



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Presbytery
Edge Hill, Wimbledon
London, SW19 4LU

12th December 2021

Newsletter

Vol 7 , Issue 44/21

Third Sunday of Advent (C)

**Weekday Readings for
3rd week of Advent
Vol I. Psalter week 3**

Next Sunday's Readings 4th Sunday of Advent

- Micah 5:1-4
- Psalm 79:2-3.15-16.18-19
- Hebrews 10:5-10
- Luke 1:39-45

Upcoming Events

Sunday 12 December

- Planting of saplings in the parish orchard after the 10am Mass

Friday 17 December

- Penitential Service, church 8pm

Saturday 18 December

- Bereavement Drop-in, 10.30-11.30am, Parish Lounge

Sunday 19 December

- Continental Breakfast with Synod Delegates 9-12noon

Monday 20 December

- Charity Carol Service, 7.30pm church

Gaudete

Gaudete! Rejoice in the Lord always!

Most of the readings in the liturgy of Advent look forward: to the second coming of Christ at the end of time; to Christ's first coming at his Nativity two millennia ago; or to the deliverance of the Jewish people from foreign oppression and to a revived relationship with God. We await our final judgment.

We are told to stay awake lest we miss the bridegroom. In preparation we can come to the penitential service on Friday 17 at 8pm to confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness.

But this Sunday in particular we rejoice. We rejoice now because God loves us and wants us to be with him and showed his love by becoming one of us. We can and should rejoice in God even if we find our own or others' current circumstances difficult to cope with or to understand. St Paul writes from prison to the church at Philippi telling them to be always happy in the Lord, even though his own imprisonment is likely to end in his execution. We pray to God and we trust in God, whose peace is so much greater than we can understand.

John the Baptist's practical instructions apply in essence to us today just as they applied to his audience on the banks of the Jordan. Be generous to others and share what resources are available. Be honest and fair in our dealings with everyone. We can show our joy, and our respect for others, in doing all this and how we do it.

Deacon Julian



IMPORTANT OMICRON VARIANT PRECAUTIONS

In view of the additional precautions announced by the government due to the spread of the Omicron variant of coronavirus we are making the following arrangements.

1. The wearing of face coverings is now compulsory in places of worship except for people with medical exemptions.
2. To enable staff to work safely in the office, as far as possible, all contacts with the parish should be made by telephone or email.
3. Visits to the parish office & presbytery to see staff and priests will only be by prior appointment to ensure safe distancing arrangements for staff and visitors. Face coverings should be worn for visits.

THE PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest: Canon John Clark

Parish Clergy: Fr Joseph Donkor, Fr Matthew Donnelly, Deacon Julian Burling, Deacon Joseph Gulliford and Deacon Shaun Crocker

Team: Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU, Sr Francis SSA

Youth Minister: Eleanor Bowman

CHRISTMAS CARDS

A few varieties of Christmas Cards are still available at the Presbytery.

FROM DANIEL & RACHEL SYNOD DELEGATES

communion|participation|mission

'As we move forward in the parish listening phase, we have been thinking about new ways of gathering your thoughts and creating more room to listen to the Holy Spirit as a parish.

We would like to hear the views of every parishioner want to keep the process simple: we will be launching our postcards next Sunday 19 December. This will be like a questionnaire but simpler. There will be 3 different postcards, one for each of the 3 synod themes of Communion, Participation & Mission. Each postcard will have two questions, relevant to the specific theme. Postcards will be handed out at the end of each Mass this weekend.

As part of the launch, we'd also like to invite every parishioner to join us at the Continental Breakfast, which follows the 8 & 10am Masses next Sunday, for an informal chat about the questions.

You can submit your completed postcards until Sun 9 January.

Let us pray that we, as Sacred Heart parish, continue to grow in our call to be missionary disciples for Christ. Have a blessed week and hopefully see you next Sunday!

MANNA SOCIETY

Please note that the Manna Society will no longer be picking up items from our parish.

CONTL. BREAKFAST

Come and join us for delicious croissants, tea & coffee and a chat next Sunday 19 Dec in the Lower Hall until 12 noon.

Parish News

OFFICE & RECEPTION HOURS

Please note that the Parish Office and Reception will be closed from Thursday 23 December. We will reopen again on Tuesday 4 January 2022.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas 2021 time booklets are now available at the back of the church. Please

refer to the booklets for Mass times.

VACANCY

Our parish is looking for an Accounts Manager (PT 19 hrs/week), someone with good administrative skills to manage the day-to-day finances of this large parish and to assist with Health & Safety and Safeguarding procedures. Please download the job description and

application form from the parish website <https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk>. Applications due by 13 December.

