



# THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon  
Edge Hill  
Wimbledon  
London SW19 4LU

Sunday  
18 January 2026

## Newsletter

Vol. 12  
Issue 2

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Second Week in Ordinary Time



**EHP 2026 PANTOMIME**

# PUSS IN BOOTS

**31st Jan & 7th Feb 2026**

An original pantomime written & directed by  
Wendy Tansey  
& Terry Marsh

**Book your seats:**  
[edgehillplayers.com/puss-in-boots](http://edgehillplayers.com/puss-in-boots)



### Today's Mass

**First Reading** (Isaiah 49:3,5-6): Isaiah is himself a prefiguring of Jesus Christ, as the servant of God who will restore the people of God (the 'tribes of Jacob') and be the light of the nations.

The earliest Christians understood **Psalm 40(39)** as a prophecy of the coming of the Messiah, which foreshadows the self-offering of Jesus Christ.

Today's **Second Reading** (1 Corinthians 1:1-3) begins a sequence of Second Readings taken from St Paul's first letter to the Church in Corinth. The greeting, which St Paul used many times, is the basis for the second form of the greeting said by the priest at the beginning of Mass: *'Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.'*

**Gospel** (John 1:29-34): St John the Baptist testifies to Jesus as the Lamb of God and as the Messiah, who has been anointed by the Spirit. The Invitation to Communion at Mass (*'Behold the Lamb of God...'*) directly quotes these words of the Baptist. These are familiar words and images, but one could spend a long time pondering their meanings.

*Canon David*

### Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

... runs from this Sunday until next Sunday 25 January. During this time, the Church observes eight days of prayer for Christian Unity.

Please visit [tinyurl.com/oopcu26](http://tinyurl.com/oopcu26) for resources from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, including prayers and reflections prepared by the faithful of the Armenian Apostolic Church and daily action points from Christian Aid. Here is a prayer written by the Chemin Neuf Community, inspired by Fr Paul Couturier:

*Lord Jesus, who prayed that we might all be one, we pray to you for the unity of Christians, according to your will, according to your means. May your Spirit enable us to experience the suffering caused by division, to see our sin, and to hope beyond all hope. Amen.*

#### Parish Pastoral Team

|                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Parish Priest</b>  | Canon David Gibbons KCHS |
| <b>Parish Clergy</b>  | Fr Edwin Raj             |
|                       | Fr Peter Mudu Frank      |
|                       | Deacon Julian Burling    |
| <b>Team Member</b>    | Sr Dorothy Perrott OSU   |
| <b>Faith Minister</b> | 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

## This Sunday

### Peace on Earth

Today is a Day of Prayer for Peace in the Bishops' Cycle of Prayer.

### Café in the Lounge after the 10.00am Mass

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

### Social Club after the 8.00pm Mass

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

## EDGEWAYS

This month, your monthly parish magazine features an interview with Fr Peter, photographs from our Christmas carol services and events, a farewell to stalwarts of the Continental Breakfast, and plenty more!

Read January 2026 *Edgeways* at [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/edgeways](https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/edgeways)! Printed copies can be found at the back of the church.

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.

*Fr. Canon David !!*  
**Ambassadors  
for Christ**

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](https://rcaos.org.uk/ambassadorsforchrist).

## This week

**Thelma** is away this week on annual leave. The **Reception** will be open as usual, from 9.00am to 4.00pm from Monday to Friday. Please contact one of the Parish Pastoral Team for anything urgent while Thelma is away. Non-urgent enquiries, including hall bookings, will be attended to on Thelma's return.

### Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

Please see the front cover. Do pray for Christian Unity this week, and come along to the United Service on Sunday 25 January.

**9.00am – 9.00pm  
Saturday 24 January  
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 local young adults. For more details and to book by 12 noon this Monday, please visit [tinyurl.com/3p5svfsk](https://tinyurl.com/3p5svfsk).

**4.00pm / 7.30pm  
Saturday 24 January  
Youth 2000 Mass / Adoration**

Everyone, including those who have not bought tickets for the retreat, is welcome to join the Youth 2000 retreatants for Mass at 4.00pm and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 6.30pm Mass.

**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.

## Parish notices

### Upper Hall Refurbishment and Parish Dinner Postponement

The Finance Committee has approved refurbishment plans for the Upper Hall, including the redecoration and renovation of the kitchen.

These works will start quite soon, and so we have had to postpone the Parish Dinner, which was scheduled for Friday 13 February. We apologise to those who have booked: your money will be refunded. We will announce the new date in due course.

### Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

We are delighted to report that Fr Peter will be spending Wednesday afternoons in the school, assisting in the teaching of Religious Education, and being available to pupils, staff, and parents if they wish to make their Confession, have any queries about the Catholic faith, or simply want to chat about something.

### Aid to the Church in Need Appeal

The total of this recent appeal came to £4,901.22, of which £2,359 was trading. The ACN team sends its thanks for your stalwart support.

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

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

## Forthcoming parish liturgies and events

**7.30pm Wednesday 28 January**  
**Judge-and-Jury Trials Talk at the**  
**Wimbledon Newman Circle**

Join us in the Lounge as former parishioner Dennis Barry, a barrister with over 20 years of experience both prosecuting and defending, discusses judge-and-jury trials in the United Kingdom.

Is it against the common good for the Government to remove the existing right of a person accused of a criminal offence to be tried by a judge and jury? Come and hear Dennis as we unpack the debate!

**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 *purrr*-fect antidote to the winter blues!

For tickets and further information, please visit [edgehillplayers.com](http://edgehillplayers.com) or call 07742 230493.

## Diocesan notices

**10.00am Sunday 1 February**  
**Mass for Racial Justice Sunday**

Racial Justice Sunday is a time for us to pray, reflect and take action against racism, while celebrating the diversity of our Archdiocese.

Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate this Mass at St George's Cathedral (Lambeth Road, SE1 7HY). Everyone is invited to take part, and those who wish may wear national or cultural dress as a sign of unity and pride.

If you would like, please gather outside the Cathedral at 9.45am to join the procession of national flags. After Mass, all are welcome to gather in Amigo Hall for refreshments — a chance to meet one another, share experiences, and continue the conversation about faith and inclusion.

You are warmly encouraged to attend in person, but if you cannot make it, you can watch the livestream at [youtube.com/live/fdmGwmESSgl](https://youtube.com/live/fdmGwmESSgl).

**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!



## Come and adore Jesus this week!

In our church, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration every Wednesday and Friday, from 10.30am until 12 noon and from 5.25pm until 6.25pm. The Blessed Sacrament is also exposed on the first Mondays and Fridays of each month, from 7.00pm until 8.00pm.

## Other notices

**7.00pm Saturday 31 January**  
***The Dream of Gerontius***  
**St John Henry Newman**

As a gesture of thanksgiving for Pope Leo XIV's proclamation of St John Henry Newman as a Doctor of the Church, the John Henry Newman Cultural Society invites you to an introduction to Edward Elgar's oratorio *The Dream of Gerontius* (1900). The oratorio sets to music Newman's profound meditation on the journey of a soul from earthly life into the presence of God. The event is free, and will take place at the London Oratory (Brompton Road, SW7 2RP). For further details, please email [jhnewmanculturalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:jhnewmanculturalsociety@gmail.com).

**Saturdays 14 – 21 February**  
**Much Afraid Transformed**  
**into Grace and Glory (Retreat)**

The Kairos Centre is hosting this six-day retreat based around the book *Hinds' Feet on High Places* (1955) by Hannah Hurnard. All are invited to take the journey with Much Afraid and Jesus to the Kingdom of Love. For more details and to book before Monday 26 January, please visit [thekairoscentre.co.uk](http://thekairoscentre.co.uk).

**Join Wimbledon College**  
**in Lourdes this August**

Since 1923, alumni, staff, and friends of Wimbledon College have travelled to Lourdes to spend a week in service of Our Lady and visiting pilgrims. The Hospitalité invites all parishioners to come and discover Lourdes as pilgrims from Saturday 22 to Wednesday 26 August, with a full programme of pilgrimage activities accompanied by Fr Michael Holman SJ. Please email Peter at [wimbledonlourdes100@gmail.com](mailto:wimbledonlourdes100@gmail.com) to express your interest.

For those wishing to volunteer, the Hospitalité will serve in Lourdes from Thursday 20 to Friday 28 August. Everyone is welcome to join, and if you are currently in full-time education and an alumnus of the College or Ursuline High School, you can benefit from a cap of £450 for travel, accommodation, and food, with funds available for those unable to meet this cost. For more details, please email Matteo at [matteo@baccaglini.london](mailto:matteo@baccaglini.london).

## Spotlight on...



The **Children's Liturgy of the Word Group** needs you to volunteer! Running on Sundays in term-time during the 10.00am Family Mass, it's a really lovely and rewarding ministry. You can learn on the job, starting as an assistant and, when you feel ready, you can move to leading.

We are a friendly and supportive group and you would only have to serve six to eight sessions a year. If you are interested and would like to learn more, please get in touch with Elizabeth at [elizabethbotttriell@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethbotttriell@hotmail.com).

## Celebrants this Sunday

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

## We remember in our prayers

### Those who have died recently

Nick Hogarth • Michael Hamilton • Fr Simon Bishop SJ  
Dorotela Pereira • Angela Reidling

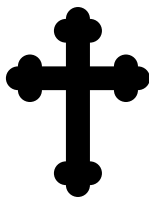
### Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Christopher O'Brien • Mary O'Keefe • Angela Byrne  
Gisela Gregory • Anna Ferullo • Jerzy Owoc

### 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 • Mary Fripp • Sadie Smith • Warlita Villejo  
Ryan Lewis • Joseph Lewis • Peter Boyle

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



## Weekday Mass Intentions

### Saturday 17 January • S Anthony, Ab

10.00am Teresa Vincenzo Mistretta (RIP)  
6.30pm Anne Gay (RIP)

### Monday 19 January

10.00am Mary & Tony Carrington (Wedding Anniv.)  
6.30pm Alice Cook (RIP)

### Tuesday 20 January

10.00am Lucy Harthill (RIP)  
6.30pm Latina Coelho

### Wednesday 21 January • S Agnes, VM

10.00am Maria Chandra (Birthday)  
6.30pm Lucy Harthill (RIP)

### Thursday 22 January

10.00am Rosemary Doyle (RIP)  
6.30pm Mary Bell (RIP)

### Friday 23 January

10.00am Victor De Costa (RIP)  
6.30pm Selina de Sa (Birthday)

### Saturday 24 January • S Francis de Sales, BD

10.00am Camilla Cervi & Guerrino Angelini (RIP)  
4.00pm Youth 2000  
6.30pm Xavier Aitchison & Family

## Music at the 12 noon Mass

**Entry hymn:** (891) Christ be our light

**Kyrie:** (459) • **Gloria:** (467)

**Offertory motet:** The Lamb (J. Tavener)

**Communion motet:** The Lord is my Shepherd (M. How)

**Communion hymn:** (111) Christ is the world's light

## 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

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).