



# THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon  
Edge Hill  
Wimbledon  
London SW19 4LU

Sunday  
8 March 2026

## Newsletter

Vol. 12  
Issue 9

Third Sunday of Lent (Year A)  
Third Week of Lent

### Ambassadors for Christ

7.15pm this Wednesday and  
all Wednesdays in March

Join us in the Lounge as Nina Beltran, our Parish Lead for Faith Formation, will share videos from *Ambassadors for Christ*, followed by a discussion. Refreshments will be provided. Come to as many or as few sessions as you can!

Produced by the Archdiocese of Southwark, the *Ambassadors for Christ* video series is a landmark apologetics project designed to equip you with a deeper understanding of your faith, so that you can confidently answer questions and be a joyful witness to the Lord Jesus and His Church.

In this week's video, the Archbishop will discuss the Eucharist. See you in the Lounge!

#### 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

### Today's Mass

Today's (rather long) **Gospel** (John 4:5-42) has been chosen to fit in with the First Scrutiny (see 'This Sunday'), which involves the unbaptized catechumens (who, if they attended the Rite of Election in the Cathedral, were called by the Archbishop to be the 'elect') in one of the stages in their Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) programme.

A Samaritan woman at Jacob's well encounters Jesus, who speaks of giving 'living water' – which, in the Old Testament, is a symbol of godly teaching and salvation. As a result, she recognises Him as the Messiah and rushes off to convert the people of her town, who, after listening to Him, accept Him as the Saviour.

In the **First Reading** (Exodus 17:3-7), the people in the wilderness complain of thirst, and they test or provoke God. Moses, their leader, then finds water and names the place Massah ('testing') and Meribah ('quarrelling'). Are the People of God any less quarrelsome today than they were thousands of years ago? **Psalms 95(94)** reminds us of our ancestors' disobedience and asks that 'today' we should obey.

The theme of love in the **Second Reading** (Romans 5:1-2,5-8) is reflected in the Prayer over the People. A special prayer during Lent said before the Final Blessing, it is designed to ask God to strengthen us as we go out to continue our Lenten discipline.

*Canon David*

### Manna Society Collection

This weekend, we are collecting food and items for the Manna Society. Manna's day centre supports homeless people near London Bridge; please visit [mannasociety.org.uk](http://mannasociety.org.uk) to learn more.

They are in particular need of food (tinned tomatoes and vegetables, pasta sauces, rice and tinned meat, sugar, plus coffee and dilutable drinks), and toiletries (disposable razors and deodorants). Please place your items in the collection box at the back of the church.

## Parish notices

### A message from Love Heals Body Mind and Spirit Ministry

We would like to thank Canon David for allowing us to speak at Masses on Sunday 1 February, and all parishioners for your kind donations and offers of help towards our mission of purchasing Mem Soares Retreat House in Portugal. All donations are gratefully accepted towards our mission.

We will keep you updated in the future on our progress. You can follow our work at [lovehealsbodymindspirit.com](http://lovehealsbodymindspirit.com).

– David Brum, Chairperson,  
LHBMS Ministry and Charity

## Diocesan notices

### Fridays 21 – 28 August Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

I warmly invite you to join me on this year's pilgrimage to Lourdes. A pilgrimage is a great opportunity to refresh and renew our relationship with the Lord Jesus, with the help of Our Lady's prayers. It is a blessing to be able to accompany and to be inspired by other pilgrims, some of whom are sick, elderly or disabled.

For more information, please visit [catholicassociation.co.uk/join2026](http://catholicassociation.co.uk/join2026), or get in touch with Canon Edward Perera at [edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk) or Deacon John Fogarty at [johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk).

*Bishop Paul Hendricks*

### Vacancy: Videographer and Social Media Officer

The Archdiocese of Southwark is hiring a Videographer and Social Media Officer. If you feel called to proclaim Jesus Christ and help others encounter his love, please visit [rcaos.org.uk/vacancies](http://rcaos.org.uk/vacancies) to apply before this Thursday 12 March.

## This Sunday

### Manna Society Collection

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.

**be  
well**

**Our parish is a Be Well Hub!** If you are concerned about your or anyone else's mental wellbeing, please talk to one of our Be Well Champions at the Continental Breakfast after the 8.00am or 10.00am Masses. They will be wearing 'Be Well' name badges.

### 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 next Sunday 15 March. Please email Elizabeth at [elizabethbottriell@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethbottriell@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

### 5.00pm Mass: First Scrutiny

This Easter, three members of our parish's RCIA group will be Baptized, and three others will be Confirmed. Today, they celebrate their First Scrutiny at the 5.00pm Mass. The Second and Third Scrutinies will follow at the 5.00pm Mass on the next two Sundays.

This Mass takes precedence over the Mass of the Third Sunday of Lent, so the Collect, Prayer over the Offerings, and Prayer after Communion are from the First Scrutiny, not the Mass of the Third Sunday of Lent. There are specific Intercessions for the Elect after the Homily, the elect are presented with a copy of the Creed, and there is a special insert in the Eucharistic Prayer.

Please keep Adeola, Dennis, Patrick, Bill, Sushini, and Catherine in your prayers.

### Social Club after the 8.00pm Mass

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

### Spotlight on...



Could you read at Mass? The 6.30pm (Saturday) Mass needs an additional reader. If you can read clearly, and perhaps have previous experience of reading in public, please call Tara at 07957 566495.

## EDGEWAYS

What's Canon David's secret talent? How does our church's architecture grapple with the legacy of Vatican II? And why have two young adult parishioners launched a 'Catholic Events' app?

Read February 2026 *Edgeways*, YOUR monthly parish magazine, at [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/edgeways](http://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/edgeways)! Printed copies can be found at the back of the church.

**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@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))



First Holy Communion, Confirmation, and Easter cards are now available for purchase in the Bookshop.



## This week

### 8.00am Monday: DHM Convent Mass

All parishioners are welcome to the monthly Mass at the Daughters of the Heart of Mary Convent (41 Murray Road, SW19 4PD)

#### Patricia Jenkins RIP

Funeral Mass at 11.30am on Monday.

#### Donhead Preparatory School

We welcome Elements pupils and staff to the 10.00am Mass on Tuesday.

#### Margaret Tolmie RIP

Funeral Mass at 12.15pm on Tuesday, followed by burial at the Merton & Sutton Cemetery.

### 7.00pm for 7.30pm Tuesday Lenten talks: The English Doctors of the Church – St Bede the Venerable

Join us in the Lower Hall for the second instalment of Canon David's three-part talk series on The English Doctors of the Church in the Lower Hall. This Tuesday, Canon David will discuss St Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Refreshments will be available from 7.00pm, with the talk starting at 7.30pm. Do come along even if you couldn't make last week's talk!

### 7.15pm Wednesday Lenten discussion evening: Ambassadors for Christ

Please see the front cover.

### 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!)

### Teresa Escalona RIP

Funeral Mass at the 10.00am Mass on Friday, followed by cremation at the Putney Vale Cermatorium.

### 2.30pm Friday: Friendship Group Mad Hatters Tea Party

Come and join the Friendship Group in the Lounge for a crazy Mad Hatters tea party! Prize for the best hat. Everyone is welcome!

### 7.00pm Friday: Stations of the Cross

Join us in the church every Friday in Lent to pray the traditional Lenten devotion of the Via Crucis. If you cannot participate in person, please join us via the livestream at [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/livestream](https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/livestream).

### Holy Matrimony

The Wedding of Joseph Cripps and Charlotte Winter is at 1.00pm on Saturday 14 March.

### 6.30pm Saturday 14 March Poetry & Paint

Join Poets & Prophets for a nourishing evening of creativity and connection in the Lounge. We gather to welcome spring through a gentle poetry, writing, and painting workshop designed to awaken imagination and intuition.

This creative environment invites participants of all levels to explore words, colour, and emotion in a supportive, collaborative space. Art supplies are provided with the ticket price and there will be a bar for drinks and snacks. Book your place at [tinyurl.com/yvj58cta](https://tinyurl.com/yvj58cta).

## New to the parish?

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



### Archbishop's Lenten reflection: The distressing majesty of the Cross

Archbishop John is calling on everyone in the Archdiocese to join him in prayer and contemplation before the crucified Lord. Watch at [rcaos.org.uk/lent2026](https://rcaos.org.uk/lent2026).