NEWSLETTER

The last Newsletter before the Christmas break will be sent out on Thursday 23 December. We will then resume the NL distribution on 8/9 January 2022.

Announcements

NOTICE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

From midnight this Friday some form of face covering will be required in places of worship. However, exemptions exist for various reasons: legitimate health reasons, as has always been the case; but now also for singing, in that both choir and congregation may continue to remove their masks to sing.

RECEPTION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

A reminder of our current practice for the reception of the Holy Eucharist. Please approach the ministers of the eucharist and receive the host in the hand. If you wish to receive the eucharist on

the tongue, please come and join the end of the queue approaching the priest celebrant and receive the host returning to your place by the side aisle.

EXPOSITION

Please note that there will be no morning Exposition on the evening of 15 & 17 Dec.

CRIB APPEAL 2021

This year's Parish Crib Appeal will be in support of *Christian Care Merton*, more details to follow.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE

A penitential service will be held in the church on Friday 17 December at 8pm.

CRIB SERVICE

There will be a Crib Service on Christmas Eve (24 Dec at 3.30pm). The rehearsal is on Thursday 23 December from 10.40am - 12noon for children aged 4+ who would like to be involved. All older children from 8+ wishing to read, please contact Rachel Marshall at rachel@marshall.email.net. Offers of help from parents are most welcome!

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Parishioners are invited to celebrate Midnight Mass on Fri 31 Dec at 12pm (Exposition & Benediction between 11-12pm).

Parish Organisations

SH ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Tree Planting: Join us after the 10am Mass today 12 December to plant new saplings in the parish orchard. A really fun way to get involved in making our parish as green as possible!

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Our next drop-in session will be on the previous Saturday 18 December from 10.30-11.30am in the Parish Lounge. The Bereavement Team invites everyone experiencing loss in their lives, no matter how long ago, to drop in for a coffee and a chat.

For more information please see our Parish Website or call 07702 339 000 between 9am -5pm.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Join us on Friday 7 January at 2.30pm in the Lounge for the film *High Society* with Bing Crosby, Grace Kelly and Frank Sinatra
Tea, cakes, ice creams. ALL welcome!

Social & Cultural

CHARITY CAROL SERVICE

20 December 7.30pm

'Following the success of last year's carol service, we are singing once again to raise money, this year for the charity *Grief to Grace*, our new neighbours at Nr 14, and also to give singers some Christmas work as tours are once again cancelled due to travel restrictions. Please do support us in our endeavours and come along to enjoy beautiful Christmas music sung by 6 professional singers with piano & string accompaniment.' Tickets (£10/adult, children under 18 free) will be on sale after all Masses this weekend and next. Do-

nations also gratefully accepted.

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2021

Will you be on your own on Christmas Day?

Do you know anyone who will be?

The Sacred Heart Christmas Lunch Team are working up another fabulous celebration on Christmas Day in the Parish Hall. Please come and join us!

The only requirements are that you live in the Wimbledon or Raynes Park area and would otherwise be on your own on Christmas Day. The event is *Covid Cautious* and adheres to the highest standards. Trans-

port can be provided, and you will be assured a very warm welcome.

Please fill out a form available at the back of the church or contact Sadie Smith on **020 8946 5198**.

J.S. BACH CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

Bach's Christmas Oratorio will be performed on Sat 18 Dec 7pm at St John's, Spencer Hill with the excellent Choir of the 21st Century, marvellous baroque players and wonderful soloists, including Colette Boushell, Rebecca Leggett, David de Winter, Michael Laferty; tickets: £20 (£15 concs), www.wegotickets.com/event/530837/ or at the door.

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.

SACRED HEART CATH. PRIMARY SCHOOL

'*Learning in Love*': The parish primary school for ages 2-11. Reception & nursery places available for Sept 2022. To arrange a headteacher's tour, please contact 020 8942 0215, school@sacredheart.merton.sc.h.uk. London KT3 4ND.

VACANCIES

Richard Challoner School currently has vacancies for a Catering Assistant, a Café Supervisor, IT Technician and Office Assistant. Full details of each post and how to apply can be found via the school website: <https://www.richardchalloner.com/vacancies>.

SHIELDING - SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCES

Merton Council is holding a virtual listening session to hear your experiences of shielding and the impact it has had on you, your family, and the people you care for. We would like to work with you to better understand how we can support people. Monday 13 Dec at 11.30am-12.15pm or 6-6.45pm. Please register on Eventbrite or email public.health@merton.gov.uk.

Exploring our Faith

COMMUNITY OF FAITH

This Sunday, you will be given a card welcoming you individually back to the community of faith. These cards are part of an outreach programme offering the opportunity of deepening our faith in Jesus and celebrating His presence in our lives and through his family, the Church. On Christmas Day a booklet with the programme will be given to all attending Christmas Masses.

A DAY WITH MARY

A Day with Mary: Sat 18 Dec at St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Rd, SE1, 10.15am-5.15pm; celebrant & preacher Fr Dermott

O'Gorman, Exposition & Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, Sermons on Our Lady by Fr Marcus Holden and Pius Collins o.praem., Meditations on the Passion of Our Lord. (adaywithmary.org).

DIES DOMINI

To hold up the vital, indispensable and irreplaceable place of the Eucharist in our lives, the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have produced a series of discussions/podcasts for Advent called '*Dies Domini - Keeping the Lord's Day Holy*' which invite us to reflect carefully on our own situation. The Bishops have spoken recently about

the importance of our Sunday encounter with Christ through the Eucharist at Mass. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our spiritual and pastoral life, an inspiration that comes from Pope St John Paul II's Apostolic Letter of the same name from 1998.

For info and to follow the podcasts: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/the-day-of-the-lord/>.

PEACE SERVICE

St. John Fisher Justice and Peace Group will be holding their annual service of prayers for peace on Sunday 2 January 2022, this time at 4pm, followed by refreshments; St John Fisher Church, 207 Cannon Hill Lane, SW20 9DB.

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.

CELEBRANTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

6.30pm (Sat) Fr Joseph Donkor
8.00am Fr Matthew Donnelly
10.00am Fr Michael Barnes SJ
12 noon Canon John Clark
5.00pm Fr Joseph Donkor
8.00pm Fr Matthew Donnelly

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 11 6.30pm John & Mary Granaan RIP
Mon 13 7.30am Mary Moriarty RIP
10.00am Mariela Grogan RIP
6.30pm Thksgiv. for Sunita Fernandes & family
Tue 14 10.00am Parish Priests Intentions
6.30pm John Sutton RIP
Wed 15 10.00am Thanksgiving to Infant Jesus,
6.30pm Charmaine Bourbon RIP
Thu 16 10.00am Tony D'Costa Thanksgiving
6.30pm Sam O'Donovan RIP
Fri 17 7.30am Angela Mendonca RIP
10.00am Eileen Hogan RIP
6.30pm Roddy & Briege Connolly RIP
Sat 18 10.00am John Fennelly RIP

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 Mark Higgins (020 8725 3069)

St Heliers and Epsom Hospital: Fr Philip Pak (020 8296 2000)

Kingston Hospital: Fr Tony Oleh (020 8546 7711)

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: Jennifer Topley and Althea Coleman

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Clive Compton, Luisa Derx, Chris Cviic, Gloria Rumbelow, Mary Thefaut, Mary O'Neill, Marie-Lise Celine, Hilary Ashdowne and Tony Kane

The sick: Kieran O'Connell, Angela Byrne, Emily Grey, Rita Aguiar, Maria Moniz, Judex Celine, Nadia Rahman-Pariagh, Samar Staussi, Colleen Bosci, Mary Cogan, Naomi Linkson, Pat Jenkins, Felicity Marshall, Alec Smith, Jacqui O'Connor, Ian Parr, Roberta (Bobby) Lydon, John Reynolds, John Alexander, Teresa Sobecki, Teresa Smith, Ryan Lindsey, Laurie Cromwell, Robin Lathey, Nancy Drapper, Christopher Browne, Patricia Small, Simon Wood, Pamela Hannigan, and Andrew Tan.

[Please advise the Parish Office when names can be removed.]

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.



We would like to bring the list for prayers for the sick of our parish up to date and kindly ask parishioners to notify the parish office if they want to have names mentioned in the newsletter & bidding prayers, otherwise they will be removed from the list. Thank you.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Mon 13 Dec St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr, Memorial

Tue 14 Dec St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church, Memorial

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

MUSIC AT THE 12 NOON MASS

Entrance antiphon sung by the choir;
Gaudete in Domino semper

K: Lourdes

Offertory motet: *Rejoice in the Lord always*, anon.

S: 433 Communion motet: *Dicite pusillanimis*, Heinrich Isaac

Post-communion hymn: *On Jordan's bank* 575

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)

Executive Assistant & Hall bookings: Thelma D'Costa (Mon - Fri 9.30am - 4pm) Caretaker: George McLennan

Parish Pastoral Council: ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk or contact Anne Waldron (Chair) at anne@annewaldron.com or 07886 034 323

Baptism, Marriage, First Sacraments, Funerals contact the parish 020 8946 0305

Bereavement Support: one to one support or bereavement drop-in, please call 07702 339000 between 9am -5pm, more information please contact the co-ordinator by email bereavement.group@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk