

THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

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Sacred Heart Wimbledon
Edge Hill
Wimbledon
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Sunday
29 March 2026

Newsletter

Vol. 12
Issue 12

Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord (Year A) Holy Week

<p>8.00pm Maundy Thursday</p> <p>The Mass of the Lord's Supper</p> 
 <p>3.00pm Good Friday</p> <p>The Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord</p>
<p>8.00pm Holy Saturday</p> <p>The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night</p> 

Masses begin a little differently today!

10.00am and 12 noon Mass: Procession – Please collect a palm, hymn book, and service booklet from inside the church, and then assemble by the arch at the Edge Hill entrance, facing the church. Please follow the Altar party in the Procession. Do join in the singing in the Procession, brandishing your palms at the refrains!

All other Masses (including 6.30pm Saturday): Solemn Entrance – Please collect a palm, hymn book, and service booklet from inside the church, and then assemble outside the church. Please follow the Altar party into the church.

Today's Mass

Holy Week begins today. The **Gospel** – Matthew's (21:1-11) account of Christ's entry into Jerusalem – comes after the Blessing of Palms. For the first time in the Gospel, Jesus publicly states that He is the Messianic king ('Behold, your king is coming to you') and for the first time, the people respond with acclamation. But he is no conquering general entering the city; He rides on a donkey and is 'humble'.

First Reading (Isaiah 50:4-7): The prophet foretells the suffering of Christ, who, though innocent, made no resistance to those assailing Him. **Psalm 22(21)** has always been understood by the Church as a prophecy of the suffering Messiah. Jesus Himself quotes it on the Cross.

Second Reading (Philippians 2:6-11): Christ Jesus, although divine, became human, and humbly accepted death on a Cross. Paradoxically, it was in this way that He was glorified: He is the Lord.

The Passion according to St Matthew: We read through the events of the first Holy Thursday and Good Friday. The Passion is not proclaimed like a Gospel Reading: there are no lights, incense, or signing and greeting of the book. We all genuflect and pause in prayer for a few moments at the words '... and yielded up His spirit.'

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

This Holy Week at Sacred Heart Wimbledon

Holy Monday to Holy Wednesday

Holy Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am and 6.30pm.

11.30am Holy Wednesday Chrism Mass

Celebrated by the Archbishop at St George's Cathedral in Southwark (Lambeth Road, SE1 7HY), the Chrism Mass includes the Blessing of the Oils of the Sick and of Catechumens, and the Consecration of the Sacred Chrism. To signify the unity of the Presbyterate of the diocese, the priests renew publicly their priestly promises. You are advised to arrive early to get a seat.

Maundy Thursday



8.00pm Maundy Thursday The Mass of the Lord's Supper

The Mass of the Lord's Supper includes the Washing of Feet and is followed by Watch before the Altar of Repose until midnight.

Additional parking will be available at Wimbledon College from 7.00pm to 10.00pm.

Confessions

Holy Monday to Holy Saturday:
5.45pm - 6.15pm

Additionally, on Good Friday and Holy Saturday:
10.30am - 11.30am



Holy Saturday

Please fast if possible until the Easter celebration. On this day, the Church waits at the Lord's tomb in prayer and fasting, meditating on Christ's Passion and Death and on His descent into Hell, and awaiting His Resurrection.

12 noon Holy Saturday: Świąconka

The traditional Polish Blessing of Easter Baskets is in the church.



8.00pm Holy Saturday The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

The liturgy includes the Blessing of the Fire, the Preparation of the Paschal Candle, the Procession of Light, the Exsultet, the Vigil of Readings, the Baptism, Reception, and Confirmation of Adults, and the Mass of the Resurrection.

Additional parking will be available at Wimbledon College from 6.00pm to 11.00pm.

Easter Sunday

Holy Mass on Easter Sunday will be celebrated at 8.00am, 10.00am, 12 noon (Solemn Latin), 5.00pm, and 8.00pm. The Renewal of Baptismal Promises replaces the Creed.

The Collection at all Easter Masses is for the priests of the parish. Thank you for your generosity.

Good Friday



Good Friday is a day of obligatory fasting and abstinence.

- Fasting (for those aged 18 to 59) means eating one full meal and two smaller collations that do not equate to a full meal, and avoiding snacks.
- Abstinence (for those aged 14 and above) means not eating meat, including soups and gravies made from meat. We should also abstain from things like alcohol.

10.00am - 11.00am Good Friday Churches Together West Wimbledon Walk of Witness

This ecumenical act of witness begins at the Lantern Methodist Church in Raynes Park (Worple Road, SW20 8RA). After prayers and a hymn led by our 5.00pm Choir, we will process through Raynes Park, enacting the Passion of Our Lord. It is a moving event and a wonderful joint act of witness with our brothers and sisters in other Christian churches.

11.00am Good Friday Children's Stations of the Cross

Please email Rachel Marshall at rachel@marshallemail.net if your child would like to take part. A rehearsal for all actors and readers will take place beforehand from 9.30am to 10.30am.

3.00pm Good Friday The Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord

The Liturgy of the Word includes the Passion according to Saint Matthew.

The Good Friday Collection is the Papal Collection for the Holy Places of Palestine. The places connected with Our Lord's Passion have always been centres of veneration and pilgrimage. This collection is sent for their upkeep, and to help maintain Christian schooling in the area.

Additional parking will be available at Wimbledon College from 12.30pm to 6.30pm.

6.15pm Good Friday Younger People's Stations of the Cross

7.15pm Good Friday Traditional Stations of the Cross

We recall Christ on the day of His Crucifixion and make a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of Our Lord's Passion. If you cannot participate in person, please join us through the livestream at sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/live.

For full details, please consult our *Holy Week & Easter 2026* booklet, available in print copy at the back of the church and online at tinyurl.com/shwhweek26.

Parishioners attending liturgies from this Maundy Thursday 2 April to Easter Monday 6 April will not need to register their car details to use the church car park, as the system will be deactivated.

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, at 8.00pm on Holy Saturday, is the most important liturgy in the Church's year. Please attend if you possibly can.

This Sunday

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!

Parish notices

Parish Office and Reception closures

The Parish Office and Reception will be closed from this Maundy Thursday 2 April, and will reopen on Easter Tuesday 7 April.

Fr Jackson Sebastian

Fr Jackson, who moved from this parish to St George's Cathedral last year, has been appointed as Parochial Administrator of the Holy Family Parish in Thanet. He will move to his new appointment after Easter.

Church guides wanted

Adult parishioners are invited to express their interest in training and qualifying as volunteer 'White Badge' guides to show visitors around our beautiful church. Guides will learn about the highlights of the church, its history and contents, followed by the skills needed to show small groups of visitors around from September onwards. To register your interest, please email David Hurst at dhurst52@gmail.com.

Forthcoming parish liturgies and events

2.30pm Friday 10 April Joanna Bogle at the Friendship Group: 'Celebrating Feasts and Seasons'

Join us in the Lounge for this talk by broadcaster Joanna Bogle. Everyone is welcome! Tea and cakes will be served. *Please note that there is no Friendship Group meeting on Good Friday 3 April.*

6.30pm Saturday 11 April Raphael Pilgrimage Southern Reunion

Following the 6.30pm Mass, the Raphael Pilgrimage to Lourdes will host a buffet supper in the Lounge. The cost is £15 per head. To book your place, please call Angela on 07753 614735 or email searlearn@aol.com.



9.00am Thursday 16 April Mass in the Hall of Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

All parishioners, parents, and family members are welcome to attend this Easter Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Burlington Road, KT3 4ND), which will be celebrated by Bishop Gerard Bradley.

On bank holiday Easter Monday 6 April, the church will close after the 10.00am Mass. There will be no 6.30pm Mass or First Monday Adoration.

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.



You can listen to recordings of Canon David's Lenten talks on 'The English Doctors of the Church' on our website, sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk, under 'Faith and the Sacraments' → 'Talks'.

Other notices

12 noon and 3.15pm this Good Friday Wintershall Passion Play

A hundred players offer an electric and moving portrayal of Jesus' final days at Trafalgar Square. The 90-minute production is open-air with a large screen. No booking is required, and the performances are free of charge.

3.00pm – 5.00pm Sunday 19 April Dare to believe: Is religious freedom under growing threat around the world?

Join Aid to the Church in Need UK for a panel discussion, chaired by Fr Dominic Robinson SJ, with testimonies from survivors of persecution. Speakers include Baroness Patricia Scotland, former Secretary-General to the Commonwealth of Nations, and Prof. Brian Grim, international expert on the socioeconomic impact of religious freedom. Register at tinyurl.com/article18panel.

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)

Celebrants this Sunday

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

We remember in our prayers

Those who have died recently

Frances Barden • Alexander MacDonald • James McNally
Mariangela Fonesu • Paolo Cardazzone
Katherine Winter • Paul Black • Br Joseph Therese
Paul Thirlwall • Alan Toohill • Laurent Busy

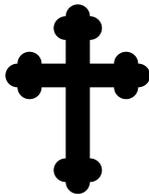
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Patricia Small • Gayle Moretti • Laura Massini

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 3 April: Stations of the Cross
No Adoration on bank holiday Easter Monday 6 April

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 28 March

10.00am Paul Savio & Joseph Roland
(Good Health & Thanksgiving)

6.30pm Edward Granahan (RIP)

Monday 30 March • Monday of Holy Week

10.00am Kathleen Bishop (RIP)

6.30pm Monica D'Sousa

Tuesday 31 March • Tuesday of Holy Week

10.00am Shanta Vadhia

6.30pm James Wiegman (RIP)

Wednesday 1 April • Wednesday of Holy Week

10.00am Nicholas Hogarth (RIP)

6.30pm Br Bonaventure (96th Birthday)

The **Mass of the Lord's Supper** at 8.00pm on Maundy Thursday 2 April will be offered for Rob and Maisie.

The **Mass of the Resurrection** at the Easter Vigil at 8.00pm on Holy Saturday 4 April will be offered for the People of the Parish.

Music at the 12 noon Mass

Entrance: *Hosanna filio David* (plainsong)

Procession: (17) All glory, laud and honour

Offertory motet: *Pueri Hebraeorum* (T.L. da Victoria)

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

Communion hymn: (13) Ah, Holy Jesus,
how hast thou offended

Music at the 5.00pm Mass

Scan the QR code or visit
sacredheartwimbledon.org.uk/5pm



For the music accompanying the Easter Triduum liturgies, please consult our *Holy Week & Easter 2026* booklet, available in print copy at the back of the church and online at tinyurl.com/shwhweek26.

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

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 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.