

June 2025

EDGEWAYS

Sacred Heart Parish Magazine

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*India and Pakistan share a stand at
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary
School's International Day (pp. 10–11)*

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- Young adults visit 54 Parkside (pp.8–9)
- An Evening with Haydn (pp.18–19)

***FREE* but donations are always welcome**

What's wrong with 'We baptise'?



A reader writes to Canon David...

Dear Canon David,

In the United States, several priests were recently found to have been baptising people with the phrase 'We baptise you...' rather than 'I baptise you...'.

Why were the baptisms they performed declared invalid, and why did thousands of people therefore have to be baptised as if they had never been baptised?

I do not know why the priests in question said 'we' rather than 'I'.

Perhaps they wanted to say that the Christian community, not just the priest, was welcoming the child into the Church by baptism. Perhaps they wanted to remove hierarchical distinctions between clergy and laity.

Or perhaps they wanted to emphasise the idea that every act of the Church, the Body of Christ, is an act of the whole Body. But in drinking a cup of coffee while I type this article, I am not using every part of my body: my feet are totally uninvolved and I am only using one hand to hold the cup.

The 'I' is Christ, not the community

But the point to stress is that in baptism, it is not the community, the parish, or the diocese that baptises the child: it is Christ. The 'I' who baptises is Christ, whom the priest is ordained to represent or act for (or, better, act *as*).



This applies to all the Sacraments. In the Sacrament of Penance, the 'I' in 'I absolve you of your sins ...' is really Christ. In the Eucharist, the 'I' who says 'This is my Body' is really Christ.

So the priest who baptises does not do so in the name of the community, but in the name of and by the power of Jesus Christ. And 'We baptise ...' hides, rather than reveals, that Jesus is the true High Priest and celebrant of every sacrament.

Improper form

A second reason why this error renders the baptisms invalid is because it is not the proper form.

In sacramental theology, St Thomas Aquinas distinguished between matter and form. *Matter* is what something is made of (we can see/hear/touch it); *form* is its unchanging nature (what it signifies or means). So the matter of a statue of the Sacred Heart might be wood or fibreglass,

while its form is Jesus' self-sacrificing love for us. In baptism, water is the matter; the washing away of sins is the form.

If the priest had baptised in something other than water – say, champagne – it would be invalid by reason of defect of matter, just as a Mass in which the priest used a coconut rather than bread and wine would be invalid. When the priests used the theologically and liturgically incorrect 'We', it made the act invalid, because he did not use the prescribed proper words (the form).

Is this a common problem?

While these cases are rare in the Catholic Church, there have been a few similar instances, mostly in the United States.

Some priests were discovered to have been baptising 'in the name of the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit'. This incorrect formula contravenes the prescribed words given to us by Christ in Matthew 28:19: 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'

In one case, a priest poured the water over the baby while a religious sister said the words (or it may have been the other way around). Although you do not need to be a priest to baptise validly, the baptism was ruled invalid for the above reason that the celebrant baptises as Jesus Christ.

And another priest, one day watching a video of his own baptism, realised that the deacon who 'baptised' him did not say the correct words. Because he was not validly baptised, his Confirmation and ordination were also invalid. So he had to be baptised, confirmed, ordained deacon, and ordained priest. Notice that I do not say 'baptised again' – because the priest was not baptised in the first instance.

A fundamental problem

The sacred liturgy is not a blank page on which we can write our own, creative script. Instead of being formed by the liturgy of the Church, some people seek to form it, according to modern tastes and thinking. The sacred texts after all have been fashioned over centuries, are based on Scripture and the teachings of Christ's Church, and have been composed by learned people. It is neither fair nor just to subject laypeople to gratuitous liturgical changes which leave them confused or uncertain as to the validity of the Sacraments.

Canon David



Do you have a query you would like to ask Canon David? Please send your question to the editor at dthurst52@gmail.com.



Looking for support in maths and English for your child? I am experienced in additional support for children aged 4-13, 11+ preparation, private school entry exams, and interview practice. Please call me on 07956 812871 to discuss. *Sairose Fleming*



Friendship rules, OK?

Our front cover this month shows a striking image of Indian and Pakistani parents from Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School working together on one stall at the second annual **International Day** (*more on pp.10–11*). What a lesson in peaceful cohabitation!

As Mother Teresa famously said: 'Peace begins with a smile.'

