

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Sunday 21 January 2024 YR B

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver  
020 8313 3915  
[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

Collection this Weekend  
Pax Christi

## ST PAUL'S LIFE & MINISTRY & THE DEMANDS OF OUR VOCATION

The saints occupy an important place in our journey of discipleship as the example of their lives provides us with inspiration to persevere in our Christian vocation. Each saint has something unique to teach us and as we reflect on their lives we come to a better understanding of the demands of our vocation. This is very true of St Paul whose conversion we celebrate this week. Paul was initially opposed to the gospel and persecuted Christians. But following his dramatic conversion Paul became God's instrument for the propagation of the same gospel he had tried to destroy.

What is clear from Paul's life and ministry is that God can use anyone or anything for his purpose. So long as we yield ourselves completely to him we are sure to be effective in his hands, regardless of what our past has been. What is required is that we be converted from our former ways and resolve to walk in the path of righteousness. Once Paul had been converted he applied all his zeal and resources to the propagation of the Christian gospel. As he says famously in reference to his complete abandonment to divine grace, "because of the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, I count everything else as loss. For him I have accepted the loss of all other things and look on them all as filth if only I can gain Christ and be given a place in him." (Phil.3:7-9)

Paul's statement tells us just how much he surrendered himself to Jesus once he had encountered him, so that it is not surprising that he was so effective as an evangelizer since it was Christ that was at work in him in the power of the Holy Spirit from start to finish. It cannot be over-emphasized that if we are to be effective witnesses of Christ in our times we too must encounter him and undergo a conversion experience that will lead us to yield ourselves completely to Christ. The more we surrender our lives to Christ, the more his grace becomes effective in us in bringing others to him. May St Paul obtain for us the grace to turn our lives completely to God and be an instrument of peace and unity in our family and the society at large in this Octave of Christian Unity and beyond!

Fr Damian

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

Please come to adoration after 10am Mass on Saturday 27 January to pray together. Please put the last Saturday of each month in your diary to join together in prayer.

Mavis

### BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE COURSE

As part of the preparation for the 2025 Jubilee year, the Southwark Marriage and Family Team will be running a Building a Better Marriage Course throughout the Archdiocese from February 2024. The one day course is for married couples (whether married one year or sixty). It seeks to help couples make their marriage better and to improve their communication skills. There is no group sharing and all information remains private to each couple. Previous attendees have found it enjoyable, informative and uplifting. For more information visit <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life>

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

**Sunday 9 June at the 5.30 pm Mass**

Registration for the 2024 St Edmund's Confirmation Course is now open to candidates in **Year 9** and above.

For more information, to sign up and to pay your subscription please use this ChurchSuite link <https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/n42ohqm>

**Applications close on 28 January.**

The course starts on 3 March 2024.

## 300 CLUB

Congratulations to our winners in the January Draw:

Shaumya Selvanathan - £100

Diane Alagar - £50

Niamh & Terry O'Regan - £25

Thank you to all of you for continuing to support St Edmund's by having a number or two or three in the monthly draw for the 300 Club. Thanks to your generosity the 300 Club have been able to make funds available to purchase new garden tables and chairs in readiness for the spring and will be updating the kitchen mugs and hall seating. If you would like to become a member of the 300 club or add an additional number in the monthly draw please pick up a form at the back of church or contact the parish office [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk)

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 21 Jan</b>	<b>Third Sunday</b>
6.00 pm VIGIL	Ivy Savage RIP
	<b>Farewell Mass for Fr Ashley</b>
9.30 am	Intentions of Maureen Pinkett
11.00 am	Veronica Lambert RIP
5.30 pm	Josie Golden RIP
<b>Monday 22 Jan</b>	<b>Feria (St Vincent)</b>
10.00 am	Noreen Dowling RIP & Katrina Fleming RIP
2.00 pm	Lady Chapel Quiet time of Reflection
<b>Tuesday 23 Jan</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Deceased members of the Maguire family
<b>Wed 24 Jan</b>	<b>St Francis de Sales, Bishop</b>
10.00 am	Clive Somers RIP
8.00 pm Hall	Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 25 Jan</b>	<b>Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle</b>
10.00 am	Joe Fennessy RIP
<b>Friday 26 Jan</b>	<b>Saints Timothy &amp; Titus</b>
9.00 am St Marys	School Mass (Reception)
10.00 am	Welfare of Leon Carberry
	Adoration & Benediction
12.00 noon	Funeral Service for Mel Deakin
<b>Saturday 27 Jan</b>	<b>Feria (St Angela Merici)</b>
10.00 am	Intentions of Bernie Walsh
6.00 pm	For the people
<b>Sunday 28 Jan</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday</b>
9.30 am	God's blessing & guidance for Rafal
11.00 am	Eithne Beecher RIP (1st anniv)
5.30 pm	Janet Maureen Brown RIP & deceased family members

*Confessions are on Saturday from 10.30 am - 11.00 am and from 5.00 pm - 5.55 pm.*

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

## THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

invites you to join us on Wednesday 24 January in the parish hall at:

7.45pm Praise and Worship

8.00pm Holy Mass - celebrant

Fr Damian Ilodigwe, St Edmunds

Followed by Adoration with intercessory prayer

10.00 pm Evening concludes

**We pray for those who have died:** Rita Costello, Melvin Deakin, Deacon Anthony Clarke, Teresa Edwards and baby Charlotte Flannery

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Eleanor Harrington, Patrick McNally, Monica Cronin, Michael O'Sullivan, John O'Sullivan, Nikolaos Klokanos, Walter Grubb, Juana Chacaltana, Joan Salmon, Mary Callaghan, Katrina Maria Fleming, Brigitte Savreux O'Driscoll, Sr Helen Carey FMA, Jean Cullen, Kathleen Phelan, Mabel Graves, Raymond Willis, David Norman, Monica Hyland, Anne Lymbery, May McMahon, Tom Gower, Cheryl McGoldrick, Gibson Janika Sikaleya, Frank Donagh, Alice Appiah-Gyan, Thomas Bromell, Bill Boyd, Caroline Pearson, Yvonne Harvey and Colm Byrne.

**We pray for all in our parish suffering from ill health, for their families and for those who care or them.**

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 14.01.24	
Plate Collection	1009.93
Contactless	199.00
Bank Standing Order	500.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1106.26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2815.19</b>

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

Next Contemplative Saturday is on 27 January in the hall from 11-12.

## DIARY

### January

Mon 22	Quiet time of reflection as part of Octave of Christian Unity - 2 - 4.00pm
Sat 27	Contemplative Saturday 11-12 in Hall
Fri 26	Funeral Service for Mel Deakin - noon
Sun 28	Racial Justice Sunday 10am at St Georges Cathedral & Amigo Hall

### September

Sat 28	Day for Catechists in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.
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## THANK YOU 5TH BECKENHAM SOUTH SCOUTS

A huge thank you to the Scouts for their generous donation of £1,000 following their very successful fireworks display held in Croydon Recreation Ground.

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