

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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7 & 14 AUGUST 2022

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LET'S JOURNEY TOGETHER

You may recall in the parish newsletter of 10 July, I invited you all to have a look at 6 areas of parish life you may wish to get involved in:

1. Evangelisation, education, formation & outreach
2. Welfare, pastoral, safeguarding
3. Liturgy, spirituality
4. Welcome, fundraising, social events
5. Marketing, communications
6. Operations, HR, H & S, premises, finance, record keeping



A number of you responded to the invitation for which I thank you. You will be pleased to know there will be an informal meeting to which are all invited, on Wednesday 14 September at 7pm in the parish hall. For those who are unable to attend the meeting there will be a further opportunity to get involved the following Tuesday, 20 September by Zoom. Even if you didn't get round to replying to the initial invitation to become involved, do please come along or join us by Zoom.

Fr Steve

OUR VALUES - RESPECT, HONESTY, COURAGE, FORGIVENESS, GROWTH

MEDJURGORJE. JUST FAITH

No distractions. Nothing majestic to look at physically. No grand Basilica. No high mountains like the Pyrenees. Not much in the near vicinity either. A small town without any grand buildings, symmetrical gardens or tree-lined avenues. With a church that looks like any other Parish church, except for a large crescent shaped rear piazza for the multitude of the faithful. A place where nothing really matters except the only thing that does: **Faith**.

Faith is everywhere. Inside the church: Faith in Communion. Outside the church: Faith in Confessions. Faith prayed and contemplated during the challenging walks up a steep hill and down a rock-strewn mountain. Blue Cross place, Apparition Hill and Cross Mountain. **Faith reflected in the peacefulness of the place**. Faith even if the pilgrims do not fully believe the Visionaries. But, Faith renewed through the intercession of the Virgin Mary.

Medjugorje. A place for all Ages in all Seasons. Herzegovina Youth descend in their hundreds for the Franciscan Youth Day (8am – 8pm) on the last weekend of May. Youth descend in their thousands for the Youth Festival every August. Medjugorje encourages young people to spend time spiritually with one another in the presence of Gospa (Our Lady, in Croatian).

Do miracles occur in Medjugorje? There is no scientific explanation for the weeping **Crucifix of the Risen Christ**. Healing can also be brought about through silent contemplation, if not meditation. Cures to ailments that are obscured by the relentless demands of everyday life. But the absence of instant public cures does not deflate the immense faith of the faithful, as they wipe away a tear at the knee of the Crucifix using a small piece of clean linen, to give to someone in a distant place, for whatever reason.

Should you need a distraction, there is Dubrovnik, Mostar and the Adriatic coastline. Beautiful locations, not completely without faith. More importantly, Mostar still bears the scars of the 1990s civil war. Croat versus Bosnian versus Serb. Derelict hollow buildings, with just their outer walls remaining. Trees growing from the interior of those edifices and out through the hollow windows. To remind peaceful peoples of the horrors of war which we see in Ukraine today.

Cenacolo is not a distraction. Mother Alvira created an institution for wayward young men and women. **To offer them Hope**. They who had lost faith in just about everything. They who had run away from home and become prey to all kinds of abuse. The Cenacolo home near Blue Cross Hill offers them a way out. To rebuild their mental and spiritual lives. Enter it to hear their Testimonies. They know that they are looked down on daily by the comforting gaze of Our Lady.

And then there is Father Leon. Fortunate to have experienced a life-changing Apparition himself. Blessed, courageous and unselfish in giving up a secular life for the religious thereafter. As the current resident chaplain to the English speaking pilgrims, his talks are yet another source of inspiration to the faithful. Not just through his account of his spiritual journey but also reminding us of the **5 Stones of Medjugorje** (Prayer, Fasting, Mass, Bible and Confession); as well as his advocacy of the revelations of Maria Valtorta: The Poem of the Man-God: "*What is not yet, cannot Create*".

