



# THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon  
Edge Hill  
Wimbledon  
London SW19 4LU

Sunday  
1 December 2024

## Newsletter

Vol. 10  
Issue 42

2024 Year of Prayer • First Sunday of Advent (C)  
Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time • Vol. I, Psalter Week I

### Advent

We are blest as a new liturgical year begins with Advent, the time when we await the Second Coming of Christ (the theme of the readings at Mass up to 16 December) and then we prepare to celebrate His First Coming (from 17 December onwards).

The colour of vestments is violet, and the Gloria is omitted except for major Feasts. The season is marked by moderation in music, floral decorations, etc.. The Marian anthem *Alma Redemptoris Mater* is sung during Advent and Christmas until 1 February.

### Year of Luke

Not only do we begin the new Lectionary cycle for Sundays, namely the Year of Luke (Year C) – Luke has been described as the ‘Gospel of Mercy’ – but we also begin using the new translation: readers, please note. See inside for further details. The missalettes have a new format, which has been mandated by the Bishops’ Conference.

### Today’s Mass

**First Reading:** ‘declares the Lord’ means that it is God speaking through the prophet. Here, through Jeremiah, God promises that a descendant of David will once again rule Israel, a rule marked by honesty and integrity. Christians have always understood this as referring to Jesus Christ.

**Psalm:** God is our teacher and saviour. In this psalm, we express our humble trust in and faithfulness to God.

**Second Reading:** In Advent, we are meant to think about Christ’s Second Coming, and use the season to make progress in our spiritual lives. How will you do this? Attend Holy Mass on weekdays more? Set aside more time for family prayer? Undertake some good deed you don’t normally do?

**Gospel:** Today’s Gospel is about maintaining one’s faith in the midst of a hostile world: we must ‘stay awake at all times’ and pray for faithfulness so that we can face Christ with confidence when He comes again. Instead of focusing on shopping lists, ask yourselves: in the end, what does it all mean? How would I live today if I knew it was my last on earth? What truly guides my choices and decisions? What really matters to me?

*Canon David*

#### Parish Pastoral Team

**Parish Priest** Canon David Gibbons KCHS  
**Parish Clergy** Fr David Hunter  
Fr Jackson Sebastian  
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](mailto:school@sacredheart.merton.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Lorraine Dolan-Walsh



**Café in the Lounge  
after the 10.00am Mass**

You are warmly invited to join us for tea, coffee, biscuits, etc.!

#### Readings at Mass

	This Sunday	Next Sunday
<b>First Reading</b>	Jeremiah 33:14–16	Baruch 5:1–9
<b>Resp. Psalm</b>	Psalm 25(24)	Psalm 126(125)
<b>Second Reading</b>	1 Thessal. 3:12–4:2	Philippians 1:3–6,8–11
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 21:25–28,34–36	Luke 3:1–6

## This Sunday

### Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10.00am Mass

Children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 are invited to attend with their parents. The children's liturgy continues during the 10.00am Mass on Sundays 8 and 15 December.

## This week

**Fr David** is away from Monday to Thursday for a gathering of recently-ordained clergy with the Archbishop.

### 7.00am Monday: Advent Rorate Mass

A big tradition in Germany, Rorate Masses are dawn Masses of Our Lady by candlelight. If you have never experienced these special Advent Masses, do make an effort to come along and help prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

The Rorate Mass will be celebrated in the Lady Chapel, and in Latin. A second Rorate Mass will be celebrated at 7.00am on Friday 13 December.

### 7.00pm First Monday Adoration

Every first Monday of the month until July 2025, Adoration will start promptly after the 6.30pm Mass. This time of community worship will be led by musicians from the Jesuit young adult community at No. 9 Edge Hill.

Come along and meet Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament with gentle music and guided prayer. *'A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent in sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.'* (Padre Pio, St Pio of Pietrelcina)

### Tuesday: Day of Prayer for Migrants

Please pray for all migrants today.

### No Adoration on Wednesday morning

Please see 'Parish notices'.

## New Lectionary

Today we start using the new Lectionary, or more accurately the new translation, taken from the English Standard Version and (for the psalms) the Abbey Edition. We are very grateful to the many people who have donated the cost of the new books, mainly in memory of a loved one. An appropriate bookplate will be placed in the volumes.

Why do we need a new translation? The present translation, from the Jerusalem Bible, is old and since it was written in 1969, there have been developments in scholarship, changes in word usage (who says 'yonder nowadays?'), and many new saints and Feasts added to the Church's calendar (such as Mary, Mother of the Church). It also doesn't have inclusive language, whereas the new version does have gender-neutral language where possible.

The new translation has a more dignified style, considered more suitable for proclaiming the Word of God. Most significantly, the Jerusalem Bible paraphrased more (and so interposed a layer of interpretation), while the ESV is closer to the original language. So, while still comprehensible in English, it aims to reproduce the original author's style (e.g. Mark is clunky and breathless, but Luke is polished Greek). The ESV retains theological terminology – words such as grace, sanctification, and redemption – because of their central importance for Christian doctrine, rather than assuming people won't understand them.

