



# THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

19th December 2021

## Newsletter

Vol 7 , Issue 45/21

### Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

**Weekday Readings for  
4th week of Advent  
Vol I. Psalter week 4**

### Next Sunday's Readings

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary  
and Joseph**

- Samuel 1:20-22.24-28
- Psalm 83:2-3.5-6.9-10
- I John 3:1-2.21-24
- Luke 2:41-52

### Upcoming Events

#### 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

#### Friday 24 December

- Children's Crib Service, 3.30pm, church
- Masses at 5pm & 7.30pm  
Carols before Mass 7.10pm
- Midnight Mass 12 midnight,  
Carols before Mass 11.30pm

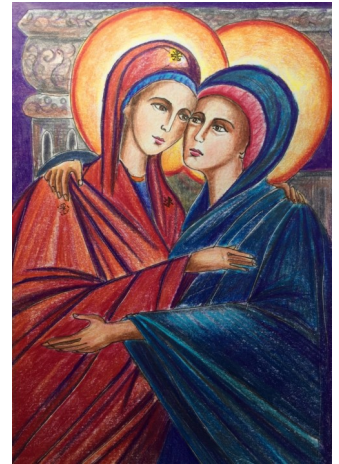
## Mother of God

'Theotokos' is a title given to Mary meaning 'Mother of God'. It was officially pronounced by the Church at the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD, establishing Jesus' divinity and confirming Mary's central role in Jesus' saving work as His true Mother in every sense of the word. 'Theotokos' also, however, means 'God-bearer'. Mary bore Jesus to birth but also bore His very presence to others. This is fitting for today's Gospel, for we hear that Mary carried Jesus, making great haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth and St John the Baptist in her womb. Jesus' very presence in Mary's womb brings tremendous joy to both Elizabeth, who was "filled with the Holy Spirit", and John, "who leapt for joy". As we hear in our First Reading today, prophesied of Jesus, "He himself will be peace". Like Elizabeth and John, we cannot help but be overjoyed by the presence of Christ. But let us think about this for a moment. Jesus comes to us in the most real and profound way in every single Mass. Do we properly welcome Him or make room to allow Him to take residence inside us? Or are there other things contesting for this space?

When we receive Jesus in the Eucharist with open and receptive hearts we are then enabled to become, in some sense like Mary, 'God-bearers' ourselves. Mary was of course full of grace and was especially called to be the true Theotokos. Still, we are nonetheless called in every way we can to make room for Christ in our lives, in our hearts, so that, through His presence and power, grace can be abundant within us and thence radiant to others in our witness.

When we consider in our second reading from Hebrews that Jesus abolishes the sacrifices for sin, that were offered for centuries in the Temple, with the very offering of Himself, we might also understand that He does not plainly desire our sacrifices or devotions, as good as they might be, but calls us first and foremost to offer Him our hearts. Let us therefore pray to Him in earnest, with Mary's guidance, 'here I am Lord! I am coming to do Your will'. Jesus, I surrender to You, take care of everything. Amen.

Deacon Joseph



Artwork by Moya Hogarth

### 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 Members: Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU, Sr Francis SSA

Youth Minister: Eleanor Bowman

## DIocese Directories

are now available at the Presbytery for £4 each.

## 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.

## FROM DANIEL & RACHEL SYNOD DELEGATES

*communion|participation|mission*

‘Dear Parishioners, we are launching our postcards this Sunday. There are 3 different postcards, one for each of the 3 synodal themes of *communion|participation|mission*. Each card contains two questions, relevant to the theme. Cards will be handed out at the end of each Mass and are available at the back of the church.

You will also be able to answer the postcard questions online - on the Parish website ([https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/Groups/369969/Synod\\_2021\\_2023.aspx](https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/Groups/369969/Synod_2021_2023.aspx)). We

hope this will offer a helpful alternative and enable all parishioners to get involved, particularly those who are housebound and/or away from Wimbledon during the festive season.

We would like to hear from every parishioner as part of this process. Everyone should feel encouraged to share their views as part of the Synod process

As part of the launch on Sunday, don't forget to join us for an informal chat about the questions at the Continental Breakfast, which will follow the 8am & 10am Masses.

The deadline to submit your completed postcards will be Sunday 9 January.

God bless you all, please keep praying for the Synod process.’

Rachel and David

[purvis.rachel@gmail.com](mailto:purvis.rachel@gmail.com)

[dan.gulliford@gmail.com](mailto:dan.gulliford@gmail.com)

# 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 available at the back of the church. Please refer to the booklets for Mass times during the Christmas period.

## 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.

## LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary will be introduced into the parish to assist the priests in their outreach within our parish boundaries.

Firstly, to reach out to those isolated and feel cut off from the parish for whatever reason; maybe there are Catholics in the area that don't know that our parish even exists.

Secondly, to invite non-Catholics into the life of the parish by introducing them to the sacraments and to the catholic rites of

initiation.

And thirdly to assess a need for a priest to visit where the Anointing of the Sick or the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Holy Communion is required, particularly where the sick and housebound are concerned.

The work would require a commitment of roughly 3 hours a week: an hour for the Legion Meeting and 2 hours for the allotted tasks to achieve the objectives outlined above. Please register your interest with Fr. Matthew either in person after Mass or via email: [matthewdonnelly@rcaosorg.uk](mailto:matthewdonnelly@rcaosorg.uk).

# Announcements

## COLLECTIONS AND THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

In view of the high transmissibility of the Omicron variant we have reluctantly decided to stop the first collection at the offering for Sunday Masses. Baskets will be available at the back of the church for donations. Please consider donating by banker's order or using the card terminals at the back of the church.

Please note the following arrangements for the Christmas Offering for the benefit of our priests: there will be a dedicated 'Christmas Offering' donate button on the website <https://www.sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk> for the Christmas period.

All donations at Masses from Christmas eve, Christmas Day and Sunday 26 Dec are for the Christmas Offering.

Envelopes with Gift Aid declarations and baskets to receive donations will be available at the back of the church.

There will be an option on the digital giving terminals at the back of the church to make card donations.

Offerings can be made by bank transfer with the reference 'Offering' to Natwest, RCAS SACRED HEART GIFT AID

ACCOUNT

WIMBLETON

Sort Code 60-24-07

Account 33138672.

## CRIB SERVICE

There will be a Crib Service on Christmas Eve, 24 December at 3.30pm. The rehearsal is on Thursday 23 December from **11.30am-12.30pm** (please note new start time!) for children aged 4+ who would like to be

involved. All older children from 8+ wishing to read, please contact Rachel Marshall at [rachel@marshallemail.net](mailto:rachel@marshallemail.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).

## MEMORY LANE CLUB

Memory Lane Club is temporarily closed due to Covid precautions.

## 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 < 18 free) available either after Mass or through [rachel@marshallemail.net](mailto:rachel@marshallemail.net) or on the door. Donations also gratefully accepted.

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH CANCELLED

Due to the rapidly increasing infection rate, the Christmas Lunch team have decided we must sadly cancel the sit-down lunch in the Parish Hall.

However, for a second year, we will be offering a home

delivery. We are yet to finalise our plans, but we will still be seeking volunteers to help on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and are seeking help with deliveries.

We will be contacting all our guests and volunteers registered with us in the next few days. If anyone who will be on their own on Christmas Day living in the Raynes Park or Wimbledon area who would like to receive a delivery please contact us 020 8946 5198.

### 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.

### VACANCIES

Wimbledon College are looking to employ a Sixth Form Study Hall Supervisor either full time or job share. Further information is available on the website [www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk](http://www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk), or please contact [hr@wimbledoncollege.org.uk](mailto:hr@wimbledoncollege.org.uk) or 020 8879 9323 for further information. Closing date for applications is Tuesday 4 January 2022.

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>.

### PARKING

Parking in Wimbledon College during the Christmas period is as follows: Friday 24 Dec: 9am-2am (after midnight Mass) Saturday 25 Dec: 9am-2pm

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Please do take care when parking in our neighbouring roads, only park in authorised parking places, do not block drive ways of the residents!

### CRIB APPEAL 2021

As we remember the Christ Child, born in poverty, we invite you to give generously to help children in the families supported by Christian CARE, a charity working with needy families in Merton since 1967. This Christmas, 90 youngsters are receiving presents, and in the coming year they will have birthday gifts, and some will join in Polka Theatre outreach events and enjoy Falcon residential activity camps. Many more children, referred by Merton Children's Services, may receive a new bed and bedding, a chest of drawers to store their clothes, school uniform, summer and winter clothes and toys; for the mothers of new born babies all the essentials can be provided.

Thank you for supporting this good cause this Christmas!



## Exploring our Faith

### COME HOME INITIATIVE

This week the diocesan 'Come Home' initiative will be launched in parishes. At the end of Mass, you will be given a postcard. You are warmly encouraged to fill in your name and then the time of the Christmas Mass you will be attending. In the next couple of days, you are asked to give this postcard to someone who has not

been to Mass in a while and to welcome them to our Christmas Masses.

In early January we will have the second stage of this initiative where we will give out booklets to people to share with others some basic information regarding the Catholic faith.

### A DAY WITH MARY

You are invited to *A Day with Mary* on Saturday 1

January at Sacred Heart Wimbledon, 10.45am-5.45pm; celebrant & preacher Canon John Clark, Exposition & Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, Sermons on Our Lady by Frs Joseph Donkor and Matthew Donnelly, Meditations on the Passion of Our Lord. ([adaywithmary.org](http://adaywithmary.org)).

### 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 Matthew Donnelly  
8.00am Fr Joseph Donkor  
10.00am Fr Michael Barnes SJ  
12 noon Canon John Clark  
5.00pm Fr Matthew Donnelly  
8.00pm Fr Joseph Donkor

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 18 6.30pm Jim Kehoe RIP  
Mon 20 7.30am Raimundo & Maria Fonseca RIP  
10.00am Rita Aguiar (Thanksgiving),  
6.30pm Jadwiga & George Kirk RIP  
Tue 21 10.00am Maureen Stromborg RIP  
6.30pm Fr John Fairhurst SJ RIP  
Wed 22 10.00am Christopher Cooper RIP  
6.30pm Maurice Mealin RIP  
Thu 23 10.00am Funeral of Althea Coleman RIP  
6.30pm Roddy & Briega Connolly RIP  
Fri 24 7.30am Matthew Edwards RIP  
10.00am Thelma D'Costa Family Ints.  
7.30pm Private Intentions  
Sat 25 12noon Mariela Grogan 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:** Teresa Sobeki, Althea Coleman, Judex Celine and Nathim Mahfooth

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Angela Cox, Ernest Prescott, Christopher Curtis, Anne Hampshire, William Sullivan, Audrey D'Rosario, Dr Antoinette Peters, Angelina Blythe, Mary Razvi, Andrew Kenny and Anne Coombs

**The sick:** Kieran O'Connell, Angela Byrne, Emily Grey, Rita Aguiar, Maria Moniz, 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 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 20 Dec** St Dominic of Silos OSB

**Tue 21 Dec** St Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church

**Thur 23 Dec** St John of Kanty, Priest

### 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 hymn: *O come, O come Emmanuel*

Kyrie: *Missa orbis factor*

Offertory: *Ecce concipies*

Communion: *Ave Maria*

Post-communion hymn: *Lo, he comes with clouds descending*

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](mailto:newsletter@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk) / [wimparish@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk) or contact Anne Waldron (Chair) at [anne@annewaldron.com](mailto: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](mailto:bereavement.group@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk)