



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

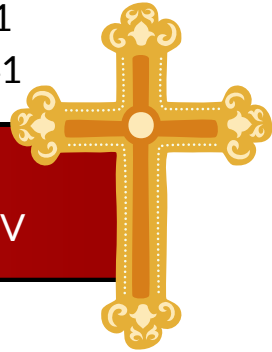
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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
Edge Hill
Wimbledon
London SW19 4LU

Sunday
14 September 2025

Newsletter

Vol. 11
Issue 41



Year of Jubilee 2025 • The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time • Vol. I, Psalter Week IV

Winter Night Shelter 2026: Volunteers needed!

We are looking for volunteers for the 2026 Merton Faith in Action Winter Night Shelter. For eight consecutive Thursday evenings and Friday mornings from 22 January to 12 March 2026 inclusive, we will welcome rough sleepers to sleep in our Lower Hall.

We would be most grateful for your help if you are able to:

- spend just ONE night providing overnight supervision to our guests, or
- serve TWO or THREE Friday morning breakfast shifts from 6.30am to 8.00 or 8.30am, or
- drive luggage on a couple of Thursday or Friday mornings at 8.00am between our parish and another local church.

If you can help, please email Nandita Nelson at sacredheartwns@rcaos.org.uk.

Today's Mass

The **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**, as a Feast of the Lord, displaces the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time. It enables us to 'glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ', as the Entrance Antiphon puts it. To 'glory in the Cross' is precisely the paradox at the centre of our Christian faith, of which we remind ourselves every time we make the Sign of the Cross, for it is the hope of our glory too. Notice the pattern in the priest's prayers: the Cross leads to salvation and redemption (*Collect*), to freedom from sin (*Prayer over the Offerings*), and to the glory of the Resurrection (*Prayer after Communion*).

First Reading (Numbers 21:4-9): Moses raises the fiery serpent in the desert so that those bitten would not die. This mysterious event makes sense in the light of today's Gospel: it prefigures Jesus being raised on the Cross so that all would not die.

The message of **Psalm 77(78)** for us is that we should remember all the saving acts God has done for us, and proclaim the Good News, the triumph of the Cross.

Our **Second Reading** (Philippians 2:6-11) is the famous text of Philippians which sets out Christ's humility in His Incarnation and His exaltation by His death on the Cross. The well-known hymn *At the Name of Jesus* reflects this text.

Gospel (John 3:13-17): In His answer to Nicodemus (who came to see Jesus by night), Jesus states that just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man (Jesus Himself) be lifted up (on the Cross). And He gives a key statement of faith: God does not want to condemn the world, but to save it.

Canon David

Parish Pastoral Team

Parish Priest	Canon David Gibbons KCHS
Parish Clergy	Fr Edwin Raj
	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



We are a Jubilee Church! Find out more about the Year of Jubilee 2025 for 'Pilgrims of Hope' at cbcew.org.uk/jubilee-2025.

This Sunday

Education Sunday

This Sunday is Education Sunday. Education is the largest charitable activity of the Church in this country, with many of our schools established for poor immigrant children in the 19th century. The Catholic Church is today the country's largest provider of secondary schools and the second-largest provider of primary schools, along with four universities. We give thanks for the many thousands of teachers, support staff, governors and others, without whom this would not be possible.

At the 10.00am Mass, we especially welcome the choir from our parish school, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, and its new Headteacher, Sarah Norville.

Second Collection: Catholic Education Service

The Catholic Education Service (CES) acts on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to support Catholic education. It is the chief negotiating and advisory body on all aspects of Catholic education. Learn more at catholiceducation.org.uk.

Café in the Lounge after the 10.00am Mass

You are warmly invited to join us for tea, coffee, biscuits, etc.!

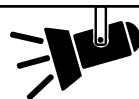
3.00pm: New Parishioners' Tea

New to the parish? The Parish Pastoral Council requests the pleasure of your company! We warmly invite all new parishioners to tea and cakes in the Lounge.

Social Club after the 8.00pm Mass

All are welcome to join us in the Lounge for a drink and social gathering!

Spotlight on...



It's Panto time again - oh yes it is! The **Edge Hill Players Panto** for 2026 will be *Puss in Boots*. If you would like to take part there will be two launch events: 7.30pm on Tuesday 30 September for adults and secondary school children and 5.30pm on Thursday 2 October for primary school children, both in the Upper Hall. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Let's make it a perfect show...