Also from our primary school, **Lorraine Dolan-Walsh** shares a heartfelt farewell message as she steps down after many years fulfilling a wonderful and caring job (*p.5*). On behalf of students, parents, staff, and governors (of which I am one), we all wish Lorraine well for the future.

It is **Summer Fair** time again, and we show happy images of the fairs held at both **Donhead Preparatory School** (*back cover*) and **Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School** (*pp.12–13*), with parents once again working hard on the stalls.

Matteo Baccaglini, my Edgeways collaborator, reports on a most interesting young adults visit to our neighbours at the **Apostolic Nunciature** on Parkside to discover their life and mission (*pp.8–9*).

Music has played a large part in the parish this month, and we feature concerts by **Katy's Songbirds** and soloists (*p.17*) as well as a huge **Haydn concert** conducted by Bob Rathbone and performed by the Sacred Heart Chorus and Orchestra (*pp.18–19*). You just had to be there!

Richard Starke introduces us to the ethos and activities of the **9th Wimbledon Scouts** (*pp.14–15*), and Tim McHugh follows up the recent appeal by our near neighbours, **Jesuit Missions**, by telling



us about their work in Africa, Asia, and South America (*p.16*).

From our friends in Merton Citizens, Captain Nick Ward of Mitcham Salvation Army shows us around the **Omnibus** (*pp.20–21*), a community project in Mitcham town centre.

In other contributions, Canon David explains the **correct form of baptism** (*pp.2–3*); we report on news from the **Parish Pastoral Council** (*pp.6–7*); and we conclude with a look at the **Edgeways archives** from June 1998, 2000, 2005, 2011, 2015 and 2019 (*pp.22–23*).

As always, feedback is welcome from our readers and, more importantly, please submit suggestions for future articles and stories for YOUR parish magazine. You know what you have to do!

David Hurst

p.s. While I may have hung up my boots after seven years of service on the Parish Pastoral Council (*p.7*), please rest assured that I'm not stepping away from your parish magazine – it's always a joy to edit!

Production credits: David Hurst (*Editor*, email: dthurst52@gmail.com), Matteo Baccaglini (*design and layout*)

Farewell from Mrs Lorraine Dolan-Walsh

As I prepare to step down as Headteacher in August, I find myself reflecting with deep gratitude and affection on my time at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School.

It has been a vocation. My journey here spans many years, including seven as a class teacher and early years leader in my earlier career. When I returned in January 2019 as Headteacher, I truly felt called to come back and serve this special community.



'It has been a true privilege to lead a school where 'Learning in Love' is not just a motto but a lived experience.'

Together, we have achieved much. We celebrated a strong OFSTED inspection and we were honoured to receive an Outstanding judgement in our Catholic Schools Inspection.

Our pupils have consistently performed strongly academically, thanks to the unwavering dedication of staff and the support of our families.

But these milestones, while significant, are not what I am most proud of. Rather, what I will cherish most is the heart of Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School: our ethos and spirit as a school family.

With children, staff and families representing over twenty-nine different languages (*see April 2025 Edgeways, pp.14–15*), the school serves families of Christian and other faiths, and is a joyful, inclusive, and respectful community.



Our values of Faith, Hope, and Love are lived out daily, whether through the beautiful voices of our choir singing at the 10.00am Family Mass at the Sacred Heart Church, pupils leading the singing at school Masses, the daily acts of kindness across the school community, or the energy and colour of our annual International Festival and school fairs ... our community has always come together to celebrate and support one another.

It has been a true privilege to lead a school where 'Learning in Love' is not just a motto but a lived experience. I leave Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School with many fond memories, a full heart, and confidence that this wonderful community will continue to thrive in the years to come.

With deepest thanks and blessings,

Lorraine Dolan-Walsh
Headteacher,

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Updates from the Parish Pastoral Council

Comprising the Parish Pastoral Team and elected volunteer parishioners, the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) meets monthly to support the Parish Priest in his pastoral work by discussing and encouraging a wide range of aspects related to parish life.

We report a summary of the minutes of the meeting of Thursday 5 June, coupled with items announced in the newsletter.

Memory Lane Club

The meeting opened with an introduction by Madeleine Jarratt, the new leader of the Memory Lane Club – a friendly, lively, informal drop-in space for those affected by memory loss or dementia and their carers. The Club meets from 10.30am to 12.30pm on Wednesdays in the Lounge.

There are currently 26 volunteers and 20 attendees. If you are interested in joining the Club or volunteering for it, please email wimbledonmemlanec@rcaos.org.uk or call 07713 882280.

Solar panels

Solar panels have been installed on the roof of the Upper Hall. As well as reducing the parish's environmental footprint, the panels will save on its energy bills and provide emergency lighting in the church, making it safer. Paul Duffin steered through this significant project.

On their first day of operation, the panels generated 5.09kW of electricity, of which 0.97kW was used by the church lights and Presbytery, while 4.12kW was sold to the electricity supplier. The parish saved more than 11kg in CO2 emissions in a day.

Halls Committee

A Halls Committee has been established to improve the parish's facilities and reduce the £6,000 annual shortfall with which they currently operate. The Committee comprises the following members:

- Thelma D'Costa, our Executive Assistant, who organises hall bookings;
- George McLennan, our Caretaker;
- Jesus Tamara Velasco, representing the Finance Committee;
- Wendy Tansey, representing hall users; and
- Maria Christopher, representing the Parish Pastoral Council.

The Committee met for the first time on Wednesday 21 May. Matters discussed included the level of fees, encouraging more bookings, and areas needing upgrading. A plan of action was drawn up.

To learn more about the halls and rooms available for hire, including the conditions of hire, capacities, and amenities, please visit sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/halls. For more information about the Halls Committee or to make a booking enquiry, please contact Thelma in the Parish Office by emailing wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk or calling 020 8946 0305.

Parish facilities

On Palm Sunday, plaster from the wall fell by the pulpit. A genie lift was hired and the remainder of the sediment was pushed down; there is no more danger.

A meeting has been arranged with a consultant to improve the lighting in the church. The PPC also received a request for more bicycle racks to be installed.

Farewell to a PPC member after seven years



From left to right: Fr Jackson, Rob Hitchcock, Nina Beltran, Will Morris, Canon David, David Hurst, James Bush, Deacon Julian, Jude Mariadoss, and Chris Woodward.

At its June meeting, David Hurst bid the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) farewell after serving on it for seven years, more recently as its chair.

David said: 'I suffer from my late mother's lifelong affliction, which we called 'committee-itis'.

I also believe that my 'superpower' is insatiable curiosity.

Hence, I will continue as Editor of the parish's monthly magazine, *Edgeways*.'

Community initiatives

The parish clergy are attending meetings to advance plans to establish a Be Well Hub in our parish, which will provide a safe space for parishioners to turn to when their mental health is low or they wish to feel better connected with other parishioners and their local community. Our parish has been invited to observe an existing Hub at Mitcham Parish (Church of England).

Three more members have been accepted into Merton Citizens, a community alliance, of which our parish was a founding member in April 2018. To learn more and get involved, please contact David at dhurst52@gmail.com.

PPC membership

William Morris volunteered to be the PPC's new Chair, and Rachel Purvis its Secretary.

Other news

The next New Parishioners' Tea has been pencilled in for Sunday 14 September. A Social Committee will be advertised in the newsletter. The PPC is investigating volunteer transportation for the elderly, pending safeguarding approval, and participating in the White Badge scheme, which allows disability permit holders to park closer to their destination.

You can get in touch with the PPC at ppc@sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk.

Friday 13 June

Young adults visit the Apostolic Nunciature



On Friday 13 June, the parish's young adults were warmly welcomed for an evening at 54 Parkside at the very kind invitation of Mgr Ante Vidović, Deputy of the Apostolic Nunciature to Great Britain.

After a moment of prayer in the ground-floor chapel, Mgr Ante kindly showed us around the Nunciature, and we then sat down for his reflections and a relaxed discussion.

Mgr Ante is by now a regular and popular celebrant at Sunday Masses at Sacred Heart Wimbledon, especially when our clergy require cover. He began his mission in London in the middle of last year. After being ordained in his native Croatia, his bishop sent him to train at the diplomatic school in Rome, and he has served the Holy See on diplomatic missions in Sudan and Mexico before moving to 54 Parkside.