Finally, the Abbey Psalter is a revised and updated edition of the existing Grail Psalter. The main difference is that it restores the lines that the original version omitted to make it easier for choirs to sing.

There are a few changes to the standard ESV for which the bishops asked. For example, in Chronicles 3:1, where King David's wife is 'Abigail the Carmelite' in the ESV, our Lectionary has 'Abigail from Carmel', lest anyone think the King had married a nun!

*Canon David*

### 9.00am Thursday: Mass in the Hall of Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

All parishioners, parents, and family members are welcome to attend this Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Burlington Road, KT3 4ND).

### First Friday Adoration

Adoration on Friday will take place between 10.30am and 12 noon; between 5.25pm and 6.25pm; and between 7.00pm and 9.00pm. Confessions will be heard between 6.00pm and 6.20pm. This is the First Friday, a monthly day of devotion marking the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Can YOU attend Mass, Adoration and/or Confession this Friday?

### 7.00pm Friday Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Key Stage 2 Carol Service

Everyone is invited to this school carol service in the church.

### Spotlight on...



Applications are open for young people in our parish to make their **Confirmation** in 2025!

View the programme dates and sign up before Monday 6 January via our website (under 'Faith and the Sacraments').

**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 Representatives:

Victoria Wheatley ([wimbledonsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledonsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk)) • Siobhán Heffron ([wimbledonsg3@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledonsg3@safeguardraos.org.uk))

## Parish notices

### Changes to Adoration times

Because of school carol services, there will be no Adoration on the mornings of Wednesdays 4 and 11 December and the mornings of Fridays 13 and 20 December.

### Travelling Crib stopping at your home

Have you any room at your inn for Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem? We are looking for volunteers to give them a room and a moment of prayer with your families. There are 24 travelling days for the Crib containing Mary and Joseph to come to your home, before they reach Bethlehem.

To sign up, please speak to Rob Hitchcock, our Faith Minister, or email him at [wimbledonpfm@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledonpfm@rcaos.org.uk), or complete a form at the back of the church, returning it to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

### Countersigning school application forms

For Canon David to countersign application forms for Catholic schools, please contact Thelma in the Parish Office to make an appointment. You need to bring the child concerned, along with the Certificate of Catholic Practice obtained from the school.

### Vacancy: Kitchen Assistant at St Teresa's Home

St Teresa's Home CIO seeks a full-time Kitchen Assistant, four or five days out of seven on alternate weeks, 7.00am to 3.00pm, Sundays included. Experience is preferable and a DBS check is requested.

For full details and to apply, please call 0208 879 7366 ('Admin', option 3) or email [info@stteresashome.co.uk](mailto:info@stteresashome.co.uk).

## Forthcoming parish liturgies and events

### 7.00am Friday 13 December Advent Rorate Mass

See 'This week' for further details.

### 12 noon – 3.00pm Sat. 14 December Make the church festive!

Help us to decorate our Christmas trees and dress our crib! Come to the church and hang a bauble or wrap tinsel. All are welcome; festive refreshments will be served.

### 6.30pm for 7.45pm Tuesday 17 December Katy's Songbirds' Christmas Celebration Concert

An evening of traditional carols and festive songs in the church, beginning with mulled wine, pies, and the bar in

the Upper Hall from 6.30pm, raising funds for Rose's Gift and the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. Tickets are £10 (under-14s free); please email [ksongbirds656@gmail.com](mailto:ksongbirds656@gmail.com) or pay on the door.

### 10.40am Monday 23 December Crib Service Children's Rehearsal

There will be a rehearsal for the Crib Service from 10.40am to 12 noon for children aged 4+ who would like to be involved as actors and children aged 8+ wishing to read. Please contact Rachel Marshall at [rachel@marshallmail.net](mailto:rachel@marshallmail.net). Offers of help from parents are also most welcome.

The Crib Service will take place at 3.30pm on Christmas Eve.

## New to the parish?

Welcome! Please introduce yourself to a member of the parish team after Mass and register online at [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](http://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk) or by filling out a registration form, available at the back of the church.

## Diocesan notices

### Archdiocese of Southwark Rosary Prayer Project

Everyone is warmly invited to join this Archdiocese-wide prayer initiative, praying a decade of the Rosary each day for priests and parishes in their deanery.

For further details, please see the poster at the back of the church or email [southwarkrenewal@gmail.com](mailto:southwarkrenewal@gmail.com).

### Spirituality Commission Advent reflections

During Advent, the Archdiocese of Southwark's Spirituality Commission will be publishing daily reflections featuring Scripture, thoughts, and prayers. Sign up to receive these reflections directly into your inbox at: [tinyurl.com/adventreflections2024](http://tinyurl.com/adventreflections2024).



Christmas cards and cards by Moya are available in the Reception, as well as pocket-size diaries with the Order of Mass.

## Other notices

### 11.00am Saturday 7 December CAFOD Nativity Fun Run

Sign up to the run on Clapham Common (10.00am registration) at [cafod.org.uk/news/events/nativity-fun-run](http://cafod.org.uk/news/events/nativity-fun-run). Tickets cost £12 for adults, £6 for children, and £22 for families.

### Manna Society Christmas Appeal

Will you give the Manna Society a boost this Christmas with a matched donation? Manna's day centre supports homeless people near London Bridge. The Aviva Community Fund will kindly match any donations to the Manna Society until Christmas Day. Double your charitable donation: please visit [mannasociety.org.uk](http://mannasociety.org.uk) and donate today.

## Your invite to Christmas Lunch!

Canon David, Fr Jackson, and Fr David invite you to make Christmas a very special parish day. Come and enjoy lunch on 25 December from 12.30pm (carriages at 3.30pm). Don't spend Christmas Day on your own: spend it with clergy and other parishioners. You will receive a warm welcome and have lots of fun. To RSVP for the day or donate to fund it, please visit [tinyurl.com/shchristmaslunch24](http://tinyurl.com/shchristmaslunch24), or complete a form from the back of the church and return it to the Presbytery. Please reply by Friday 13 December. Limited places are available, so secure your place ASAP!



## Celebrants this Sunday

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

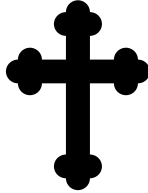
## We remember in our prayers

**Those who have died recently**  
Anna Tolley • Elaine Evlyn Sancho

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time**  
Sheila Wadhwa • Bertha D'Costa

**Those who are sick**  
Penny Sewell • Corné Rossouw • Finley Kennedy  
Samar Staussi • Thelma Lobo • Maria Tinker  
Dorothy Ramos • Armando Ramos • Geoffrey Norris  
Emily Grey • Electa Almeida  
Margaret Duffy • Karolina Masica

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. For data protection reasons, individuals must explicitly agree for their names to be mentioned in our newsletter.



## Exposition

10.30am – 12 noon and  
5.25pm – 6.25pm  
Wednesdays and Fridays  
after the 6.30pm Mass  
First Monday of each month  
7.00pm – 9.00pm  
First Friday of each month

## Reconciliation

6.00pm – 6.20pm  
Mondays to Saturdays  
10.30am – 11.30am  
Saturdays

*some changes this month:  
see 'Parish Notices'*

## Hospital contacts

If you or a member of your family are admitted to a local hospital, please let the hospital's Catholic chaplain know.

**St George's:** Fr Peter Littleton (020 8725 3069  
or 020 8672 1255)

**Epsom and St Helier:** Fr Philip Pak (020 8296 2000)

**Kingston:** Fr Tony Oleh (020 8546 7711)

Any notices for the weekly newsletter should be emailed to [wimbledonnewsletter@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledonnewsletter@rcaos.org.uk) by Tuesday evening.

Your generosity helps to fund our parish's wide range of liturgical, spiritual, and cultural activities.

To donate, scan the QR code or visit [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/donate](https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/donate).  
Thank you.



## Weekday Mass Intentions

**Saturday 30 November • St Andrew**

10.00am Fr John Maria (RIP)  
6.30pm John Byrne (RIP)

**Monday 2 December**

7.00am Holy Souls [Rorate Mass, Latin, Lady Chapel]  
10.00am Thanksgiving  
6.30pm Marie Murray (RIP)

**Tuesday 3 December • St Francis Xavier SJ**

10.00am Francina McGuire (RIP)  
6.30pm Almeida (Ints)

**Wednesday 4 December**

10.00am Deceased Helliwell relatives (RIP)  
6.30pm Holy Souls

**Thursday 5 December**

9.00am School's Ints [Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic  
Primary School, Burlington Road, KT3 4ND]  
10.00am Patrick Hearty (RIP)  
6.30pm Virginia & Gavin Fernandes (Thanksgiving)

**Friday 6 December**

10.00am Maria Hearty (Ints)  
6.30pm Therese Nguyen (RIP)

**Saturday 7 December • St Ambrose**

10.00am Susan Wilson (RIP)  
6.30pm Bertha D'Costa (RIP)

## Music at the 12 noon Mass

**Solemn Latin Mass • Mass XVII Plainsong**  
**Introit:** *Ad te levavi* (J.C. Aiblinger)  
**Offertory motet:** *Confortamini et iam* (O. di Lasso)  
**Communion hymn:** *Creator alme siderum* (Plainsong)

## Music at the 5.00pm Mass

Scan the QR code or visit  
[sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/5pm](https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/5pm)



## Parish services and contacts

**Parish Office**  
020 8946 0305  
9.00am – 4.00pm  
Monday – Friday

**Executive Assistant**  
Thelma D'Costa  
**Caretaker**  
George McLennan

Please contact the Parish Office for all enquiries, hall bookings, baptisms, marriages, first sacraments, and funerals.

Please remember always to register your car number when using the church car park (except Sundays). Registration tablets can be found in the church entrance, the presbytery reception, and the hall entrances.

The **Sacred Heart SVP Conference** meets to help those living locally in need. All enquiries are dealt with confidentially. Please leave your contact details with the Parish Office or email [presidentA190704@svp.org.uk](mailto:presidentA190704@svp.org.uk).