



THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon

Edge Hill

Wimbledon

London SW19 4LU

Sunday
11 January 2026

Newsletter

Vol. 12
Issue 1



Year of Prayer 2026 • The Baptism of the Lord
First Week in Ordinary Time



Today's Mass

The season of Christmas ends today.

First Reading (42:1–4,6–7): Isaiah describes the true servant of God and of the community. The Church has always seen here a portrait of Christ, especially in the reference to the servant as 'covenant of the people and light of the nations'.

Psalm 29(28) is a majestic hymn of praise to the Lord, the God of thunder and water. It recalls how God uses water in our salvation, from Creation through Noah and the Flood, the Exodus, and on to Christ's (and our) baptism.

Second Reading (Acts 10:34–38): In his sermon to Cornelius and his household (who, significantly, are Gentiles rather than Jews), St Peter recounts Jesus' ministry and how it began with His baptism.

Gospel (Matthew 3:13–17): Jesus is baptized in the River Jordan by John. John tries to dissuade Jesus because he understands that Jesus, the sinless one, does not need Baptism, but Jesus insists. Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of Our Lord's public ministry.

This is one of the rare times in all Scripture when the three persons of the Holy Trinity appear together. This reminds us that at our own baptism, we were baptized in the name of the three persons of the Godhead.

Canon David

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
Headteacher: Sarah Norville

7.00pm Friday 13 February Parish Dinner in the Upper Hall



Tickets are £80 per person, to include a welcome glass of prosecco and a glass of wine. Bottles of wine will be on sale at the bar. Places are limited to 100. Choose your menu, indicate your dietary requirements, and book at tinyurl.com/shwparishdinner. Your ticket will be confirmed by email once payment has been verified.

This Sunday

Youth 2000 talk

There will be a short talk after each Mass this Sunday about the Youth 2000 retreat for young adults taking place in our parish on Saturday 24 January.

Be Well 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.

Come along also to find out more about the parish's Be Well Hub and to talk to a Mental Health Champion.

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

This Sunday, we are resuming our very popular Children's Liturgy! Children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 are invited to discover, explore, and discuss the Gospel in an age-appropriate way. We invite 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. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

We look forward to welcoming the children back! After this Sunday, the Children's Liturgy will continue during the 10.00am Mass on Sundays:

- 25 January;
- 8 and 22 February; and
- 1, 8, and 15 March.

Please don't hesitate to email Elizabeth at 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!



Our parish is a Be Well Hub! If you would like to talk to a trained Be Well Champion about your or someone else's emotional or mental wellbeing, please come to the Lounge after the 10.00am Mass this Sunday, where Be Well Champions will be available for confidential conversations.

If you would like to find out more about how you or someone close to you might benefit from the parish being recognised as a Be Well Hub, please come to the Continental Breakfast in the Lower Hall and talk to one of our Be Well Champions, who will be wearing name badges. Alternatively, please email Graham Kennedy at wimbletonbwhc@rcaos.org.uk.

This week

Ordinary Time (before Lent)

Christmas time ends this Sunday. On Monday, we enter Ordinary Time, in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated. Mass vestments are green, unless a saint's day is being observed.

7.00pm Thursday: Prayer and a Pint Young Adults Group

A place to build community, pray, have a pint (cash bar), play piano, sing, and play pool and darts. Young adults, come to the Lounge! (Bring drinks and games!)

Parish Finance Committee

... meets on Monday evening.

Dorotela Pereira RIP

Memorial Mass at 1.00pm on Saturday 17 January.

Thank You

A big thank you to all who cleaned and decorated the Church for Christmas, to our musicians, Altar Servers, Mass readers, welcomers, and all who helped in any way to make our Christmas Liturgies go so well. All our Masses and liturgies were very well attended, and so this will have had a big impact on evangelization, as many of those who attended will have been non-Catholics or even non-Christians.

Some of you may know that when the Christmas Crib figures were unpacked, the baby Jesus figure's head was broken off. We are very grateful to the parishioner who arranged for emergency repairs to be made. Out of disaster can come resurrection!

Thank you also to everyone who donated items or volunteered their time and talents to support our Christmas hamper appeal. Some 26 hampers were distributed to families and people in need in our community.

All of us in the Parish Team are most grateful for all the gifts, cards, and good wishes from parishioners, and wish you all every Blessing for the New Year.

Canon David

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 (wimbletonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)
Siobhán Heffron (wimbletonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk) • Maria Christopher (wimbletonsg5@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

Forthcoming parish liturgies and events

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

This retreat in our church will be an opportunity for people aged 16 to 35 to come together to explore faith, build relationships, and find hope. Come along to explore what it means to be in relationship with God – to encounter Jesus in the Eucharist, grow in relationship with Him and His Mother, and form friendships with other young adults from the local area. For more details and to book, please visit tinyurl.com/3p5svfsk.

6.30pm Sunday 25 January
'One Body, One Spirit' United Service

Churches Together in West Wimbledon's United Service for the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place at Christ Church, West Wimbledon (Cottenham Park Road, SW20 0RZ). Everyone is welcome.

Edge Hill Players Panto: Puss in Boots
2.30pm and 7.00pm
Saturdays 31 January and 7 February

Come and see Puss in Boots on his amazing journey to fame and fortune, meeting a cast of characters, both good and evil, along the way! This original panto written and directed by Wendy Tansey and Terry Marsh is the purrfect antidote to the winter blues!

For tickets and further information, please visit edgehillplayers.com or call 07742 230493.

2.30pm Friday 6 February
Cactus Flower (1969) film screening
at the Friendship Group

Join us in the Lounge as we watch *Cactus Flower* (1969), starring Walter Matthau, Ingrid Bergmann, and Goldie Hawn. There will be ice creams, tea, and biscuits. Everyone is welcome!

7.00pm Friday 13 February
Parish Dinner in the Upper Hall

Please see the front cover.

Pope's Intention for January 2026: For prayer with the Word of God. Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

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.

Other notices

2.00pm next Sunday 18 January
Mass for the Canonisation of
Venerable Fr Agnelo D'Souza SFX

Everyone is warmly invited to come and pray for the canonisation of Fr Agnelo D'Souza. The Mass will take place at St John Fisher Church, Merton (Cannon Hill Lane, SW20 9DB) and will be followed by light refreshments in the hall. All those with connections to Goa are especially encouraged to participate. For further details, please call 07944 692920.

Diocesan notices

New Auxiliary Bishop

Pope Leo XIV has appointed Canon Gerald Bradley as Auxiliary Bishop for our Archdiocese. Bishop-Elect Gerard's Episcopal Ordination will be on Monday 2 February at St George's Cathedral. The Holy Father has assigned him the Titular See of Beverley, the birthplace of St John Fisher. Please keep Bishop-Elect Gerard in your prayers as he prepares for his new apostolate.

New Archbishop of Westminster

The Holy Father has appointed Rt Rev'd Richard Moth, previously Bishop of Arundel & Brighton, as the new Archbishop of Westminster. He is well known to us, having been Vicar General of Southwark before his Episcopal Ordination. In fact, he visited Favre House, the Catholic young adults house in our parish, only a week or two before the announcement!

Parish notices

Finances

Offertory Collections totalled £39,752 for November and £31,784 for December. The Second Collection for the Archbishop's Appeal was £1,761.60. £1,504.90 was donated for the Holy Souls in November, which will be allocated to 150 Masses to be offered throughout the year (usually by a concelebrating priest). Thank you for your generosity.

Request for help

A parishioner family, Beril and William, is seeking advice and guidance regarding professional opportunities in the South of England, particularly in academia, teaching, research, administrative, or pastoral-related roles. They would be very grateful to hear from anyone willing to offer informal advice, insights, or suggestions, especially related to employment at universities, colleges, chaplaincies, or associated institutions. Please email berilwilliamkalfelz@gmail.com.

Ambassadors for Christ

The Archdiocese of Southwark has launched an exciting apologetics project to provide evidence-based answers to questions such as 'Is Jesus God?' or 'Does prayer work?'. Ambassadors for Christ is designed to equip you with a deeper understanding of your faith, so that you can confidently answer questions and be a joyful witness for the Lord Jesus and his Church.

Every Monday, a new video will be posted on YouTube, along with a worksheet for parishes, schools, youth groups and families to use as part of their faith formation. The first video stars the Archbishop, while five of the later ones are presented by our very own Canon David. To learn more and take part, please visit rcaos.org.uk/ambassadorsforchrist.

Celebrants this Sunday

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

We remember in our prayers

Those who have died recently

Nick Hogarth • Michael Hamilton • Fr Simon Bishop SJ
Dorotela Pereira • Marcella Caudwell

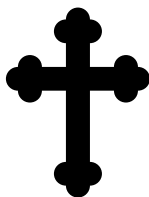
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Ernest Prescott • Isobel McGrath • Kazimiera Kempinska
Andre Helene • Maria Jessiman • Nick Hunt
Charmain Bourbon • Christopher O'Brien
Iris Smith • Margaret Brennan

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
Warlita Villejo • Ryan Lewis • Joseph Lewis

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

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 10 January • S Lucy, V M

10.00am Kirsten & John Cummins (Anniv.)
6.30pm Kit O'Brien (RIP)

Monday 12 January

10.00am Maureen Margaret Jones Bayat (RIP)
6.30pm Margaret Duffy (RIP)

Tuesday 13 January

10.00am Kazimiera Kempinska (RIP)
6.30pm Francie, Hugh, & Andrew McHugh (RIP)

Wednesday 14 January

10.00am John Engley (RIP)
6.30pm Mena Hennessy (RIP)

Thursday 15 January

10.00am Maureen Hayes (RIP)
6.30pm Latina Coelho

Friday 16 January

10.00am Andrea Brown (RIP)
6.30pm Olaf Meyer (RIP) & Patricia Meyer

Saturday 17 January • S Anthony, Ab

10.00am Teresa Vincenzo Mistretta (RIP)
1.00pm Memorial Mass of Dorotela Pereira (RIP)
6.30pm Anne Gay (RIP)

Music at the 12 noon Mass

Entry hymn: (661) Songs of thankfulness and praise

Kyrie/Gloria: (459)/(460)

Offertory motet: *Tribus miraculis* (G.P. da Palestrina)

Communion motet: O Lord, give Thy Holy Spirit (T. Tallis)

Communion hymn: (106) Christ be beside me

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) 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.