## Other notices

### (Re)Birth Revolution

This week is Unexpected Pregnancy Awareness Week. To mark this week, Life is launching a new national awareness campaign, working to renew society's response to women and families facing unexpected pregnancy.

Many women experience pregnancy at times marked by financial hardship, housing insecurity, relationship difficulties, or deep personal uncertainty. Too often, they navigate these life-changing moments feeling isolated, without practical, emotional, and societal support. To learn more, and find out how you can help, please visit [rebirth-revolution.org](https://rebirth-revolution.org).

### Vacancy: Campaigns & Outreach Officer at Jesuit Missions

Are you passionate about social justice and tackling the root cause of global poverty? Can you engage and motivate others to act on campaigns? If so, Jesuit Missions would love to hear from you! For further details and to apply before Friday 20 March, please visit [jesuitmissions.org.uk/vacancies](https://jesuitmissions.org.uk/vacancies).



Unable to make Canon David's Tuesday Lenten talks on the English Doctors of the Church? Never fear: you can listen along to the recordings on our website, [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk](https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk), under 'Faith and the Sacraments' → 'Talks'. There, you'll also find recordings from Canon David's 2025 Lenten talks on the Mass!

## Celebrants this Sunday

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

## We remember in our prayers

### Those who have died recently

Francis Saldanha • Teresa Escalona • Josef Soffer  
Patricia Jenkins • Jean Sherry • Margaret Tolmie  
Luis L. Echezabal • Frances Rose Barden

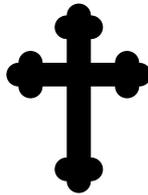
### Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

John Pieroni • Benjamin Green • Michael Cunnane  
Denise Richards • Clara Randles  
Margarita Opcic • Alfons Kempinski

### Those who are sick

Finley Kennedy • Samar Staussi • Maria Tinker • Emily Grey  
Electa Almeida • Karolina Masica • Mark Capra  
Angela White • Peter Gent • Margaret Brauer  
Karoline Wilhelm-Brown • Valeria Kucharsky  
Debbie Gargan • Patricia Codd • Hilary Brazier  
Ethan Costa Peruzzo • Peter Hayes • Mary Fripp  
Sadie Smith • Warlita Villejo • Ryan Lewis • Joseph Lewis  
Peter Boyle • Susan McGuinn • Teresa Williams  
Patricia Byrne • Francis O'Farrell • Anthony Murphy  
Aimee Jones • Marina Francescotti  
Jacqueline Dagnall • Marie Fitzgerald

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

7.15pm Good Friday:  
Stations of the Cross

## 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, please visit [sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/donate](https://sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/donate). Thank you.

## Weekday Mass Intentions

### Saturday 7 March

10.00am Natalie Garrigues (RIP)  
6.30pm Eileen & Geoffrey Norris (RIP)

### Monday 9 March

8.00am Daughters of the Heart of Mary  
[41 Murray Road, SW19 4PD]  
10.00am Nick Hogarth (RIP)  
11.30am Funeral Mass of Patricia Jenkins (RIP)  
6.30pm Catherine, Dr & Patrick Mullen (RIP)

### Tuesday 10 March

10.00am Niamh Keating (RIP)  
12.15pm Funeral Mass of Margaret Tolmie (RIP)  
6.30pm Len Hay (RIP)

### Wednesday 11 March

10.00am Margaret Farley (RIP)  
6.30pm Saechang Key (RIP)

### Thursday 12 March

10.00am Michael Carolan (RIP)  
6.30pm John Lanham (RIP)

### Friday 13 March

10.00am Funeral Mass of Teresa Escalona (RIP)  
6.30pm Patrick Tort (RIP)

### Saturday 14 March

10.00am Richard & Shirley Michalak (60<sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  
1.00pm Wedding of Joseph Cripps  
& Charlotte Winter  
6.30pm Jackie Bedford (Birthday)

## Music at the 12 noon Mass

Introit: (757) Vaster far than any ocean  
Offertory motet: *Ad te levavi* (J.K. Aiblinger)  
Communion motet: *Sicut cervus* (G.P. da Palestrina)  
Communion hymn: (730) This is my body

## 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

Leo Nicolaou

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.