



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

020 8946 0305
wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk
sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk
@SHWimbledon /sacredheartwimbledon

Sacred Heart Wimbledon
Edge Hill
Wimbledon
London SW19 4LU

Sunday
23 November 2025

Newsletter

Vol. 11
Issue 52



Year of Jubilee 2025 • Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Action needed: Christmas hampers!

As we are not able to run the Parish Christmas Lunch this year, we are instead planning to distribute Christmas hampers. This initiative is an exciting collaboration including our parish's St Vincent de Paul Society and Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, whose pupils will lovingly put the hampers together and help to distribute them to people and families in need in our Sacred Heart community.

But we need your help! Could you donate items for the hampers? Our suggestions include tinned peas, carrots, potatoes, stuffing mix, mince pies, custard, Christmas treats, and other long-life goods.

Please bring items to the Parish Office or place them in the dedicated boxes at the back of the church. Donations towards the purchase of items are also gratefully received.

Parish Pastoral Team

Parish Priest	Canon David Gibbons KCHS
Parish Clergy	Fr Edwin Raj Fr Peter Mudu Frank 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: Sarah Norville

Today's Mass

Pope Pius XI instituted the **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**, in 1925, the sixteenth centenary of the Council of Nicaea, at which the doctrine of the consubstantiality of Christ with the Father was defined. Its eschatological character was confirmed by its move, in the calendar reforms of the Second Vatican Council, to the final Sunday of the liturgical year.

The Pope asserted that the most effective defence against the destructive forces of the age is the recognition of Christ's kingship; and, furthermore, that an annual feast celebrated by everyone is a far better way of deploying that defence than any number of books written by learned people. First, we do; then, we come to understand what it is that we are doing.

Each of us has been anointed with holy oil at baptism – as priest, prophet and king. Today's feast is thus a good moment to reflect on our kingship. What does 'king' mean? How are we 'kings'? Understanding the feast makes us understand our own call better.

In Genesis, Adam sits in state and God brings him all the animals for him to give them names. To give names to one's subjects is the act of a king. So, our responsibility as kings is to care for our subjects, which is why we are obliged to act as custodians of Creation, something no other creature is. How far that responsibility takes a person can then be seen in the King of the Universe, who is simultaneously the ruler of all and the servant of all. He rules in triumph; He rules from the Cross.

Over whom am I, personally, king? Whom am I called to serve?

Adapted from Universalis: About Today
(universalis.com/today)



We are a Jubilee Church! Find out more about the Year of Jubilee 2025 for 'Pilgrims of Hope' at cbcew.org.uk/jubilee-2025.

Parish Vacancy: Caretaker

George McLennan, our Parish Caretaker, is retiring at the end of December. We send him our gratitude for his sterling caretaking over a number of years. A new Caretaker is required.

For a Job Description, Person Specification, and Application Form, please email Thelma at wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk. The salary is £29,427.00 for a 35-hour week. Applications close on Wednesday 10 December.

This Sunday

Jubilee Youth Sunday 2025

Today, we honour our young people and the gift they are to the Church and world. Today's Readings speak of God's Word, of being rooted in hope, of being a people on the move, ready to serve. They provide a perfect foundation for reflecting on the contribution our young people make.

So, on this Youth Sunday, let us say thank you to our young people – for their gifts, enthusiasm, and questions. And let us commit as a community to welcome and accompany them.

The **Second Collection** is for Catholic Youth Services. Your generosity will support youth work in the Archdiocese (especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service) and beyond.

Café in the Lounge after the 10.00am Mass

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

Social Club after the 8.00pm Mass

All are welcome to join us in the Lounge for a drink and social gathering!

Donhead Preparatory School

We welcome pupils attending the 10.00am Mass on Wednesday.

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Key Stage 2 pupils will be rehearsing in church on Friday afternoon for their Carol Service. The rehearsal will be followed by the Sacrament of Penance, as part of their preparation for Christmas.

7.00pm Thursday Wimbledon Catenians Meeting

Men of the parish are warmly invited to the Wimbledon Catenians' monthly meeting in the Lounge. After the meeting, Graham Kennedy will offer a short, informal chat about the Be Well Hub initiative. The bar will be open throughout, and we'll be socialising (with an optional curry or alternative for £10) before and after Graham's talk.

For more information, please visit wimbledon-catenians.org.uk or email either tomconlonuk@gmail.com or des@boxofcolours.com.

This week

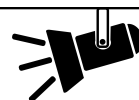
7.00pm Friday Deanery Deceased Clergy Requiem

The annual Merton Deanery Requiem Mass for Deceased Clergy this year will be held at Christ the King (The Crescent, SW19 8AJ), very close to Wimbledon Park tube station. All are welcome to attend.

Holy Matrimony

The Wedding of Gabriel Smith and Caitlin O'Keeffe is at 12 noon on Saturday 29 November.

Spotlight on...



Canon David is keen to start a **Parish Evangelization Prayer Group** to support the parish's evangelizing work by rooting it in prayer. Bridget Handley will lead the Prayer Group. If you are interested in joining the group to pray for evangelization, please contact Thelma in the Parish Office (see back cover); Thelma will pass your contact details on to Bridget.

Parish notices

Carol Services

Over the next few weeks, the church will be heavily used by many local schools, including for carol services and rehearsals. Please be aware that such things as access to the church, live streaming, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament may be restricted.



Confirmation 2026

Are you in Years 8 to 13? Would you like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next year? Registration is now open! Please ask your parent or guardian to complete the online form before Monday 5 January 2026: tinyurl.com/shwconf26. If you were baptised outside the parish, they will need to upload a copy of your baptismal certificate.

If you have any questions, please contact Rob, our Faith Minister, at wimbledonpfm@rcaos.org.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 at sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/safeguarding.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Victoria Wheatley (wimbledonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)
Siobhán Heffron (wimbledonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk) • Maria Christopher (wimbledonsg5@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

Forthcoming parish liturgies and events

2.30pm Friday 5 December
Friendship Group Christmas Singalong
with Songs on Wheels

Do join us in the Lounge for tea, cakes, and sherry. Everyone is welcome!

6.30am Mondays 1, 8, and 15
December: Rorate Masses

These traditional dawn Masses of Our Lady by candlelight will be celebrated on the first three Mondays of December in the Lady Chapel. If you have never experienced one of these special Advent Masses, do make an effort to come along and help prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. By popular request, these Masses will be sung Masses and in Latin.

Erratum: Please note these Masses are at 6.30am. The editor apologises for all confusion.

Called to Bear Fruit



Consultation response

'Thank you to the thousands of people who took part in the Called to Bear Fruit consultation. We are grateful to you all for sharing so openly your hopes for the life of the Church in our Archdiocese. The consultation response, which includes 15 actions points for renewal, is available at rcaos.org.uk/calledtobearfruit.

'The consultation revealed a burning desire within our parishes to be missionary and evangelizing disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, who work together to help people encounter His love. So, as we move forward on the next steps together, let's build up the Body of Christ in Southwark with faith and confidence, becoming ever more a community of missionary disciples filled with joy and hope for the future. As an Archdiocese, we will continue to discern the process of renewal, and further updates will be provided in due course.'

1.30pm – 3.00pm Tuesday 9
December: Christmas Tea Party
at Ursuline High School

The Ursuline High School is hosting a tea party to which all retired parishioners – and especially those who have a connection with the school – are invited. Please book your place by emailing Polly Harrison at polly.harrison@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk or by talking to Sister Dorothy. Kindly note that the entrance is on The Downs (not Crescent Road). We look forward to welcoming you!

6.30pm for 7.45pm
Thursday 18 December
Katy's Songbirds
Christmas Celebration

Katy's Songbirds invite you to their Christmas Celebration, an evening of traditional carols and festive music featuring Katy Lees, Giles Kennedy, Putney & Wimbledon Bass Band, the Lantern Arts Youth Choir, and Edge Hill Players. The concert will support Beat, an eating disorders charity, and Breast Cancer Now.

Mulled wine, mince pies, a raffle, and a bar will be available in the Upper Hall from 6.30pm, with the concert starting at 7.45pm in the church. Tickets are £10 (under-14s free). Book your place now at trybooking.com/uk/FPEQ.

Diocesan notices

Deanery news

The Archbishop has appointed Fr Simon Peat, Parish Priest of St Winefride's, South Wimbledon, as Dean of the Merton Deanery for a further three years.

Hope in Adoration

As part of the Jubilee Year 2025, Archbishop John is encouraging people to turn to the Lord Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. You can find out more at rcaos.org.uk/hopeinadoration.



Holy Souls in November: If you would like to have your loved ones remembered in Masses during November, please write their names on a piece of paper and place it into the Holy Souls envelopes provided at the back of the church. They will be placed in a box at the altar during Masses in November. Any donations enclosed will go towards Masses for the Holy Souls during the year.

New to the parish?

Welcome! Please introduce yourself to a member of the parish team after Mass and register online at sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk or by filling out a registration form from the back of the church.

Your Legacy of Faith

Will you do something wonderful today? Will you remember the Church with a gift in your will? Copies of *Your Legacy of Faith* are available at the back of the church. This leaflet gives you information about remembering the Church in your will, explains various matters concerning wills, and also gives guidance on planning a Catholic funeral.

Other notices

Jesuit Missions COP30 Newsletter

You can read Jesuit Missions' COP30 Newsletter at tinyurl.com/jmcop30. The illustrated newsletter includes day-by-day summaries of the recent climate change conference in Belém, Brazil, supplemented with prayers, reflections, and links to further reading.

Catholic Union Advent Calendar

The Catholic Union's Advent Calendar, features daily contributions from leading Catholic figures in public life. You can download the calendar at catholicunion.org.uk/advent-2025.

Vacancy: Housekeeper at Kairos Spirituality and Retreat Centre

The Kairos Spirituality and Retreat Centre, Roehampton, is searching for a full-time Housekeeper (37.5 hours per week). To request full details and to apply before Friday 5 December, please send an expression of interest to hrofficer@psmgs.org.uk.

Celebrants this Sunday

6.30pm (Sat)	Fr Edwin Raj
8.00am	Fr Peter Mudu Frank
10.00am	Fr Edwin Raj
12 noon	Canon David Gibbons & Dcn Julian Burling
5.00pm	Fr Peter Mudu Frank & Dcn Julian Burling
8.00pm	Fr Edwin Raj

We remember in our prayers

Those who have died recently

Septimus Waugh • John Engley • Marie Whitehead
Diarmuid 'Dee' Santry • Eileen Norris • John Ebbans

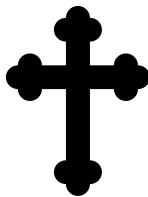
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Althea Coleman • Michael Swanson
John Granahan • James Westbrook

Those who are sick

Finley Kennedy • Samar Staussi • Maria Tinker • Emily Grey
Electa Almeida • Karolina Masica • Mark Capra
Teresa Escalona • Simon Potter • Angela White
Peter Gent • Margaret Brauer • Karoline Wilhelm-Brown
Valeria Kucharsky • Debbie Gargan • Patricia Codd
Hilary Brazier • Ethan Costa Peruzzo
Sheila Morrissey • Peter Hayes • Brian McQuaid

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

Wednesdays and Fridays
10.30am – 12 noon and
5.25pm – 6.25pm

First Mondays and Fridays
of the month
7.00pm – 8.00pm

Reconciliation

Mondays to Saturdays
6.00pm – 6.20pm

Saturdays
10.30am – 11.30am

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)

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.
Thank you.



Weekday Mass Intentions

Saturday 22 November • S Cecilia, V M

10.00am Celine Ebbans (RIP)
6.30pm Michael Molloy (RIP)

Monday 24 November • SS Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Pr & Companions, MM

10.00am James Walsh (RIP)
6.30pm Pierre Philippe Murat (RIP)

Tuesday 25 November

10.00am Osborne Almeida & De Lima Family
6.30pm Private Intention

Wednesday 26 November

10.00am Deceased Members of the
De Lima & Almeida Families (RIP)
6.30pm James Westbrook (RIP)

Thursday 27 November

10.00am Carmela Rosell Perez (RIP)
6.30pm Veronica Mirandah (RIP)

Friday 28 November

10.00am Rosanne Gomez & John Pinto (RIP)
6.30pm Edward Hogan (RIP)

Saturday 29 November • of Our Lady

10.00am Fr John Maria
12 noon Wedding of Gabriel Smith
and Caitlin O'Keeffe
6.30pm Denis Quinn (RIP)

Music at the 12 noon Mass

Introit: (116) *Christus vincit*

Kyrie/Sanctus: *Missa super O Regem coeli* (G.P. da Palestrina)

Offertory motet: *O Rex Glorae* (A. Gabrieli)

Communion motet: *Agnus Dei II* (from Mass)

Communion hymn: (239) Hail Redeemer, King divine

Organ: *Grand Chœur Dialogué* (E. Gigout)

Music at the 5.00pm Mass

Scan the QR code or visit
sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/5pm



Parish services and contacts

Parish Office

020 8946 0305

wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk

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, first Sacraments, marriages, and funerals. Please email any notices for the weekly newsletter to wimbledonnewsletter@rcaos.org.uk by Tuesday evening.

Please remember always to register your car when using the church car park (except Sundays) via a registration tablet at the church entrance, presbytery reception, or hall entrances.