

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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22 January 2023

YR A

**Missionary Sisters of St. Peter
Claver**

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GIVING OUR TIME AND USING OUR TALENTS

I am truly grateful to those parishioners whose diligence in keeping our parish going often goes unnoticed. Without them we would be seriously struggling. I also want to express my appreciation to those who attended the six synodal meetings over November and December of last year and to Emma for chairing each meeting. The turnout was so very encouraging as were the numerous ideas and suggestions offered. Realising that we can't do everything at once, what I hope will happen throughout this year is that at the very least, some of the proposals will start to take shape and bear fruit.

Whether you managed to attend the synodal meetings or not, all of you have a part to play. I realise that young parents had children to look after and others couldn't attend due to age or health reasons. However, my hope is that as many of you as possible will live up to your name as a parishioner and immerse yourself in the life of this parish. Every one of you has a talent and a gift to offer for the benefit of others and for the glory of God. It may require courage but if you don't step out in faith you won't experience growth and others will not benefit from what you have to give. You have talents and you have time, even if it's little, so why not use it for the Church community, your parish?

The vision of the clergy team, with the help of Pauline D'Souza, in 2019 was 'Being formed in the likeness of Christ, we strive to become a truly Christ centred community through humble witness, love, compassion and communion'.

This is as relevant in 2023 as it was then. These are not just nice sounding words but words to be reflected upon and lived out in our daily lives. We are not just any community but one where Christ is at the centre, and if Christ is at the very heart of St Edmund's, then every parishioner should seek to be Christ-like.

To be like Jesus Christ is to pray and encour-

age others to pray, to bring healing into the lives of broken individuals, to be welcoming, hospitable and generous, to be compassionate and forgiving to all, to be the justice and peace-makers in all situations. This applies to all of us: the young; the old, the active; the house-bound, those who serve refreshments in the hall; choir members, catechists; deacons, brass cleaners, altar servers and priests! Whoever you are and whatever you do, may the love of Christ fall from your lips, shine from your eyes and reign in your hearts.

Fr Steve



On a more practical note, can I make an appeal? What is needed very soon, if not immediately, are volunteers. Not so long ago I remember making a couple of appeals from the pulpit for people to join the sacristy team but with minimal response. This experience has convinced me that the best method of recruitment is to approach people individually and from now on I will be doing just that. I hope this doesn't cause parishioners to dive down alleyways, take cover behind trees or raise their newspapers as they see me approaching. It doesn't have to be like that – an invitation should never be intimidating or coercive.

As I have said several times before, the more volunteers we have the less work there will be for each individual and the stronger the team becomes. It can also be very rewarding as you not only strike up friendships and acquire new skills but become more aware of how much work and versatility is required in running a parish. Please give some thought to how you will be able to help.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
A WOMEN-LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL
MOVEMENT**

Please join us for the World Day of Prayer for all churches in Beckenham, to be held at 11 am on Friday, 3rd March, at Beckenham Methodist Church, Bromley Road, BR3 5JE. A light lunch will be served afterwards.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated once a year in over 120 countries. This year's will begin in Samoa, build into a great wave of prayer in native languages as it rolls around the globe --- through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas – then finish in American Samoa 38 hours later.

The World Day of Prayer is a women-led global inter-church organisation. Each annual service has a special theme, and this year's readings and music have been written by the Christian women of Taiwan. The service includes letters of encouragement for women who face suffering and injustice, issues that affect women and girls in many other countries as well.

Please put the 3rd March date in your diary. Men and women from every church in Beckenham are welcome to come along to worship, then to enjoy meeting people from other churches at the lunch afterward.

For further information about the World Day of Prayer, please see the WDP website: wwdp.org.uk.

**MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE
24-31 MAY**

There are a few places still available on this pilgrimage. If you are interested please call Diane on 07951 194 036

Is there anyone who lives near Worsley Bridge Road and attends Sunday Mass at 5.30 pm, who would be able to give a lift to an elderly couple? If you could help on a regular or occasional basis please email the office.



There is a bag in the church porch for used postage stamps. These are being collected for Kidney Care UK who are the leading

kidney care support charity in the UK. Their website is at <http://kidneycareuk.org/>

The stamps collected at St Edmunds will be used to supply portable dialysis machines so that children can remain at home for their dialysis treatment.

DAY OF HEALING AND PRAYER

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Addiscombe
Saturday 28 January
10.00 am - 4.00 pm

The theme for the day is
'By His stripes we are healed'

The programme will start with the Eucharist, followed by the word of God, holy wounds novena, rosary, healing prayer, adoration, confession and praise and worship.

Come and encounter the Lord who forgives all our iniquities



**COMMISSION FOR PROMOTING
RACIAL AND CULTURAL
INCLUSION**

When our Episcopal Vicar for South East London, Canon Victor Darlington, visited St Edmund's in the autumn, he spoke about the work of the new *Commission for Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion*. The commission has published its first newsletter, copies of which are in the porch.

All candidates for confirmation this June will be receiving an email during this weekend giving the course dates so please check your inbox. It has taken some time to reach this point and we are grateful for your patience. Please direct any communications about the course to beckenhamconfirmation@rcaos.org.uk and not to the Parish Office.

RESPECT, HONESTY, COURAGE, FORGIVENESS, GROWTH

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Our SDC Bible group meets **virtually** every Friday at **7.30 pm** on **ZOOM**.

Once a month, meetings are held in person at the SDC House, Upper Norwood, and in other parishes but also streamed online for those who can't attend in person.

The main theme for this year's meetings is **'THE BIBLE TIMELINE'**.

Join us **EVERY FRIDAY** at **7.30 pm**.

