



# THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon  
Edge Hill  
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Sunday  
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## Newsletter

Vol. 11  
Issue 54

Year of Jubilee 2025 • Second Sunday of Advent  
Second Week of Advent



Aid to the  
Church in Need

### Second Collection



This weekend, Amy Balog and Patricia Hatton will make an appeal on behalf of **Aid to the Church in Need**. This Catholic charity brings help to Catholics and other Christians where they are persecuted, oppressed, or in pastoral need through prayer, information, and action. ACN supports over 5,000 projects worldwide, helping the Church's mission in areas affected by persecution, conflict, and poverty.

There will be a Second Collection to support ACN's vital work, or you can donate online at [acnuk.org](http://acnuk.org) or via the QR code above. If you would like to get involved or become an ACN volunteer, please call 07908 033878 or email [aloma.dorozario@acnuk.org](mailto:aloma.dorozario@acnuk.org).

### Today's Mass

**First Reading** (Isaiah 11:1-10): Isaiah predicts the coming of the Messiah – who will be of the line of David (which is what 'from the stump of Jesse' means) – and lists the gifts he will have. These gifts are remarkably similar to six of the seven-fold gifts of the Spirit. He will also bring in an age of peace.

**Psalm 72(71)** is one of the psalms known as royal psalms, and continues the First Reading's foretelling of the Messiah, who will be king and saviour.

Characteristically, in the **Second Reading** (Romans 15:4-9), St Paul suggests a practical outcome of our belief in Christ – namely, that we should treat each other as Christ has treated us. In this way will glory be given to God.

**Gospel** (Matthew 3:1-12): The great Advent figure of St John the Baptist appears. He is the last of the Old Testament prophets, preaching repentance and dressing like Elijah. He is also the first New Testament saint, preparing a way for Christ. Like the Baptist, we should prepare a way for Christ, both for Him to come into our own lives and also for other people to receive His good news.

### Parish Pastoral Team

Parish Priest	Canon David Gibbons KCHS
Parish Clergy	Fr Edwin Raj
	Fr Peter Mudu Frank
	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](mailto:school@sacredheart.merton.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Sarah Norville



What will you bring?

*Canon David*

### Our Christmas hamper appeal needs you.

Read inside for how you can share Christ's love with someone in need in our community this Christmas. Please, if you can, donate a suggested item from our list. **Thank you.**



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

## This Sunday

### Second Collection: Aid to the Church in Need

Please see the front cover.

### Continental Breakfast after the 8.00am and 10.00am Masses

Join us in the Lower Hall for bacon, pastries, sausage rolls, teas, and coffees – all to accompany good chats with fellow parishioners! There is no charge, but donations are gratefully received.

### Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10.00am Mass

Children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 are invited to attend with their parents and discover, explore, and discuss the Gospel in an age-appropriate way. We call children to the front of the church after the welcome, process together to the Lounge, and return to the church before the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

After this Sunday, the next Children's Liturgy will be on Sunday 14 December. Please email Elizabeth at [elizabethbottriell@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethbottriell@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

### Social Club after the 8.00pm Mass

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

### Vespers

Please note, if you recite Evening Prayer, that Sunday evening is the Second Vespers of the Second Sunday of Advent, not of Monday's Solemnity (as you might be tempted to think).

You can read Pope Leo XIV's latest **Apostolic Letter, *In Unitate Fidei***, on the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, at [tinyurl.com/inunitatefidei](http://tinyurl.com/inunitatefidei).

This Christmas, together with our parish's St Vincent de Paul Society and Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, our parish will prepare Christmas hampers and distribute them to people and families in need in our community.



But we need your help! Could you donate items for the hampers? **Our suggestions include tinned peas, carrots, potatoes, stuffing mix, mince pies, custard, Christmas treats, and other long-life goods.** Please bring items to the Parish Office or place them in the dedicated boxes at the back of the church. Donations towards the purchase of items are also gratefully received.

## This week

During Advent, the church is heavily used by local schools, especially for carol services and rehearsals. Such things as access to the church, livestreaming, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament may occasionally be restricted.

There will be **no morning Adoration on Wednesday or Friday** because of a King's College School Carol Service and Donhead End-of-Term Mass respectively.

### Monday: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This is a Solemnity of a principal patron of our diocese. The Mass Readings emphasise the role of Mary, mother of the Saviour, in the history of our salvation.

