



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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

30th January 2022

Newsletter

Vol 8, Issue 4

Fourth Sunday (C)

Fourth Week in
Ordinary Time

Vol I. Psalter week 4

Next Sunday's Readings

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary
Time

- Isaiah 6:1-8
- Psalm 137:1-5,7-8
- I Corinthians 15:1-11
- Luke 5:1-11

Upcoming Events

Thursday 3 February

- Legion of Mary Meeting, Youth Room 7pm

Friday 4 February

- Friendship Group, 2.30pm, Lounge

Saturday 5 February

- Edge Hill Players, *Aladdin*, 2.30 & 7pm Upper Hall

Wednesday 9 February

- Memory Lane Club reopens 10.30am-12.30pm, Lounge

Saturday 19 February

- Love Heals Body Mind and Spirit, half-day retreat, 11am

Love is the Greatest Gift

To all of us a call or vocation has been extended as God's precious gift to every Christian. This is expressed with great force in today's readings.

The praise of love by St Paul in 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 is a favourite reading that many young people choose for their wedding ceremony. It presents a magnificent ideal of married life. Many of them forget it, unfortunately. A growing number of those marriages end in divorce.

God calls us all to greatness - to the greatness of loving as God loves us. Love is the greatest of the greatest of the gifts that Paul teaches about today. He calls this gift 'a way'. Love is a way of life to which we are all called.

Friends, we all have gifts. But gifts have to be developed, oftentimes by very hard work and practice. Gifts can be buried, and that is tragic, for then the entire family or parish suffers, to say nothing of the one who buries it. "That is why I am reminding you now to fan into a flame the gift that God gave to you..." (2 Timothy 1:6). We thank the Lord for the gift(s) we see in us. God has called

each of us to be a lover. God has given us the gift, the power to love. If we bury that gift, fail to develop it by hard work and sacrifice in our daily contacts with others, we doom ourselves to a life of bitterness, frustration, joylessness for ourselves and families, parish, and community.

Last Sunday we were told that Jesus entered the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth on the Sabbath as he usually did and announced the start of a new age! Jesus read that wonderful passage from Isaiah to them, then rolled up the scroll announced: "Today these words are coming true even as I speak". It caused quite a commotion. At first, we are told that everyone was pleased with this basic message. Nazareth failed to take its son Jesus to its heart. Nazareth rejected love, and so Jesus left his hometown to itself.

Human nature has an inbuilt resistance to God that results from original sin. There is some basic rebelliousness within us, a stubborn pride leading to blindness, oppression, and a

death threat spoken of in today's gospel. By myself it is impossible for me to lift myself out of the quicksand of my own selfishness. Jesus has come to join me, to lead me, to save me, and this is the powerful Good News proclaimed in the Nazareth Synagogue. To be full of duty for God and the gospel we need to share the message of Paul together that: "True love is kind, patient, not jealous, does not boast, is not rude...it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes".

Lord, give us the grace to always know how to let go of our plans with courage no matter how we evaluate them to be beautiful and great for your greater glory. And may we welcome you generously like Jeremiah and never forget your opening words in Jeremiah: "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you came to birth, I consecrated you". Let us take more seriously the gift of our consecration by God and our duty to let it bear fruit in us and through us to other people.

Fr Joe Donkor

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

EXPOSITION

Please note that there will be no Exposition after the 10am Masses on Wednesday 2 and Friday 4 February.

MERTON CITIZENS

Merton Citizens is the local chapter of the nation-wide organisation *Citizens UK* aiming to strengthen civic society and ensure citizens' voices and needs are heard and considered by decision-makers (www.citizensuk.org). The parish is a founder member of Merton Citizens Alliance (15 local institutions) working towards a common interest.

Following a listening campaign, key issues of concern to local citizens were identified and groups formed to address each one with results such as: supporting refugee families through the government Community Sponsorship scheme; supporting the national *Lift the Ban Campaign* to allow asylum seekers to work; the *Living Wage Campaign* has since 2001 won over £1.3 billion of additional wages paid by 7,000 organisations lifting over 260,000 people out of work poverty.

To learn about *Citizens*, you are invited to one of the free training sessions at 7.30 – 9pm on Tues 8 & 15 Feb in the Lounge (for info email David at dthurst52@gmail.com).

JESUIT MISSIONS STAMP CUTTING

Volunteers needed to help trim & sort used stamps to raise money for JM: Thursday 3 February from 9.30am-12.30pm - coffee provided. Please bring your own scissors, enquiries to Tim Everson (tim.everson@btinternet.com) or just turn up at: 11 Edge Hill, SW19 4 LR.

Parish News

FACE COVERING

In order to respect the safety of all, we encourage that you wear a face covering in the church, unless you are exempt from doing so. Thank you for your cooperation.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary is being introduced into the parish to assist the priests in their outreach within our parish boundaries:

Firstly, to reach out to those isolated and who 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 sacraments are required,

particularly where the sick and housebound are concerned.

The work would require a commitment of 3 hrs/week: 1 hour for the Legion Meeting (Thursdays 7pm, Youth Room) and 2 hrs for the allotted tasks to achieve the objectives outlined above. Please register your interest with Fr. Matthew in person or via email: matthewdonnelly@rcaosorg.uk.

Announcements

FOOTSTEPS

In Lent this year, we are hoping to launch a new, family-based group for those with primary age children. We will explore scripture, play games and creatively reflect on topics related to our faith. We are hoping to launch this on Thursday 3 March from 4.30-5.30pm. To register interest, so we can effectively plan please contact Eleanor at eleanor@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk

LENT TALKS

Our very popular series of Lent talks is back in-person this year, running on Thursdays during Lent: starting Thu 3 March until 7 April in the Upper Hall from 7.30 - 8.30pm. The hall will be open from 7pm for refreshments. You can come to any number of talks as each week will explore a different topic. We will be following *Sycamore* which is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It

gives you space to meet other people, share ideas, and think about questions that really matter.

LENT TALKS CALL FOR HELP

In order to create a warm and welcoming environment for our Lent talks, we would need help with hospitality: whether you can make and drop off a cake in advance or help with the tea and coffee, your time will be hugely appreciated! Please contact Eleanor for more details.

Parish Organisations

MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP

Every Tuesday, Lower Hall, 9.30-11.30am in term time, starting on 1 February. A welcoming environment and a great way to meet new friends. Come along & enjoy a chat over coffee/tea and biscuits while your children play. (£2/family on a drop in basis - refreshments incl.). Each session ends with a sing-along. For further details please contact Anna-Maria on 07906 804 220.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Friday 4 February at 2.30pm in the Lounge. All are welcome for our Desert Island Discs, tea & cakes to follow.

MEMORY LANE CLUB

Memory Lane Club reopens Wednesday 9 February. For people with dementia and their carers, from 10.30am-12.30pm in the Parish Lounge. Drop in for a friendly welcome, a cuppa and a chat, table games,

snooker, music and much more - and fun.

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Show the Love: Join the environment group after the 10am Mass on Sunday 13 February for refreshments and family crafts as we take part in the Climate Coalition *Show the Love* - campaign. All are welcome!

Social & Cultural

EDGE HILL PLAYERS PANTOMIME

Edge Hill Players are delighted to announce that their new Pantomime, *Aladdin*, will take place in the Parish Hall on Saturday 5 February at 2.30pm and 7pm. (Oh Yes It Will!); performances on the 29th of January have been cancelled due to rising Covid cases amongst the cast and crew. For tickets and further information please visit their website www.edgehillplayers.com or phone 07742 230 493. 'We can't wait to be back on stage again and to showcase the wonderful talent we are so lucky to have in our Parish.'

JOHN RUTTER SING DAY

St Mary Magdalene Church, Wandsworth Common, is

holding a Singing Day with John Rutter on Saturday 5 March. The day will feature "Feel the Spirit" John Rutter's uplifting arrangements of well-loved spirituals plus other choral favourites.

Cost: £30, accompanied children (11-18yrs) are free, students (18-22) £15 (incl. use of the music scores and refreshments).

Registration starts at 10am, for details, please email join.in@smmwandsworth.org.uk or ticket link via <https://www.wandsworth.org.uk/>

EDUCATION & CAREERS DAY

St Boniface Youth and 20's & 30's Group is organising two help & advice sessions: Saturday 5 March 3-4pm on apprenticeships on and

Saturday 12 March 3-4.30pm on Higher Education.

All Year 11 & 12 or any year group and parents are most welcome. A chance to ask professionals questions, learn how to apply to university Consider what courses you are interested in.

St Boniface Parish Hall, 185 Mitcham Road, London SW17 9PG.

VACANCY

Sacred Heart High School Hammersmith are looking to appoint an experienced Administrative Assistant for their Student Services Centre. Closing date: Mon 7 Feb noon. Please see TES (<https://www.tes.com>) and click on education - jobs and search for Sacred Heart) for further information.

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.

LOVE HEALS BODY MIND AND SPIRIT

The Love Heals Body Mind and Spirit Ministry invites you a half day retreat of quiet reflection on Sat 19 Feb (Sacred Heart Church, Edge Hill) from 11am - 1pm; Holy Rosary, recorded talk by Sr Doctor Betty Nina MSJ, discussion to follow on the talk, Christian meditation, Healing Prayers; immediately after the 10am Mass, starting with Tea & Coffee.

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One-day retreats will resume on Saturday 5 March, 11am - 4pm at 'Our Lady of Assumption and St Gregory', Warwick St, Piccadilly, W1B 5LZ: the Love Heals Body Mind and Spirit Ministry welcomes you all back to their retreat days commencing with Holy Rosary, followed by Holy Mass, a shared lunch, a talk, meditation, Blessed Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Healing Prayers.

For further info about Love Heals Body Mind and Spirit Ministry, please contact 020 8542 2476 or lovehealsbodymindspirit@gmail.com; anyone who wishes to be included on the contact list, please email a request or visit www.lovehealsbodymindspirit.com.

Exploring our Faith

AN INVITATION TO BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

A morning in which married couples can privately explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into their communication and the call of the Church to the married. Saturday 5 February, online 9am - 1pm, booking is essential, please contact Mrs Carole Batty (mflkent@rcaos.org.uk) or 07983 524 727).

A DAY WITH MARY

You are invited to a *Day with Mary* on Saturday 5

February at St Edmund of Canterbury, Beckenham BR33NP, from 9.30am-5pm; celebrant and preacher Fr Stephen Boyle; Exposition & Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, Sermons on Our Lady by Fr Henry Mukasa and Fr Francis Lynch, Meditations on the Passion of Our Lord; please bring your own packed lunch. For more information, please visit adaywithmary.org.

FAITH JOURNEYS IN SCIENCE

Farm Street Church (Mount Str, W1K 3AH) is delighted to be hosting 'Faith Journeys

in Science: Exploring the relationship between Science and Faith from a Christian Perspective'. This event is organised by Radio Maria England and will take place on Sat 5 Feb starting at 5pm with Rosary followed by Vigil Mass at 6pm and a talk titled *Faith Journeys* at 7.30pm in the Conference Centre.

The event will include stories and testimonies from scientists and theologians with the opportunity to discuss the presented topic. For more info & booking of a free ticket, please visit www.radiomariaengland.co.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.

CELEBRANTS FOR THIS SUNDAY

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Sat 29 6.30pm Joan Partington RIP
Mon 31 7.30am Barry McCorkell RIP
10.00am Emerson Lee RIP
6.30pm Gabriel Lyons Ints.
Tue 1 10.00am Diana Ferrari RIP
6.30pm Peter Da Souza RIP
Wed 2 10.00am Marie McNell 100th Birthday
6.30pm Alastair Macdonald RIP
Thu 3 10.00am Holy Souls
6.30pm Mary Green RIP
Fri 4 7.30am Super. General of the Heart of Mary Ints.
10.00am Ranjit Croos Fernando RIP
12noon Funeral Teresa Sobeki
6.30pm Patricia Wilbraham RIP
Sat 5 10.00am Sheena Wilson 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)

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

Kyrie: *Missa brevis*, Lennox Berkerley
Gloria: 460
Offertory motet: *If ye love me*, Thomas Tallis
Sanctus: 433
Communion motet: *Ubi caritas*, Maurice Duruflé
Post-communion hymn: 215 *God is love*

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently: James Charlton, Julia Wilson, Teresa Sobeki, Alastair Macdonald, Lee Abberton, James Conboy and Angela Byrne.

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: John Clancy, William Gilsean, Dermot Louis Mulvihill, Nora Wood, Diana Ferrari, Angela Roots, Grace Finnerty, Joselina Machado, and Winifred Bogt.

The sick: Matthew Bees, Jack Cassagrande, Artemis Greenbury, Billy Densham, Emily Grey, Samar Staussi, Naomi Linkson, Alec Smith, Ian Parr, John Reynolds, John Alexander, Ryan Lindsey, Nancy Drapper, Patricia Small 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.



FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Mon 31 Jan St John Bosco, Priest, Memorial
Wed 2 Feb Candlemas, Feast
Thu 3 Feb St Laurence of Canterbury, Bishop, Memorial;
St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr
Fri 4 Feb St Henry Morse, Priest and Martyr
Sat 5 Feb St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr, Memorial

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