Although we might think of the Apostolic Nunciature as 'the Vatican Embassy', Mgr Ante was keen to point out that this is a misnomer. For a start, the Holy See is not the Vatican. The Holy See is the central governing body of the Church, founded in the first century by Saints Peter and Paul, millennia before Italy formally recognised the Vatican City as an independent state in the Lateran Treaty of 1929. The authority of the Holy See is therefore separate from its jurisdiction of the Vatican City, and indeed any geographic territory.

Moreover, this allows the Holy See to play a unique role in international relations. If international relations are led by states pursuing their power to prioritise their political or economic self-interest – especially the interests of their citizens or the integrity of their countries' geographic boundaries – then this is evidently not a

mission that accurately describes the Holy See, whose first concern is to be a faithful witness to Christ and the Church's teachings on the international stage. Thus, the Holy See often maintains relations with states even when the international community shuns or sanctions them.

In this way, the Holy See currently has diplomatic relations with 183 countries, as well as the European Union and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. (Notable exceptions include the People's Republic of China, Bhutan, the Maldives, and North Korea.) The Holy See is also an observer in international organisations including the United Nations General Assembly, the Council of Europe, and the World Trade Organization.

In turn, states respect the Holy See as a facilitator of diplomacy and dialogue: in the Holy See, states with ruptured relations can still find an open door for mediation. Mgr Ante has found this particular quality of the Holy See's mission to be especially true in London. We are an international city that is home to so many embassies, and the Apostolic Nunciature is in regular contact with ambassadors who represent governments that are in conflict with each other.

Thus, Mgr Ante recalled how, upon Pope Francis' death, ambassadors came to 54 Parkside to sign the Nunciature's book of condolences. I couldn't help but think how out-of-the-way that journey must have felt for them – Wimbledon is hardly a quick drive from the Mayfair–Belgravia–Kensington triangle where most London embassies are based! But perhaps that is the point. What chance conversations could be inspired between ambassadors when, away from the busy city, they step into this lodge, where all the assumptions of international relations feel as gently suspended as the rhythm of urban life?

Mgr Ante explained a second sense in which the Nunciature is not 'the Vatican embassy', which is that it manages few 'consular' services in the typical sense of visas or emergency assistance. Mgr Ante left Khartoum before the current civil war broke out in Sudan, but the Nunciature there would not have been expected to help resident Catholics evacuate the city – besides, the Church in Sudan is relatively small and largely local. (It is still worth noting that the Holy See and the Vatican both issue passports!)

Nevertheless, the Apostolic Nunciature's role is above all pastoral. As the Pope's representative in Great Britain, the Nunciature works closely with the Church in England, Wales, and Scotland, keeping the Holy See informed of its activities and conditions. For example, the Nunciature helps to recommend priests as candidates for bishops to the Holy Father.

Mgr Ante said that he has enjoyed coming to celebrate Mass at our parish, and he challenged each of us to describe how we are being missionaries in our lives and together as a young adults community. As we enjoyed 54 Parkside's gardens, we were treated to some drinks and biscuits by the nuns who serve the Nunciature, before we wound our way for a few pints at the Dog & Fox in the Village.

It was a real privilege to visit the Apostolic Nunciature – what an item to tick off the bucket list! – and special thanks go to Mgr Ante and to Rob Hitchcock for organising the visit. Such was the interest in the event that Canon David joked that Rob had never realised there were so many young adults in our parish, especially aged over 35! But I am sure we will find plenty more opportunities for everyone to share faith and friendship over the coming months.

Matteo Baccaglioni

Friday 16 May: Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School International Day

At this year's International Festival at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, every class chose a different country to represent. The children were so proud to showcase their different nationalities and a fantastic day was had by all.

The International Festival was the culmination of a day's celebration of all things international. There were creative activities taking place throughout the school for the children during the day, and at collection time, the playground was transformed into an 'International Marketplace', with more than 15 countries represented.

The children took their passports and 'travelled' around the playground, visiting stalls and collecting stamps. There was a special sticker for anyone who collected all the stamps. Along the way, there were games to play and treats to sample.



Sri Lanka



Brazil



Mrs Dolan-Walsh 'visits' Korea!

Thank you to the groups of parents who planned and set up stalls showcasing their countries. It was wonderful to see the children, their families, and the staff all joining together to dance *Jerusalem* in the sunshine. We enjoyed a beautiful Korean harp performance, and another highlight was the whole school gathering to sing *Siyahamba*, a South African hymn, with actions led by Miss Rodger.

Our glowing front cover features Pakistani and Indian parents together at a shared stand – what an example of love in a troubled world!



Ireland



Wales



South Africa



Peru and Argentina



Organising team



'Peace begins with a smile'
– Mother Teresa

Saturday 21 June: Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Summer Fair



Adventure, camaraderie, and campfires – 9th Wimbledon Scouts keep the Spirit alive

Since 1931, when the Jesuit Fathers founded 'The Ninth' under the leadership of Fr Joseph Ryan SJ, this vibrant Scout troop has inspired generations of boys to embrace adventure, challenge themselves, and build lasting friendships.

Today, that mission feels more important than ever. In a world dominated by screens and social media, the Ninth offers something truly refreshing: the chance for boys to switch off, step outside, and connect with others in a meaningful way.

Scouts learn resilience, teamwork, and leadership – all while having fun and discovering the great outdoors.

For many, the highlight of the year is clear: Summer Camp. Over the decades, the Troop has explored some of the UK's most stunning landscapes – from the rolling hills of Grosmont and the wooded grounds of Broadstone Warren, to cream teas at Horner in Somerset. Nights under canvas, sitting around a campfire, hiking through the hills, and outdoor cooking have become cherished traditions, interspersed with adrenaline-fuelled local activities such as climbing, kayaking, and coasteering. This summer, the Scouts will return for the third time to Buddens Activity Centre near Wareham, Dorset – ready for another week packed with adventure.

Back in the parish, Monday nights are anything but ordinary. The Troop meets at 7.30pm each Monday in the Upper Hall, where a lively programme – designed by the Scouts themselves – keeps things fresh, exciting, and hands-on.



Sessions range from first aid to cooking competitions (held in the professional kitchens at Richard Challoner School), topical debates led by our in-house barrister, engineering challenges (the 'egg-drop' being a particular favourite), and even a high-energy self-defence workshop by a leader with black belts in kickboxing and Kung Fu.

The Scout Section welcomes boys aged 10½ to 14 who are ready to explore, learn, and experience something different.

Thanks to the continued support and guidance of Canon David and the parish as the sponsoring authority, the Ninth remains a place where boys grow into confident, capable young men – all while having the time of their lives.

Richard Starke
Troop Leader

To learn more about the 9th Wimbledon, please visit 9thwimbledon.com. If your son would like to join the Troop, please email Michael Orbell, Group Chairman, at michaelorbell@hotmail.com.



Mass at Camp



Leadership talk at St Margaret's



Campaign Paintball



Fighting Fit Martial Arts

Jesuit Missions' Appeal

After all Masses on Sunday 18 May, Fr Joseph Ghansah SJ and Tim McHugh made an appeal for Jesuit Missions.

Headquartered at 11 Edge Hill, Jesuit Missions is the international mission and development office of the Jesuits in Britain, supporting partners in twelve countries on three continents. It works with marginalised communities on projects including education, women's empowerment, human rights, and environmental sustainability.

Jesuit Missions supports a wide range of projects in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. These projects are staffed by Jesuits and their lay collaborators, who use their varying gifts to support fairness, human dignity, and care of our common home. The projects are diverse because the needs are diverse.

Fr Joseph and Tim's appeal introduced some of the people and places that our parish's generosity helps to support – for example, South Sudan, the world's newest country, which is also one of the world's poorest. The war in neighbouring Sudan is compounding the problems of poverty with an influx of displaced persons who are fleeing the violence. Working with local partners, Jesuit Missions is helping to provide a variety of services, especially psychosocial and mental health support



Paul Chitnis, Director of Jesuit Missions, recently visited children in South Sudan

for many disabled people. No one else is doing this in the camps.

Elsewhere in the world, Laura Angarita, Programmes Officer at Jesuit Missions, recently visited China. There, Jesuit Missions is supporting Casa Ricci, which provides medical services for people living with conditions such as leprosy and AIDS. Laura's time with the project made a powerful impression: she noted the deep sense of compassion and generosity among the staff, who work within the existing system's parameters to provide a much-needed service for society's marginalised.

To learn more and to donate, please visit jesuitmissions.org.uk. We thank Tim McHugh for this report.



Would you like to write for Edgeways?

Do you have an article that you think would be a great addition to YOUR parish magazine? We're always open to contributions! Please contact the editor at dthurst52@gmail.com.

Tuesday 20 May Katy's Songbirds Summer Celebration Concert



The Putney & Wimbledon Brass Band, conducted by Sam Topp

Photographs by John Stone

Katy's Songbirds Summer Celebration Concert featured music from favourite television adverts, from Bizet and the Beatles to Verdi and Motown!

Katy Lees organised the concert with Giles Kennedy and guests. A particular delight was the Putney & Wimbledon Brass Band (pwbrassband.com), which was conducted by Sam Topp. The concert was sponsored by Flaherty Builders Ltd.

The concert's proceeds supported two charities: the suicide prevention charity Campaign Against Living Miserably (thecalmzone.net) and the Merton Memory Hub, which supports local residents with dementia and their families and carers.

To learn more about Katy's Songbirds, please visit their Instagram page at [instagram.com/ksongbirds24](https://www.instagram.com/ksongbirds24).

Saturday 14 June: Sacred Heart Chorus and Orchestra – An Evening with Haydn

The Sacred Heart Chorus and Orchestra's annual concert is not only the centrepiece event in our parish's musical calendar, but also an important local event that attracts singers, musicians, and audiences from the wider community.

This year, a busy church was treated to an evening celebrating Joseph Haydn (1732–1809), an Austrian composer of the Viennese Classical style who is – at least, according to the concert programme – 'often (dubiously) cited as the 'father of the symphony' and (more accurately) 'father of the string quartet'.

The concert opened in Part 1 with the *Te Deum* for the Empress Marie Therese and the unforgettable 'Clock' Symphony No. 101 in D Major. After refreshments in the Lower Hall, Part 2 was the sublime *Missa in Angustiis*, commonly known as the 'Nelson Mass'.

Bob Rathbone, our Director of Music, conducted the concert. Performing as soloists were **Aleksi Koponen** (bass), **John Upperton** (tenor), **Cathy Bell** (alto), and **Katy Lees** (soprano).



Katy Lees (soprano)



The concert raised money for the Shooting Star Children's Hospice (shootingstar.org.uk), which provides specialist care and support to families who have a baby, child, or young person with a life-limiting condition or who have been bereaved. The Duchess of Edinburgh, the charity's royal patron, sent her best wishes to our organisers and concert-goers for a wonderful evening.



Aleksi Koponen (bass, left) and John Upperton (tenor, right)



The Sacred Heart Chorus

Soprano: Catherine Chapman, Wendy Day, Sally-Ann Feldman, Nicola Harland, Katelyn Krajenska, Sheena Macdonald, Gill McManus, Melanie Metherell, Marion Noble, Ola Rathbone, Marie Saunders, and Liz Verran. **Alto:** Elizabeth Bano, Lindsey Barraclough, Joanna Brzezinski, Maggie Box, Joanna Grainger, Olwen Hamilton, Sue Holliday, Genevieve Hurley, Joanna Knap, Malgosia Lasocka, Hyen Jie Lee, Jolanta Sabbat, Kate Strauss, Angela Searle, Chris Wood. **Tenor:** Graham Bennett, Alina Callender, Luigi De Carolis, David Chapman, Peter Frost, Justin Hamilton, Andrew Kennedy, Jude Mariadoss, Tom Sabbat, Adam Sikora. **Bass:** Richard Barraclough, Deacon Julian Burling, Francis Chiu, Kevin Hollands, Doug Johnstone, Mark Lester, Daniel Osborne, Christopher Woodward.

The Sacred Heart Orchestra

Violins: Eugene Lee (Ldr), Alberto Vidal, James Marshall, Victoria Barnes, Joanna Ly, Franziska Desner, Liz Errington, Carl Beddow, Kamila Bydlowska, and Stella Di Virgilio. **Violas:** Patricia Ramirez, Helena Sanchez, Mariya Sotirova, and Annabel Marshall. **Cellos:** Frederique Legrand, Ignasi Sole, George Pasca, and Nina Kiva. **Double Bass:** Jack Cherry. **Flutes:** Ellie Blamires and Ruth Harrison. **Oboes:** Lorraine Hart and Bernice Lee. **Clarinets:** Meline Le Calvez and Poppy Beddoe. **Bassoons:** Ben Exell and Ashley Mayall. **Horns:** Henry Wright and Alexander Harris. **Trumpets:** Christian Barraclough, Shane Brennan, and Victoria Rule. **Timpani:** Fabian Edwards. **Organ continuo:** David Gammie.

Photographs by John Stone.

The Salvation Army Mitcham's 'Omnibus – HOPE on board!'

The Salvation Army in Mitcham, a fellow member of Merton Citizens, is led by Captain Nick Ward, who explains a vibrant community project that can be seen every Tuesday and Friday in Mitcham town centre.

In 2010, the Salvation Army and the London Borough of Merton undertook extensive research. One conclusion drawn from this research was the need for a new expression of The Salvation Army's work in the east of the borough, specifically within the ward of Figges Marsh, which is described by the ward's Profile Document as 'one of the most deprived wards in Merton, with below-average levels of income, qualifications, and skilled residents and higher levels of benefit claimants'.

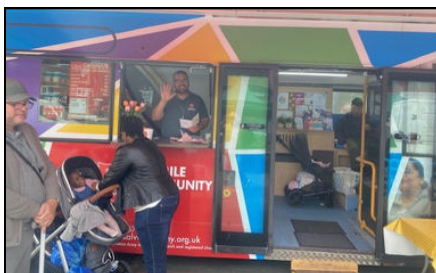
In wanting to reach and 'be with' people where they are, The Salvation Army sought a holistic approach to meet community needs by running 'The Omnibus Project'. This mobile ministry enables The Salvation Army in Mitcham to be flexible and to increase the level of support it can offer to residents and local schools while having the option of working beyond their 'boundaries' and Mitcham itself.



The name 'Omnibus' was chosen to express inclusivity, availability, and adaptability. *Omnis*, meaning 'everyone or everybody', speaks of the inclusive nature of The Salvation Army's work. *Omne*, meaning all things or everything, points to the creative and adaptive nature of The Salvation Army's mission in outwardly sharing the Gospel through all available means.

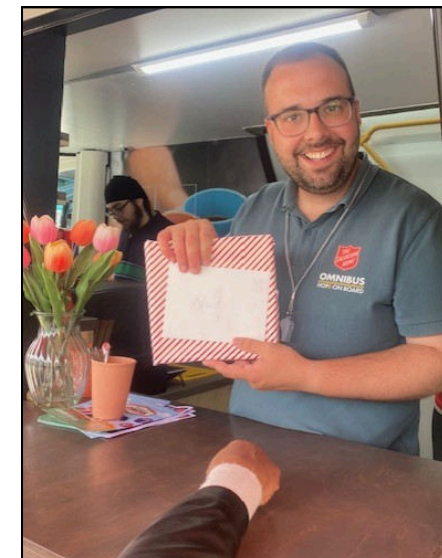
In conjunction with partner agencies, which include Merton Borough Council's Youth Services and Early Years Team, The Salvation Army delivers multiple services from the Omnibus and meets a variety of needs – emotional, practical, social, economic, and spiritual.

The Omnibus enables The Salvation Army to take and deliver these services to where people are. And, with a 'womb to tomb' mentality, the Omnibus has been designed with all ages in mind: it has activities and programmes in place for all generations, including teenagers and young adults.



The Salvation Army's ambition is that those who hop on board find hope on board. Sometimes, this hope is found through engagement with 'Employment+ On The Omnibus'. The qualified Employability Practitioner on board offers tailored support to help local people become job-ready. Through one-to-one support and group workshops, the programme helps job seekers find employment and stay in work.

The well-known nursery rhyme *The Wheels on the Bus* refers to doors being 'open and shut, open and shut, open and shut; all day long'. Not so for The Salvation Army's Omnibus: the doors on this bus are always open, and the team offers a warm welcome to everyone who comes aboard – all day long.



Captain Nick Ward receives his leaving gift.

Jodie always cheers me up

We always have time for you.
Compassionate Homecare
beyond compare.

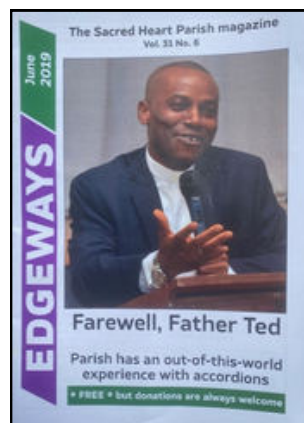
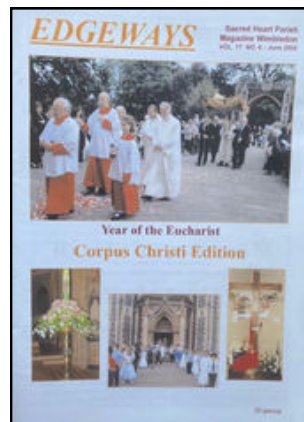
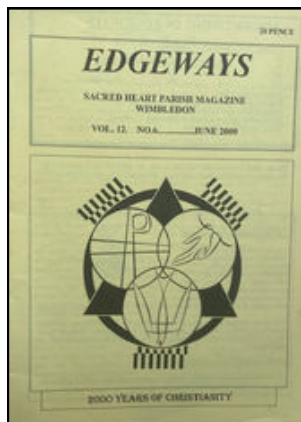
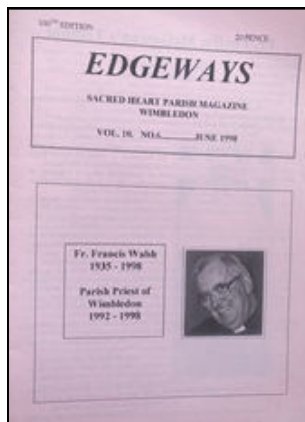
For a friendly chat,
call: 0203 1501 888

email: wimbledon@gacarers.co.uk
visit: gacarers.co.uk/wimbledon

Guardian Angel carers
People you can get on with

This month back then – an Edgeways history of YOUR parish!

More fascinating back issues of Edgeways reveal what was happening across the parish in June 1998, 2000, 2005, 2011, 2015 and 2019. Revel in these memories!



Back issues of Edgeways are available to borrow by emailing David at dthurst52@gmail.com. Issues from March 2020 are available in the digital archive at sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/edgeways.

June 1998 (Vol. 10 No. 6)
top-left – the 100th edition of Edgeways!

- Fr Phelim McGowan pays tribute to Fr Francis Walsh, parish priest 1992–98
- Funeral words by Fr Kevin Donovan SJ
- Jerry Hawthorn gives a Womble's view of the London Marathon

June 2000 (Vol. 12 No. 6)
top-centre

- Wendy Tansey previews the Edge Hill Players' production, *God with Us*
- Eugene Byrne hosts Fr Andrew Ssali from Uganda for the Newman Circle
- Fr Kevin Donovan SJ writes about the 'Long Distance Womble's Loneliness'

June 2005 (Vol. 17 No. 6)
top-right – Corpus Christi edition

- 'Year of the Eucharist' Corpus Christi Mass and celebrations
- 'Act Locally: Think Globally' launch of the Parish Justice and Peace Group
- 'Other Faiths – Why Bother?' parish conference

June 2011 (Vol. 22 No. 6)
bottom-left

- 'Maher and Son!' – meet Angela and Peter Maher
- Friendship Group visits Lambeth Palace
- Merton Deanery Development Day

June 2015 (Vol. 27 No. 6)
bottom-centre

- Young parishioners report on their First Holy Communion
- Explorer Scouts raise funds for Nepal earthquake victims
- Meet the Wimbledon Catenians!

June 2019 (Vol. 31 No. 6)
bottom-right

- 'Farewell, Father Ted'
- London Accordion Orchestra performance
- Raynes Park Festival celebrates its ninth year

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

We welcome into the family of the Church the following who have recently been baptised: Pui Yu Li, Samantha Stevenson, Graham Skalley, Afia Pokuaa Ohemeng, Roxanna Mae Johnson-Misso, Etta Grace Johnson-Misso, Nikolaos Kiaan Monteiro, Amelia Florence Carvalho Woolston, Isabella Grace Neale, Alexander Michael Enzo Neo, and Wilder Patrick McPartlin.

We congratulate those who have recently been married in our church: Natalie Louise Wilshire and Christopher Jan Tothill Allen; and Nakisai Sharlene Mashida and Nicholas James Colbeck.

We offer sympathies to the families and friends of those who have died recently: Patricia Lillian Gage, Joseph Hockley Wright, Penelope Janet Lloyd Sewell, Brigeen Thursby-Pelham, Namir Ghanin Akrawi, John Reynolds, John Christopher Dalglish Goldschmidt, and Henry Cyril Louis Lacide.

Saturday 14 June Donhead Preparatory School Summer Fair