### 6.30am Monday: Rorate Mass

These traditional dawn Masses of Our Lady by candlelight will be celebrated on the first three Mondays of December in the Lady Chapel. If you have never experienced one of these special Advent Masses, do make an effort to come along and help prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. By popular request, these Masses will be sung Masses and in Latin.

Mass will also be celebrated at the usual times of 10.00am and 6.30pm.

### 1.30pm – 3.00pm Tuesday Christmas Tea Party at Ursuline High School

The Ursuline High School is hosting a tea party to which all retired parishioners – and especially those who have a connection with the school – are invited. Please book your place by emailing Polly Harrison at [polly.harrison@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:polly.harrison@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk) or by talking to Sister Dorothy. Kindly note that the entrance is on The Downs (not Crescent Road). We look forward to welcoming you!

### 7.00pm Thursday: Prayer and a Pint Young Adults Group

This month, we'll be meeting directly after the 6.30pm Mass in the Youth Room. Come and socialise with other young adults of the parish! Please bring food, drinks, and games.

### First Holy Communion Programme

Parents are reminded of their meeting at 8.00pm on Wednesday in the Upper Hall.

### 3.30pm – 5.30pm Friday Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Christmas Fair

Come along to the front playground (Burlington Road, KT3 4ND) for a festive bar, food, crafts, tombolas, and more!

**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](http://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/safeguarding).

**Parish Safeguarding Representatives:** Victoria Wheatley ([wimbledonsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledonsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk))  
Siobhán Heffron ([wimbledonsg3@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledonsg3@safeguardraos.org.uk)) • Maria Christopher ([wimbledonsg5@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledonsg5@safeguardraos.org.uk))



Only a few Christmas cards are left for sale in the Reception!

## EDGEWAYS

This month's jam-packed issue includes a welcome interview with **Fr Edwin**, the results of the **Wimbledon Catenian Circle's** photographic competition, and a long-read of the Archdiocese's report on the lay consultation phase of **Called to Bear Fruit**.

Read November 2025 *Edgeways*, YOUR parish magazine, at [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/edgeways](http://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/edgeways)! Printed copies can be found at the back of the church.

## Parish notices

### Parish Office Christmas closures

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from Wednesday 24 until Sunday 28 December inclusive. It will reopen for Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 December, then close again from Wednesday 31 December until Sunday 4 January 2026 inclusive.

### Parish Vacancy: Caretaker

George McLennan, our Parish Caretaker, is retiring at the end of December. We send him our gratitude for his sterling caretaking over a number of years. A new Caretaker is required. The salary is £29,427 for a 35-hour week. For a Job Description, Person Specification, and Application Form, please email Thelma at [wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk). Applications close this Wednesday 10 December.

## New to the parish?

Welcome! Please introduce yourself to a member of the parish team after Mass and register online at [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](http://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk) or by filling out a registration form from the back of the church.

## Other notices

**2.55pm this Thursday 11 December or  
2.55pm Tuesday 16 December  
Care Home Carol Singing**

Are you free for about an hour to sing carols for residents of The Beaumont (Arterberry Road, SW20 8AG - Thursday) or Link House (Blenheim Road, SW20 9BA - Tuesday), organised by Churches Together in West Wimbledon? Please contact Pat ([pat.spencer60@talktalk.net](mailto:pat.spencer60@talktalk.net)) or Elaine ([elainemiller051@gmail.com](mailto:elainemiller051@gmail.com)).

## Forthcoming parish liturgies and events

**6.30am Mondays 8 and 15 December  
Rorate Masses**

Please see 'This Week'.






**4.30pm Tuesday 16 December  
Marymount International School  
Advent Carol Service**

Marymount International School invites the whole community to join this service in our church, followed by festive refreshments.

### 🎄 CHRISTMAS TREES & CRIB: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED 🎄

We are looking for volunteers (children welcome!) to come and help decorate the Christmas trees and set up the crib in the church.

 **Wednesday 17 December**  
 Any time after 2.00pm  
 In the church

Come along, hang a bauble on the tree, and help us begin the festive season together! Your help will be greatly appreciated. Let the celebrations begin... ✨

**10.00am Saturday 20 December  
Advent Penitential Service  
with individual Confessions**

Following the 10.00am Mass, there will be a short communal Service of Penitence. Visiting priests as well as our own will then be available to hear individual Confessions. During the Confessions, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Adoration. Come and confess early for Christmas!



**6.30pm for 7.45pm Thursday 18 December  
Katy's Songbirds Christmas Celebration**

Katy's Songbirds invite you to their Christmas Celebration, an evening of traditional carols and festive music featuring Katy Lees, Giles Kennedy, Putney & Wimbledon Bass Band, the Lantern Arts Youth Choir, and Edge Hill Players. The concert will support Beat, an eating disorders charity, and Breast Cancer Now.

Mulled wine, mince pies, a raffle, and a bar will be available in the Upper Hall from 6.30pm, with the concert starting at 7.45pm in the church. Tickets are £10 (under-14s free). Book your place now at [trybooking.com/uk/FPEQ](http://trybooking.com/uk/FPEQ).



**9.00am – 9.00pm  
Saturday 24 January 2026  
Youth 2000 'The London Retreat'**

This retreat in our church will be an opportunity for people between the ages of 16 and 35 to come together to explore faith, build relationships, and find hope. Join us for a jam-packed day of prayer, teaching, friendship, and fun! For more details and to book, please visit [tinyurl.com/3p5svfsk](http://tinyurl.com/3p5svfsk).

## Celebrants this Sunday

6.30pm (Sat)	Canon David Gibbons
8.00am	Fr Peter Mudu Frank & Dcn Julian Burling
10.00am	Fr Edwin Raj
12 noon (Latin)	Canon David Gibbons & Dcn Julian Burling
5.00pm	Fr Peter Mudu Frank
8.00pm	Fr Edwin Raj

## We remember in our prayers

### Those who have died recently

Clare Gummett • Timothy Hayes • David Moffatt  
Vera Bunce • Thomas Michael McGovern

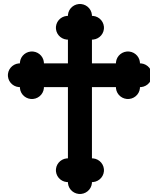
### Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Bertha D'Costa • Joan Desbruslais • Jacqueline Newsom  
Donna Lakey • Alfred Fanciulli • Dominic Sammons  
Treaa Hearty • Tom Kinsella  
Francie McHugh • Andrew McHugh • Hugh McHugh

### Those who are sick

Finley Kennedy • Samar Staussi • Maria Tinker • Emily Grey  
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  
Hilary Brazier • Ethan Costa Peruzzo • Sheila Morrissey  
Peter Hayes • Brian McQuaid • Mary Fripp • Sadie Smith

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 morning Adoration this  
Wednesday 10 and Friday 12 December

## 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](https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/donate).  
Thank you.



## Weekday Mass Intentions

### Saturday 6 December

10.00am Declan MacDaid (RIP)  
6.30pm Bertha D'Costa (RIP)

### Monday 8 December • The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6.30am Holy Souls (RIP)  
10.00am Antonio Bispo (RIP)  
6.30pm Maurice & Kate Neville (RIP)

### Tuesday 9 December • S Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

10.00am Suzanne & Michael Elliott  
6.30pm Ann Granahan

### Wednesday 10 December

10.00am Joy & John Boniface (Wedding Anniv.)  
6.30pm Joe Lyons (RIP)

### Thursday 11 December

10.00am Maria Sybil Tavares (RIP)  
6.30pm Wimbledon Cantenians

### Friday 12 December

10.00am Ida Denardi & Lucchetta (Birthday)  
6.30pm Sunita & Richard Fernandes (Thanksgiving)

### Saturday 13 December • S Lucy, V M

10.00am Gloria Zuazo Ponce (RIP)  
6.30pm John & Mary Granahan (RIP)

## Music at the 12 noon Solemn Latin Mass

**Kyrie:** Mass 18 (plainchant)

**Offertory motet:** *Jerusalem surge* (G.B. Martini)

**Sanctus/Benedictus/Agnus Dei:** Missal tones from Mass 18

**Communion:** From the 'O' Antiphons (plainchant) – O  
*sapientia*; O *Adonai*; O *radix Jesse*

**Organ:** *Veni Redemptor gentium* (S. Scheidt)

## Music at the 5.00pm Mass

Scan the QR code or visit  
[sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/5pm](https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/5pm)



## Parish services and contacts

### Parish Office

020 8946 0305  
[wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:wimbledonnewsletter@rcaos.org.uk) by Tuesday evening.

Please remember always to register your car when using the church car park (except Sundays) via a registration tablet at the church entrance, presbytery reception, or 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](mailto:presidentA190704@svp.org.uk).