



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
Edge Hill
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London SW19 4LU

Sunday
22 March 2026

Newsletter

Vol. 12
Issue 11

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A)
Fifth Week of Lent



11.00AM GOOD FRIDAY 3 APRIL CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please email Rachel Marshall at rachel@marshallemail.net if your child would like to take part. Adult help is also welcomed. There will be a rehearsal for all actors and readers beforehand, from 9.30am to 10.30am, in the church.

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

The Third Scrutiny (see 'This Week') is celebrated today for the elect, who will be Baptized at Easter, and this week's long Gospel (John 11:1-45), which records the raising of Lazarus, is chosen with the elect in mind. It has many important themes – important for the elect on their spiritual journey to Baptism, but also important for all of us on our own Lenten spiritual journey.

We see Jesus' human side: he loves Lazarus and his sisters, and He is so distressed that He weeps. We see His power over death as He returns Lazarus to life, which prefigures Jesus' own Resurrection. We see Martha's response when Jesus says 'I am the Resurrection and the Life' and she confesses him as the Christ, the Messiah. We see Jesus' intimate relationship with the Father; and, finally, we see how many people came to believe in Him as a result of what they witnessed.

In the **First Reading** (Ezekiel 37:12-14), the prophet Ezekiel foretells the general resurrection of the faithful, and in the **Second Reading** (Romans 8:8-11), St Paul tells us that the spirit which raised Jesus from the dead will raise us from the dead as well.

Psalm 130(129) is one of the seven penitential psalms of the Church: it is a lament and a plea to God, but it also shows trust in God to forgive us from our sins and redeem us.



Canon David

**10.00am this coming Saturday 28 March
Lenten Penitential Service**

Following the 10.00am Mass, there will be a short communal Service of Penitence. Visiting priests as well as our own will then be available to hear individual Confessions. During the Confessions, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for your Adoration and prayers.

All Catholics should make their Confessions at least yearly, and the Penitential Service is a good way of fulfilling the Easter Precept and preparing yourself spiritually for Easter. So come and confess early for Easter!

This Sunday

Passiontide

... begins this Sunday. Crucifixes and images are veiled for the remaining two weeks of Lent. Crucifixes will remain veiled until the Liturgy on Good Friday (celebrated at 3.00pm in our church), while images of the saints will be unveiled before the Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday.

Second Collection: Poor Parishes Fund

This Second Collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of our Archdiocese's poorer parishes. Please give generously.

Café in the Lounge after the 10.00am Mass

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

5.00pm Mass: Third Scrutiny

This Easter, three members of our parish's RCIA group will be Baptized, and three others will be Confirmed. Their final scrutiny takes place at the 5.00pm Mass. Today, they will be given a copy of the *Paternoster* (the Lord's Prayer), the model of all prayer.

Please keep Adeola, Dennis, Patrick, Bill, Sushini, and Catherine in your prayers.

Social Club after the 8.00pm Mass

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

EDGEWAYS

Celebrating 30 years of Bob Rathbone as Director of Music: read March 2025 *Edgeways*, your monthly parish magazine, at sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/edgeways! Printed copies can be found at the back of the church.

This week

Now that we have entered Passiontide, in the **Divine Office** this week, the hymns of Holy Week may be recited at Readings, Lauds, and Vespers.

Wednesday: The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

Celebrated at the 6.30pm Mass on Tuesday and the 10.00am and 6.30pm Masses on Wednesday, this Solemnity recalls Archangel Gabriel's announcement of the Incarnation to Mary, as recorded in Luke 1:26.

The Gloria and Creed are recited. During the Creed, we genuflect and pause at the words 'and became man'. We do this at Christmas Masses, and the Annunciation is the first act in the drama of our Lord's Incarnation.

The **First Reading** (Isaiah 7:10-14;8:10c) is the celebrated prophecy of the birth of a son to a virgin, a clear foreshadowing of Jesus Christ's birth to Mary. **Psalm 40(39)** foreshadows Mary's fiat: 'Let it be to me according to your word.' The **Second Reading** (Hebrews 10:4-10), in which the Psalm is quoted, highlights Jesus as our Saviour and Redeemer. The **Gospel** (Luke 1:26-38) asserts that God was breaking into this world in a new way to save humankind from its sins.

Canon David

Church guides wanted

Adult parishioners are invited to express their interest in training and qualifying as volunteer 'White Badge' guides to show visitors around our beautiful church. Guides will learn about the highlights of the church, its history and contents, followed by the skills needed to show small groups of visitors around from September onwards. To register your interest, please email David Hurst at dthurst52@gmail.com.

7.15pm Wednesday Lenten discussion evening: Ambassadors for Christ

Join us in the Lounge as Nina Beltran, our Parish Lead for Faith Formation, will share a video from *Ambassadors for Christ*, followed by a discussion. Refreshments will be provided.

Produced by the Archdiocese of Southwark, the *Ambassadors for Christ* video series is a landmark apologetics project designed to equip you with a deeper understanding of your faith, so that you can confidently answer questions and be a joyful witness to the Lord Jesus and His Church.

7.30pm Thursday Wimbledon Catenian Circle

The Wimbledon Catenian Circle extends an invitation to all men of the parish to attend their meeting in the Lounge, followed by a curry supper. For more information, please visit wimbledon-catenians.org.uk or email williamrhind@hotmail.com.

The Catenian Association is an international association of Catholic men and their families. We meet monthly for friendship, social companionship, and charity fundraising. We are dedicated to enjoying friendship and fun while supporting the Church.

7.00pm Friday: Stations of the Cross

Join us in the church every Friday in Lent to pray the traditional Lenten devotion of the Via Crucis. If you cannot participate in person, please join us via the livestream at sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/livestream.

10.00am Saturday 28 March Lenten Penitential Service with Individual Confessions

Please see the front cover.

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)



Next Sunday 29

March is Palm Sunday



Don't forget: the clocks go forward one hour next weekend!

The Blessing of Palms comes at the beginning of each Mass, and all Masses begin on time. Ensure that you are present on time if you want your palm blessed!

10.00am and 12 noon Mass Procession

Please collect a palm, hymn book, and service booklet from inside the church, and then assemble by the arch at the Edge Hill entrance, facing the church. Mass starts with the Palm Gospel and the Blessing of Palms, and then the Palm Procession. Please follow the Altar party in the Procession. Do join in the singing in the Procession, brandishing your palms at the refrains!

All other Masses (including 6.30pm Saturday): Solemn Entrance

Please collect a palm, hymn book, and service booklet from inside the church, and then assemble outside the church. Mass starts with the Palm Gospel and the Blessing of Palms. Please follow the Altar party into the church.

Maintenance update

Repairs (new pivots) have been undertaken on the middle entrance doors to the church, and on the wooden frames to the Ignatius paintings, which were in danger of coming loose. Further repairs will be undertaken shortly to stonework and metal railings on the south side and to some loose flagstones in front of the church; these repairs are required for safety reasons.

We have also undertaken some redecoration in the Upper Hall and its kitchen, and the curtains have been repaired and cleaned.

For full details of our Holy Week and Easter liturgies, please see the leaflet available at the back of the church or at tinyurl.com/shwhweek26.

From Holy Monday to Holy Wednesday, **Holy Mass** will be at 10.00am and 6.30pm. From Holy Monday to Holy Saturday, **Confessions** will be heard from 5.45pm to 6.15pm. Confessions will also be heard on Good Friday and Holy Saturday from 10.30am to 11.30am.

The **Mass of the Lord's Supper** is at 8.00pm on Maundy Thursday.

The **Celebration of the Passion of the Lord** is at 3.00pm on Good Friday. Also on Good Friday, the **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed at:

- 11.00am (Children)
- 6.15pm (Younger People)
- 7.15pm (Traditional).

The **Easter Vigil** is at 8.00pm on Holy Saturday. **Holy Mass on Easter Sunday** is at 8.00am, 10.00am, 12 noon (Solemn Latin), 5.00pm, and 8.00pm.

Winter Night Shelter Coordinator required

Looking for a new and rewarding challenge? We require a Coordinator for the Merton Winter Night Shelter run by Faith in Action at Sacred Heart Wimbledon. This initiative provides twelve homeless men with food and secure shelter over 16 weeks from November to March. Our parish is involved one day a week for eight weeks from January to March.

There is a team of dedicated volunteers, and you will receive a lot of support. Some organisational skills and empathy with the homeless are all that is required! You will make many new friends in the parish and get to know and help people who have been driven to homelessness. To discuss this rewarding role, please get in touch with Nandita on sacredheartWNS@rcaos.org.uk.

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.

Forthcoming parish liturgies and events

2.30pm Friday 10 April
Joanna Bogle at the Friendship Group: 'Celebrating Feasts and Seasons'

Join us in the Lounge for this talk by broadcaster Joanna Bogle. Everyone is welcome! Tea and cakes will be served. *Please note that there is no Friendship Group meeting on Good Friday 3 April.*

6.30pm Saturday 11 April
Raphael Pilgrimage Southern Reunion

Following the 6.30pm Mass, the Raphael Pilgrimage to Lourdes will host a buffet supper in the Lounge. The cost is £15 per head. To book your place, please call Angela on 07753 614735 or email searlearn@aol.com.

Other notices

8.00pm this Friday 27 March
Morden Park Choral Society
80th Anniversary Celebration

Several members of our parish's music community will be participating in this special concert of Gioachino Rossini's *Petite messe solennelle*. The concert will take place at St John the Divine, South Wimbledon (High Path, SW19 2JY). It will feature guest soloists Katy Lees (soprano), Helena Cooke (contralto), James Botcher (tenor), and James Bartlett (bass), as well as David Gammie (piano), Robert Rathbone (organ), and David Coram (conductor). Admission is £12 at the door; there will be interval refreshments and an Easter raffle. Everyone is welcome!



First Holy Communion, Confirmation, and Easter cards are now available for purchase in the Bookshop.

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
8.00pm	Fr Edwin Raj & Dcn Julian Burling

We remember in our prayers

Those who have died recently

Frances Barden • Alexander MacDonald • James McNally
Mariangela Fonnesu • Paolo Cardazzone
Katherine Winter • Paul Black • Br Joseph Therese

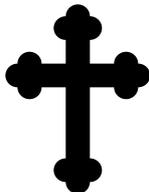
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Margaret O'Donnell • Agnes Thirugnanendran
David Moore • Marlene Latham • Margaret O'Reilly

Those who are sick

Finley Kennedy • Samar Staussi • Maria Tinker • Emily Grey
Electa Almeida • Karolina Masica • Mark Capra
Angela White • Peter Gent • Margaret Brauer
Karoline Wilhelm-Brown • Valeria Kucharsky
Debbie Gargan • Patricia Codd • Hilary Brazier
Ethan Costa Peruzzo • Peter Hayes • Mary Fripp
Sadie Smith • Warlita Villejo • Ryan Lewis • Joseph Lewis
Peter Boyle • Susan McGuinn • Teresa Williams
Patricia Byrne • Francis O'Farrell • Anthony Murphy
Aimee Jones • Marina Francescotti
Jacqueline Dagnall • Marie Fitzgerald

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

7.15pm Good Friday:
Stations of the Cross

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 21 March

10.00am Maria de Lurdes Almeida (RIP)
6.30pm Connie Pereira

Monday 23 March

10.00am Mike Cairns (RIP)
6.30pm Bridget D'Souza

Tuesday 24 March

10.00am Celine Durning (70th Birthday)
6.30pm Belinda Noronha
[Mass of the Annunciation of the Lord]

Wednesday 25 March • The Annunciation of the Lord

10.00am Nicholas Hogarth (RIP)
6.30pm Ronita & Rochelle Fernandes

Thursday 26 March

10.00am Francis Saldanha (RIP)
6.30pm Wimbledon Catenians

Friday 27 March

10.00am Joe D'Costa (RIP)
6.30pm Mary Vaughan-Neil (RIP)

Saturday 28 March

10.00am Paul Savio & Joseph Roland
(Good Health & Thanksgiving)
6.30pm Edward Granahan (RIP)

Music at the 12 noon Mass

Introit: *Iudica me Deus* (Plainsong, choir)
Offertory motet: *Ego sum panis vivus* (J. Esquivel)
Communion motet: *O Domine Jesu Christe* (C. de Morales)
Communion hymn: (98) Breathe on me, breath of God

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

Leo Nicolaou

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.

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.