A pilgrimage to Medjugorje is a fount of inspiration. It is a pilgrimage that inspires Catholics to return to their parishes, workplaces and community and be proud of their faith. **To be an example to others**. A pilgrimage that also inspires each and every pilgrim to go further: To encourage the many who have been away from the church to return to their Faith, Church and Community. To where they belong.

Medjugorje. It's Great to be a Catholic.

Written by Miriam, Andrew and Mark Baker

COFFEE MORNING

Numbers are growing at our Tuesday coffee morning, straight after the 10.00 am Mass.

It is lovely to see you there.

We only have four more Tuesday mornings before Pre-School starts again and the Hall is no longer available to us, so please seize the opportunity to come along and meet up with old friends and have a chat with the priests.

PILGRIMAGES

Short pilgrimages to both Lourdes and to Fatima are being planned for October 2022.

Full details of both pilgrimages are in the porch. Please register your interest with Diane immediately on 0795 119 4036 or dianebrubrelu@gmail.com

CHURCH SHOP

We need our shop to open on a regular basis but it cannot unless individuals offer to help.

If you could offer your services, once a month, at a set time, or want to find out a little more about what you would need to do as a volunteer, please email: mdstarhouse@yahoo.co.uk.

LIGHT OF CHRIST CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Wednesday 10 August

7.45 pm - Praise & Worship

8.00 pm - Holy Mass

Celebrant TBC

Followed by Adoration Prayer & Praise

10.00 pm - Evening concludes

PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

Several parishioners have asked if they could be remembered daily in prayer.

Their names are on cards on the table by the side entrance to the church.

Please could you pick up one of these cards and include the person named in your daily prayers.

LOST SUNGLASSES

A rather distinctive pair of Ray Bans was recently left in the church. If they might be yours please call the Office and be prepared to describe them.



A JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA).

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS IS FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH OR FOR THOSE WHO ARE CONSIDERING BECOMING CATHOLIC.

WE ALSO WELCOME ADULTS WHO ARE ALREADY BAPTISED CATHOLICS AND WOULD LIKE TO BE CONFIRMED.

WE WILL BE STARTING THE NEXT COURSE IN SEPTEMBER AND WE WILL GIVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS IN THE COMING WEEKS. IN THE MEANTIME IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW MIGHT BE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT US AT

beckenhamrcia@rcaos.org.uk

Cathy and Mary.

MUSIC DURING MASS

Are you missing the music we normally have at church?

It is only when our singers and instrumentalists at the 9.30 am, 11.00 am and 5.30 pm Masses are taking a break that we realise how much they add to each service.

All three groups are in real need of re-enforcements.

If you are interested in joining any one of them please contact the Office and we will forward your name to the choir of your choice.

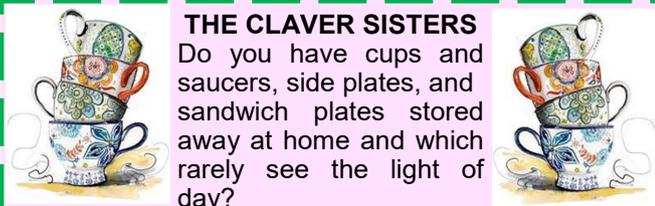
The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver would like to thank you, each and everyone, for your support and co-operation for the Afternoon tea which was held last Saturday in the convent garden. Thank you

The Afternoon Tea raised just over £2000 which will help fund a robust vehicle for a priest to cover his huge parish in northern Argentina.

ST BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR 2022

During September and October the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage in England, Scotland and Wales.

The relics will rest at the cathedral for a few days. We will have more information about the dates and viewing and we will make this available in good time, but in the meanwhile more information can be found at www.stbernadette.org.uk



THE CLAVER SISTERS
Do you have cups and saucers, side plates, and sandwich plates stored away at home and which rarely see the light of day?

Maybe they belonged to your parents or an aunt, and you cannot just hand them to a charity shop.

The Claver Sisters would be very happy to give your beautiful china a home, and to use it when they host their afternoon tea parties.