This week

Thelma will only be in the **Parish Office** on Monday and Tuesday this week; the **Reception** will be open as normal.

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Canon David and 22 parishioners go on pilgrimage to Lourdes from Wednesday to Saturday. They will pray for the parish while there. Please give any particular prayer intentions to Thelma before we depart.

No Adoration on Wednesday

Due to the parish pilgrimage, there will be no Adoration on Wednesday. Adoration continues as normal on Friday from 10.30am to 12 noon and from 5.25pm to 6.25pm.

Next Sunday's Second Collection: Catholic Agency for the Support of Evangelization

Next Sunday is *Evangelii Gaudium* or Home Mission Sunday. The Second Collection is for the Catholic Agency for the Support of Evangelization, an agency of the Bishops' Conference, to further the spread of the Gospel in this country. The money enables a breadth of work done in support of parish evangelization. The first national Mass Count also takes place next Sunday.

Parish notices

Fr David Hunter

Fr David has now left the parish. We wish him well for the future.

Wimbledon College results

We congratulate students and staff for their excellent results in Syntax (Year 11) and Rhetoric (Year 13).

The Sixth Form's results were a further improvement on last year's outstanding outcomes and well above national figures. At A Level, over 34% of all grades were at A*/A, 61% at A*/B, and 85% at A*/C. Results in vocational courses were equally impressive, with a 100% pass rate, and just under 50% were at least Distinction level. The vast majority of students have taken up offers from first-choice universities, including Oxford and Exeter Universities.

In Syntax, students were successful across all subjects and particularly in core subjects. 36% of all grades were at least Grade 7 and 72% were at least Grade 5. There were many individual outstanding achievements.

Receptionist(s) needed!

The parish urgently requires receptionists for the Presbytery on Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. For more information and to volunteer, please contact Thelma in the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Vacancy: Kitchen Assistant at St Teresa's Home CIO

St Teresa's Home CIO is searching for a full-time Kitchen Assistant, four or five days out of seven on alternate weeks, 7.00am to 3.00pm, Sundays included. Experience is preferable and a DBS check will be carried out. For further details and to apply, please email info@stteresashome.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 at sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/safeguarding.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Victoria Wheatley (wimbledonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)
Siobhán Heffron (wimbledonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk) • Maria Christopher (wimbledonsg5@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

Forthcoming parish liturgies and events

7.30pm Wednesday 24 September
'What is Evangelization?' at the
Wimbledon Newman Society

Ever wondered what is evangelization? Join us in the Lounge as Rob Hitchcock, our parish's Faith Minister, will answer that exact question. What is it, and how do we do it? All welcome!

9.30am – 4.30pm Friday 26 and
Saturday 27 September: Free
Training in Community Organising

Citizens UK (citizensuk.org) believes that community leaders are made, not born. By taking part in this training, hosted in our church halls, you will deepen your understanding of community organising, develop core leadership skills, meet others working to make change, and better prepare yourself to lead change in your community. Please email your interest to David at dthurst52@gmail.com by Friday 19 September.

2.30pm Friday 3 October
Beetle Drive at the Friendship Group

Come and try your luck! Prizes, tea, and cakes provided. Everyone is welcome, so join us in the Lounge!



Ursuline High School **Open Events**

Join one of our open events to hear from our Headteacher why our outstanding Catholic state school, welcoming all faiths, may be the right choice for your daughter, tour the school, and meet many staff and students.

For Year 7 (Main School) entry, our Open Evening is from 6.00pm to 8.30pm on Wednesday 24 September, and Open Mornings take place at 9.00am or 11.00am from Monday 29 September to Friday 3 October.

All our Open Events are ticketed and we operate a no ticket, no entry policy. For more information and to book, please visit tinyurl.com/uhsy725.

4.30pm – 5.30pm Monday 6 October
and

7.30pm – 8.30pm Tuesday 7 October
Signing of School Forms

Please note the change of date. To apply for your child to enter a Catholic secondary school, you need to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice (from the school, one per school) and come and see Canon David in the Lower Hall for his countersignature. One thing he will check is whether the family is registered in this parish. Please complete your section of the form, and bring the form and the child applicant.

6.30pm Saturday 11 October
Poets & Prophets

Join us in the Upper Hall for an evening of inspiring poetry and profound insights. Our talented poets and prophets will captivate you with their words and share wisdom that leaves you pondering long after the event. Whether you're a writer, poet, musician, or simply an appreciative audience member, you're invited to take part. It will be an atmosphere of inspiration and connection as the night unfolds with beautiful performances and heartfelt expressions.

For more information, to book, or to sign up to perform, please visit tinyurl.com/dyvf6ycw.

Christmas Lunch **Lead Volunteer needed!**

Every year, the parish organises a Christmas Day lunch for those who may be otherwise alone. The lunch is a joyous affair, including drinks and nibbles, carol singers and musicians, Christmas dinners with all the trimmings, and a visit from Father Christmas himself. We are looking for a volunteer to lead this year's organisation of the lunch. If you would like to find out more, please contact Thelma in the Parish Office.

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.



Wimbledon
College

Wimbledon College Open Events

Wimbledon College, a Jesuit secondary school and Sixth Form for boys, welcomes prospective parents and pupils for September 2026 admission into Year 7 to its Open Evening. Taking place from 5.00pm to 8.00pm on Thursday 25 September, the event includes school tours (until 7.00pm) and ticketed talks from the Headteacher.

Open Mornings take place by appointment only at 9.00am from Monday 29 September to Wednesday 1 October.

For further information and to book for any event, please visit wimbledoncollege.org.uk/openevents.

Diocesan notices

From 18 October until 2 November **International Exhibition** **of Eucharistic Miracles**

In connection with the canonisation of St Carlo Acutis, St John Fisher Parish (Cannon Hill Lane, SW20 9DB) is hosting an 'International Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles' in the church. The exhibition is self-explanatory, and aimed to inform the many Catholics who are uncertain of the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

Other notices

12.30pm for 1.00pm Friday 26 September: St John's Lunchtime Concert

Miriam Kramer (violin) and Nicholas Durcan (piano) perform Piazzolla, Saint-Saëns, Rachmaninov, Schumann and Gershwin at St John the Baptist (Spencer Hill, SW19 4NZ). Entry is free, with refreshments from 12.30pm and a retiring collection to support St John's Music Fund.

Celebrants this Sunday

6.30pm (Sat)	Fr Edwin Raj
8.00am	Canon David Gibbons
10.00am	Canon David Gibbons
12 noon	Fr Edwin Raj
5.00pm	Fr Edwin Raj
8.00pm	Canon David Gibbons

We remember in our prayers

Those who have died recently

Francis Foulger • Agnes Salmon • Betty Gibson
Margaret Duffy • Angelito Berongoy
Paul Cecil • Aaron Perry

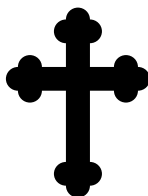
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Alfred Mullings • Patrick Hearty • Zulema Walliker
Alexander Smith • Maria de Lurdes Almeida

Those who are sick

Corné Rossouw • Finley Kennedy • Samar Staussi
Maria Tinker • Emily Grey • Eileen Norris • Electa Almeida
Karolina Masica • Mark Capra • Teresa Escalona
Simon Potter • Angela White • Peter Gent
Margaret Brauer • Karoline Wilhelm-Brown
Valeria Kucharsky • Debbie Gargan • Patricia Codd

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 this
Wednesday 17 September*

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

Saturday 13 September • S John Chrysostom, B D

10.00am Thelma D'Costa (Birthday)
6.30pm Anthony Hennessy (RIP)

Monday 15 September • Our Lady of Sorrows

10.00am Sonny Hearty (RIP)
6.30pm Joyce Brown (RIP)

Tuesday 16 September • SS Cornelius, P, and Cyprian, B

10.00am Tony Brook (RIP)
6.30pm Cynthia Rebello (Birthday)

Wednesday 17 September

10.00am Deceased Members of the Roche Family (RIP)
6.30pm Sally D'Costa (Birthday)

Thursday 18 September

10.00am De Lima Family
6.30pm Private Intention

Friday 19 September

10.00am Catherine & Patrick Keating (RIP)
6.30pm Raymond Smith (RIP)

Saturday 20 September • SS Andrew Kim Taegön, Pr, Paul Chöng Hasang, and Companions, MM

10.00am Marlene Saldanha (RIP)
6.30pm William Holder (RIP)

Music at the 12 noon Mass

Entrance hymn: (363) Lift high the Cross

Kyrie/Gloria: (459)/(460)

Offertory: *Christus vincit* introduction to
(712) The royal banners forward go • **Sanctus:** (433)

Communion motet: *Christus factus est* (F. Anerio)

Organ: Finale from Sonata 1 (F. Mendelssohn)

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

George McLennan

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). Registration tablets are available at the church entrance, the presbytery reception, and the 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.