



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

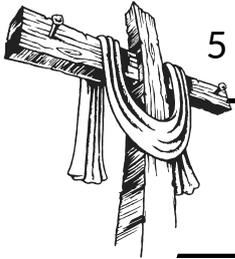
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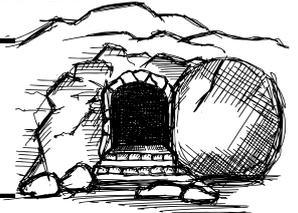
Sunday
5 April 2026

Newsletter

Vol. 12
Issue 13



Easter Sunday (Year A)
First Week of Eastertide



Alleluia, alleluia!

At all Masses, the Renewal of Baptismal Promises replaces the Creed, and the double Alleluia is said or sung at the Dismissal.

Mass of the Resurrection (Easter Vigil)

There are four Readings from the Law and the Prophets: (1) the Creation in Genesis 1:1-2:2 (Easter is the recreation of mankind); (2) the sacrifice of Isaac in Genesis 22:1-18 (which prefigures the sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of God); (3) the mandatory Reading from Exodus 14:15-15:1 (the escape of the people of Israel through the Red Sea, which is a foreshadowing of Baptism); and (4) a Reading from Ezekiel 36:16-17a,18-28, which illuminates Baptism.

In the Epistle (Romans 6:3-11), St Paul explains that we have been Baptized into the death and the resurrection of Christ Jesus. In the Gospel (Matthew 28:1-10), Mary of Magdala and the other Mary meet the risen Jesus.

Mass during the Day

First Reading (Acts 10:34a,37-38): Peter preaches to the Gentiles. In this summary of the Gospel, Peter emphasises that he and his fellow Apostles are witnesses to the risen Christ. In response to this good news, we sing our thanksgiving and joy in **Psalm 118(117)**.

The **Second Reading** is taken either from St Paul's Letter to the Colossians (3:1-4) - in which Paul spells out the implications of rising with Christ - or his First Letter to the Corinthians (5:6b-8) - in which he uses the image of getting rid of yeast, so as to have pure bread (i.e. sinless Christians). The **Easter Sequence** is then recited, sung where possible. In simple but profound words, it tells the story of the Resurrection.

The **Gospel** is John's (20:1-9) account of the empty tomb. But the empty tomb is not the only evidence for Christ's resurrection: Mary of Magdala was the first witness, followed by Simon Peter and 'the other disciple' (perhaps John himself).

Canon David

THIS IS THE NIGHT when once you led our forebears, Israel's children, from slavery in Egypt, and made them pass dryshod through the Red Sea. **THIS IS THE NIGHT** that, with a pillar of fire, banished the darkness of sin. **THIS IS THE NIGHT** when Christ broke the prisonbars of death and rose victorious from the underworld. **THIS IS THE NIGHT** of which it is written: 'The night shall be as bright as day, dazzling is the night for me, and full of gladness.'

O TRULY BLESSED NIGHT, when things of Heaven are wed to those of Earth, and Divine to the Human.

— from the Exsultet at the Easter Vigil

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



The Parish Pastoral Team wishes everyone – parishioners, friends, and visitors – a very happy Easter!

The Collection at all Easter Masses is your offering to the three priests of the parish. Canon David, Fr Edwin, and Fr Peter thank you for your generosity.

**Safeguarding:
Thank you, Siobhán!**

Siobhán Heffron has stepped down as a Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) because of family and work commitments. We thank her for performing this important role for the last two years or so. Victoria Wheatley and Maria Christopher remain as PSRs; you can find their email addresses below.

Spotlight on...



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a programme for adults interested in finding out about Christianity and the Catholic faith, especially adults who are considering Baptism or being received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church.

If you would like to learn more, please speak with Sr Dorothy, or approach any member of the Parish Pastoral Team after Mass.

This week

The Reception and Parish Office will also be closed on Monday.

Monday 10.00am Mass

If you are attending the 10.00am Mass this Easter Monday, you do not need to register your car details to use the church car park, as the system will be deactivated.

Monday: No Confessions, no 6.30pm Mass, and no First Monday Adoration

Because this Easter Monday is a bank holiday, the church will close after the 10.00am Mass. There will be no evening Confessions, no evening Mass, and no First Monday Adoration.

No Adoration on Wednesday and Friday mornings

There will be no Adoration on Wednesday and Friday mornings due to the Funeral Mass. Adoration continues as normal from 5.25pm to 6.25pm on Wednesday and Friday.

James McNally RIP

Funeral Mass at 11.30am on Wednesday, followed by cremation at the Putney Vale Crematorium.

Alexander MacDonald RIP

Funeral Mass at 12.30pm on Friday, followed by burial at the Merton and Sutton Cemetery.

2.30pm Friday

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.

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.

Parish notices

URGENT: Annual Report for 2025

Organisers and coordinators of each parish group and organisation have been asked for a brief report on 2025 for the Annual Report. Anyone who has not yet done so, please submit it by this Monday (6 April) at the latest.

Canon John Clark

Canon John, our former Parish Priest, has now returned from Bali, and is resident at St Peter's Home in Vauxhall, run by the Little Sisters of the Poor. Please note that for the time being, he is not able to receive many visitors.

Finances

Recent Second Collections totalled:

CAFOD Lent	£3,071.11
Clergy Support Fund	£1,330.01
Crib Offering	£2,017.23
St George's Cathedral	£811.77
Jesuit Missions	£210.14
Poor Parishes Fund	£1,473.48
Youth 2000	£1,243.97

Thank you for your support of these good causes.

Recent Offertories totalled:

January & February	£75,772.70
Christmas Offering (for the priests of the parish)	£26,086.43

Thank you for your generosity.

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@safeguardraos.org.uk)
Maria Christopher (wimbledonsg5@safeguardraos.org.uk)

Forthcoming parish liturgies and events



9.00am Thursday 16 April Mass in the Hall of Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

All parishioners, parents, and family members are welcome to attend this Easter Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Burlington Road, KT3 4ND), which will be celebrated by Bishop Gerard Bradley.

7.30pm Saturday 9 May Quiz Night

Join us in the Lower Hall for a Quiz Night in aid of the Sacred Heart Chorus and Orchestra Summer Concert (see below), supporting Nerve Tumours UK and War Child. There are prizes up for grabs!

Tickets are £15 per person, including snacks and supper, with a cash bar available. You can enter as a team of up to six people – or we'll find you one if you have none! Book your tickets at sacredheartmusic.co.uk/quiz-night.



The Sacred Heart Chorus and Orchestra invite you to save the date for **Mozart's Requiem**. Join us at 8.00pm on Saturday 20 June as we present one of the most powerful and enduring works in the choral repertoire. Ticket information will be announced soon!

We also welcome new singers of all backgrounds, experiences, and voice parts to consider joining us. Rehearsals start on Monday 20 April. Learn more and register at sacredheartmusic.co.uk (under 'Concerts' → 'Mozart Requiem 2026').

Diocesan notices

3.00pm Saturday 11 July Marriage Mass

This popular annual Mass takes place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark (Lambeth Road, SE1 7HY) and includes the opportunity to renew your marriage vows. If you are celebrating a special anniversary this year – your first, 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or any later anniversary – please email mflsw@rcaos.org.uk to receive a personal invitation to the Mass from Archbishop John Wilson.

Sycamore Growing in Faith Together for Married and Engaged Couples

This online course, consisting of four hourlong sessions via Zoom, is a wonderful opportunity for married or engaged couples to enrich their friendship, love, and desire to continue exploring their faith together.

Sessions take place from 8.30pm to 9.30pm on Sundays 5, 12, 19, and 26 May, or on Tuesdays 8, 15, 22, and 29 September. For more information or to book, please contact Carole at mflkent@rcaos.org.uk.

Ethical Implications of Artificial Intelligence

In a recent interview with Radio Maria, Bishop Paul Hendricks – one of our Auxiliary Bishops – spoke about the ethical questions which AI raises. Please visit tinyurl.com/y8u4xwvy2 to read a summary of his interview.

Vacancy: Primary Religious Education Adviser

Are you passionate about Religious Education and committed to strengthening the Catholic mission in our primary schools? The Southwark Catholic Education Service is seeking to appoint an exceptional Primary Religious Education Adviser on a seconded basis (two days per week) to support the implementation of the Religious Education Directory and Lighting the Path across our primary schools. For more details and to apply before Monday 13 April, please visit tinyurl.com/4h9bcxcv.

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.



ft. Canon David !! Ambassadors for Christ

You can now watch the first video featuring Canon David, entitled 'Why do Catholics believe the Mass is a sacrifice?' on YouTube at:

[youtube.com/watch?
v=YYt0Kp5XcC0](https://youtube.com/watch?v=YYt0Kp5XcC0)

Ambassadors for Christ is an apologetics project from the Archdiocese of Southwark to help you build a deeper understanding of your faith and become a joyful witness for the Lord Jesus and His Church. Watch all videos at:

youtube.com/@RCSouthwark1

Pope's Intention for April 2026:

For priests in crisis. Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

Other notices

Monday 8 – Sunday 14 June Musical Pilgrimage on the Augustine Camino

Starting from Rochester Cathedral, we will walk about ten miles a day through the beautiful Kent countryside to Canterbury, then onto St Augustine's shrine in Ramsgate. Each evening, Eddie Gilmore will perform a concert in a pub en route. For more details, please email Eddie at gileag@gmail.com.

Celebrants this Sunday

8.00pm (Sat) All (*principal: Canon David Gibbons*)
8.00am Fr Peter Mudu Frank
10.00am Fr Edwin Raj
12 noon (Latin) Canon David Gibbons & Dcn Julian Burling
5.00pm Fr Peter Mudu Frank
8.00pm Fr Edwin Raj

We remember in our prayers

Those who have died recently

Frances Barden • Alexander MacDonald • James McNally
Paolo Cardazzone • Br Joseph Therese
Paul Thirlwall • Alan Toohill • Laurent Busy

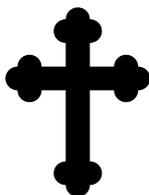
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Beata Rothwell • Edward Granahan
Thomas McManus • Bernard Walsh

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

No Adoration on bank holiday
Easter Monday 6 April

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

Monday 6 April

10.00am Nigel & Patricia Meyer (55th Anniv.)

Tuesday 7 April

10.00am Jean Sherry (RIP)
6.30pm Joan Partington (RIP)

Wednesday 8 April

10.00am Sayjel Revell
11.30am Funeral Mass of James McNally (RIP)
6.30pm Patrick & Margaret Brogan (RIP)

Thursday 9 April

10.00am Clara D'Sa (RIP)
6.30pm Androulla Koritsas (RIP)

Friday 10 April

10.00am Mary Nicholson (RIP)
12.30pm Funeral Mass of Alexander MacDonald (RIP)
6.30pm Dorotela Pereira (RIP)

Saturday 11 April

10.00am Damascus, Maria, Obdulia D'Souza (RIP)
6.30pm Joyce Coelho (RIP)

Music at the 12 noon (Solemn Latin) Mass

Missa brevis in C 'Coronation' (W.A. Mozart)

Introit: Christus vincit (cf. 116)

Sequence: *Victimae Paschali laudes* (cf. 760)

During sprinkling: *Vidi Aquam* (T.L. da Victoria)

Offertory motet: *Alleluia* (D. Buxtehude)

Communion motet: *Ave verum corpus* (W.A. Mozart)

Communion hymn: (322) Jesus Christ is ris'n today

Organ: Prelude and Toccata on *Victimae Paschali Laudes*
(D. Bedard)

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.