Please give them a call on 020 8313 3915 if you have anything that you think could be useful to them.

**LIVES
NOT
KNIVES**

George Agiru, one of our young parishioners is raising funds for a remarkable charity.

Lives Not Knives is an innovative, award winning, youth-led charity that works to prevent knife crime, serious youth violence and school exclusions by **engaging, educating and empowering** disadvantaged young people and supporting them to enjoy their lives and improve their future prospects.

George is training for a match in September where he will be boxing to raise funds for this charity. If you could help please take a look at his JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/georgeaspage>

Eamon Murphy, Prince Akoye, Jonalyn Hall and Fiona Ross have Missio boxes awaiting collection from the narthex.

They have been there for some time now. If you don't wish to continue to have one please would you bring it back to the Office and let us know so that we can remove your name from the records.



CHRIST IS ALIVE!

The All Nations Catholic Charismatic Group invites all parishioners to its Annual Retreat at St Chad's Church, South Norwood on Friday 26 August (12 noon - 8 pm) and Saturday 27 August (9 am - 8 pm). The programme will include talks by inspiring speakers, workshops, praise and worship, Adoration, Rosary, confessions, prayer sessions and Mass. This will be followed by a family picnic on Sunday 28 August (12 noon - 5 pm) at Streatham Common Park.

Adults £35, children aged 11-17 £5, and under 11s are free. Please register using the following link: <https://form.jotform.com/ANCCG/retreat-registration-form>.

Thank you.

This issue of the parish newsletter covers this week and next. The next issue coming out on the 21st August will be another double issue and thereafter we will be back to normal.



BECKENHAM ARTS TRAIL

St Edmund's is doing its bit for the community and over this weekend has a number of artists in different media exhibiting their work in the Hall. If you are passing do call in to see them. You will find other artists exhibiting their work in shops, cafes, pubs and offices throughout Beckenham.

OUR CHURCH HEATING

I am pleased to tell you that the contract to replace our heating system has been awarded to Estuary Technical Solutions who have also successfully carried out heating replacements at St James in Petts wood and The English Martyrs in Streatham. As you can imagine it's not a straight forward process replacing a broken 40-year-old system with a modern system and extensive work is required in the plant room and to the duct work, not only to replace the old heater, but also to ensure the new system is efficient, effective and compliant with new building and safety regulations. We have had the assistance of IPG consultants (recommended by the diocese) and following meetings with IPG and Estuary, an effective solution has now been agreed at a far more realistic cost than the original amount outlined by the consultants and noted in the newsletter of 13 March. It is still a huge amount to fund - £130,000. The majority of this expense will be met from our reserve funds although it is important that these reserves are not fully depleted to ensure we hold a contingency fund for any future major expenditure a church the age of St Edmunds inevitably faces.

Thank you to all those who have already donated £17,000 towards the heating replacement. More details will follow over the coming weeks about our fund-raising plans.

Thank you for your patience

Fr Steve

MASSES FOR WEEK COMMENCING 7 AUGUST

Sunday 7 August		Nineteenth Sunday	
6.00 pm vigil	Church	George Wallner RIP	
8.00 am	Church	Agnes D Olarita RIP	
9.30 am	Church	Tony Kendrick & Marthe Mauberger RIP	
9.30 am	Hall (Family Mass)	Carter David Payne RIP	
11.00 am	Church	Thanks to the Sacred Heart	
5.30 pm	Church	Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Fatima	
Monday 8 August		St Dominic	
10.00 am	Church	Denis Wymer RIP	
6.00 pm	Church	Enid Duggan RIP	
7.00 pm	25 VW	Adoration	
Tuesday 9 August		St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	
10.00 am	Church	Patrick Dowling RIP	
12.00 pm	Church	Requiem of John Harrigan	
6.00 pm	Church	Our Lady	
Wednesday 10 August		St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr	
10.00 am	Church	Hugh & Bridget Brady RIP	
6.00 pm	Church	Margaret Baker RIP	
Thursday 11 August		St Clare	
10.00 am	Church	Michael & Christine Parker 60th wedding anniversary	
6.00 pm	Church	Ints of David & Alexandra Banfield	
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration	
Friday 12 August		Feria St Jane de Chantal	
10.00 am	Church	Suha Wright RIP (anniv)	
12.00 pm	Church	Requiem of Margaret O'Connor	
6.00 pm	Church	Thanksgiving to St Jude	
Saturday 13 August		Feria	
10.00 am	Church	Leonard Pope RIP (2nd anniv)	
6.00 pm vigil	Church	Mary Lena & Esther Coleman	
Sunday 14 August		The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
8.00 am	Church	Nora & Bill Spillane RIP	
9.30 am	Church	Kayo Kufeji - special intentions	
9.30 am	Hall (Family Mass)	Monica Grima RIP	
11.00 am	Church	Mr Alain Lassartesse	
5.30 pm	Church	For the people	

MASSES FOR WEEK COMMENCING 14 AUGUST

Sunday 14 August		The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
8.00 am	Church	Nora & Bill Spillane RIP	
9.30 am	Church	Kayo Kufeji - special intentions	
9.30 am	Hall (Family Mass)	Monica Grima RIP	
11.00 am	Church	Mr Alain Lassartesse	
5.30 pm	Church	For the people	
Monday 15 August		Feria	
10.00 am	Church	Joseph Benson RIP	
6.00 pm	Church	Anne & Margaret - birthday intentions	
7.00 pm	25 VW	Adoration	
Tuesday 16 August		Feria	
10.00 am	Church	Ray & May Steptoo RIP	
2.15 pm	Church	Requiem for Laurie Frampton	
6.00 pm	Church	Barbara & Peter Oke RIP	
Wednesday 17 August		Feria	
10.00 am	Church	Josiane Cornwall RIP	
6.00 pm	Church	Cecil Barnes RIP	
Thursday 18 August		Feria	
10.00 am	Church	Gesuino Collu RIP & Annita Giorri RIP	
6.00 pm	Church	Welfare of Beatrice Allegretti	
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration	
Friday 19 August		Feria	
10.00 am	Church	Annetta Floris RIP	
		NO ADORATION OR BENEDICTION	
11.15	Church	Requiem for Joan Waller	
6.00 pm	Church	Agnes D Olarita RIP	
Saturday 20 August		St Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church	
10.00 am	Church	Intentions of Lila (Get well)	
6.00 pm vigil	Church	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP	
Sunday 21 August		Twentyfirst Sunday	
8.00 am	Church	Eily Culleton RIP	
9.30 am	Church	Cornelius Moynihan RIP	
9.30 am	Hall (Family Mass)	For the people	
11.00 am	Church	Michael Hanrahan & dec'd members of the Hanrahan family	
5.30 pm	Church	Mary Asapokhai - special intentions and birthday wishes	

We pray for those who have died recently: Mary Larkin, Joan Waller, Laurie Frampton and Antonio Ferrara.

We pray for those whose anniversaries are in the next two weeks: Eleanor Reed, Mary Moger, Karen Stapleton, George Reynolds, Bob Duckworth, Margaret Vesey, Alan Thompson, William Wood, Laurence Job, John Elmer, Howard Jones, Celia Dodd, Roy Brocklehurst, Dilys Toomey, Deacon Philip Gummett, Kathleen Lenzie, Patricia Holland, Bobby Goveron, Gwen Cooper, Jerry McGirr, Cyril Kidd, John Henderson, James Rhodes, Keith Jones, Fr Stephen Collins, Fr Denis Callan and Bob Ryan.

We pray for all members of our parish and beyond, and in particular those who are suffering from ill health.

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

CONTEMPLATIVE SATURDAY

In the Hall from 11-12 noon on every second Saturday, the next one on **13 August**.

MEDITATION

In the Hall on Mondays (except Bank Holidays) from 5.30 - 6.20 pm.