Go to [pwa.zoom.us/wc](https://pwa.zoom.us/jc) and join the meeting using the following **ZOOM ID - 4454292726**

SDC is the *Societas Doctrinae Christianae*
For more information
email sdcm meetings@gmail.com or visit our
website at www.sdc.me.uk

CHRISTMAS CRIB

Don't forget to visit our crib which will remain until Candlemas on February 2nd.

All crib offerings will go to the Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund. Every penny donated to this fund is ring fenced to be used to provide direct support to Southwark families who are facing a crisis in their lives. The poster by the crib has a QR code on it, and there are Gift Aid envelopes on the reading slope. Cash donations can be placed in the wall box.

LAST FEW DAYS TO BOOK

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY PROJECT

26 January 7.00 pm

£27.50 per head, eat-all-you-can.

The Peking Diner will donate half of the ticket price to the CYM Project which is raising money to help young people get to this year's FLAME Youth Congress at Wembley.

Reserve your Chinese New Year seats now to welcome the Year of the Rabbit by using this link <https://forms.office.com/e/vziCZAnZVv> or scanning the QR code



A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope, and helps nourish and grow your marriage.

Thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided.

There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about **Retrouvaille** or to register for the next programme commencing with a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February, or a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July call or text 07887 296983 or 07973

380443 or email

retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com



RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY - SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY

At the Inaugural RJS Mass in 2022, Archbishop John Wilson stated strongly that there was no place for Racism in the Catholic Church, and encouraged all to *'broaden our hearts to love and minds to understand and to recognise that in the cultures of others, in the languages and traditions of others, there is something enormously enriching for the whole of the world.'*

This year on Racial Justice Sunday, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland encourage us to remember Stephen Lawrence. The 30th anniversary of the racist killing of the black teenager in Eltham will fall on 22nd April 2023. In life he aspired to be an architect, but his legacy has seen him become an architect for justice, equality, dignity and unity.

MASSES FOR WEEK BEGINNING 22 JANUARY YR A

Sunday 22 January	Third Sunday
6.00 pm Church VIGIL	Joe Stanton RIP
8.00 am Church	For the people
9.30 am Church	Elain Jeffreys & Family
9.30 am Hall	Ints of Liz
	FAMILY
11.00 am Church	Ints of Teresa Rossi
5.30 pm Church	John Boyle
Monday 23 January	Feria
10.00 am Church	The De Souza Family
6.00 pm Church	Dcn Bill Boyd RIP
Tuesday 24 January	St Francis de Sales
10.00 am Church	For young farmers
6.00 pm Church	All the Forgotten Holy Souls
Wednesday 25 January	The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle
10.00 am Church	Requiem for Joseph Fennessy
6.00 pm Church	Ronnie Savage (1st anniv)
8.00 pm Hall	Life of Christ Charismatic Mass
Thursday 26 January	Saints Timothy & Titus, Bishops
10.00 am Church	Dec'd members of the Huffe Family
6.00 pm Church	Ints of Margaret Lilley & Family
8.00 pm Claver	Adoration
Friday 27 January	Feria (St Angela Merici)
9.00 am St Mary's	
10.00 am Church	Janet Maureen Browne RIP (1st anniv)
6.00 pm Church	Margaret Baker RIP
Saturday 28 January	St Thomas Aquinas
10.00 am Church	Janet Maureen Browne RIP & dec'd family members
6.00 pm Church VIGIL	Gerard Baker RIP
Sunday 29 January	Fourth Sunday
8.00 am Church	In thanksgiving to Our Lady
9.30 am Church	Mick Westgarth RIP
9.30 am Hall	Pierre & Jeanne Champetier RIP
	FAMILY
11.00 am Church	Carmel Watt RIP
5.30 pm Church	Pauline Cope RIP

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am, and, after the 10.00 am Mass Monday to Saturday there is Adoration unless there is a Funeral.

*Friday Adoration concludes with Benediction.
Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 am - 11.00 am and from 5.00 pm - 5.55 pm.*

If there is a priest available confession will be heard after the weekday 10.00 am Mass.

DIARY

January

Wed 25 10.00 Requiem Mass for Joe Fennessy
Mon 30 10.00 am Requiem Mass for Glen Le Fleur

March

Fri 3 11.00 am World Day of Prayer

We pray for those who have died: Glen Le Fleur, Joe Fennessy, Mark Clapson, Fr Paul Teece, Dan Raynor, Dcn James Burleigh, Dcn Fred Carter, John O'Connell and Rosina Bannon.

We pray for those whose anniversaries are about this time: Walter Grubb, Juana Chacaltana, Joan Salmon, Mary Callaghan, Katrina Fleming, Jean Cullen, Kathleen Phelan, Mabel Graves, Raymond Willis, Monica Hyland, Anne Lymbery, May McMahan, Dr Eamon Fenton, Tom Gower, Cheryl McGoldrick, Gibson Janika Sikaleya, Frank Donagh, Alice Appiah-Gyan, Thomas Bromell, Caroline Pearson, Bill Boyd, Yvonne Harvey, Daniel Massey, Jason Du Haney, Thomas Bromell.

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

Lord, You invite all who are burdened to come to You.

Allow Your healing hand to heal me.
Touch my soul with Your compassion for others.
Touch my heart with Your courage and infinite love for all.

Touch my mind with Your wisdom, that my mouth may always proclaim Your praise. Teach me to reach out to You in my need, and help me to lead others to You by my example.

Most loving Heart of Jesus, bring me health in body and spirit that I may serve You with all my strength. Touch gently this life which You have created, now and forever.

Amen.

Meditation every Monday (except bank holidays) in the Hall from 5.30-6.20. Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence.

Next Contemplative Saturday is 25 February in the Hall from 11.00 am - 12.00.

Being formed in the likeness of Christ we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion.