertain but remember from 1st March you must register your car if parked in the car park, to avoid a Parking Charge Notice. There will be very clear signs reminding you of the scheme.

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.

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

Victoria Wheatley (wimbledonsg1@safeguard.rcaos.org.uk)

Kathleen Kirkland (wimbledonsg2@safeguard.rcaos.org.uk)

Siobhán Heffron (wimbledonsg3@safeguard.rcaos.org.uk)

CELEBRANTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

6.30pm (Sat) Fr Jackson Sebastian
8.00am Fr Matthew Donnelly
10.00am Fr David Gibbons
12 noon Fr Jackson Sebastian
5.00pm Fr Matthew Donnelly
8.00pm Fr David Gibbons & Deacon Julian Burling

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Iris Veronica Smith, Adrian Collyns, George Fletcher, Maureen Lockley, Antonia Pancratius and Mary Arulnesan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Agnes Almeida and Andreas Arias

The sick: Dorothy Horrocks, Pauline Grimes, Sherlyn Tilton, Geoffrey Norris, Anne Lander, Olivia Chiemielska, Frances Barden, Jason & Kevin Moreno, Jane McVeigh, Harriette Cahill, 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 19 February Feria

10.00am Jean Pierre Schembri RIP
6.30pm Barbara Farmer RIP

Tuesday 20 February Feria

10.00am Caroline Gray, Jim Timmons RIP
6.30pm Diana Ferraris RIP

Wednesday 21 February St Robert Southwell, Priest, Martyr

10.00am John Wall RIP
6.30pm Brid Abernethy RIP

Thursday 22 February The Chair of St Peter the Apostle

10.00am Noel D'Costa RIP
6.30pm Catherine Mary Stobbs RIP

Friday 23 February Feria

10.00am Victor D'Costa RIP
12.00noon Funeral Mass for Mary Agnes Arulnesan
6.30pm Catherine Mary Stobbs RIP

Saturday 24 February Feria

10.00am Maria Thanksgiving and Good Health
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: 529 *O God thy people gather*

Offertory motet: *Emendemus in melius*, William Byrd

Communion motet: *Hide not thou thy face*, Richard Farrant

Communion hymn: 392 *Lord, who throughout these forty days*

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 of Lent (B)

First Reading Gen 22:1-2.9-13.
15-18

Responsorial Psalm Ps 115:10.15-19

Second Reading Rm 8:31-34

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Gospel Mark 9:2-10

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.

