

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Ray Williamson - raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk

SUNDAY 17 MARCH 2024 Yr B

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver
020 8313 3915

sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

**Second collection and food
donations for Living Well**

In the late autumn I had to make the difficult decision to reduce the Masses celebrated at St Edmund's Church.

At that point I had just injured my leg and was told I would be unable to stand to celebrate Mass for several months. I was also finally given permission to announce that Fr Ashley had been asked to move to West Wickham to minister there and would leave us in two weeks. This announcement had been embargoed by the diocese until that date.

This left our church with one functioning priest, Fr John, who has celebrated many extra Masses over the last few months for which I thank him.

With only a fortnight before Fr Ashley left us I had no time to meet with parishioners to discuss plans, but had to implement changes immediately.

It was a heart breaking decision to cancel the 8.00 am Sunday Mass and also the 9.30 am Family Mass in the Hall which over just two years had built up a faithful and committed congregation of about 140 each week.

Even as the newsletter with the announcement of my decisions was being sent out to 1500 parishioners by email, I was offered Fr Damian's services for one month. This was later extended to three months. I am so grateful to him for all he has given us in his time here.

The wonderful news is that after Easter we will be back to full strength with a permanent third priest joining our team. (More about him in a few weeks.)

Knowing this I have decided that from Easter morning we will re-instate the 8.00 am Sunday Mass.

Thank you all for your understanding and your patience during this time. I look forward to seeing many of you at 8.00 am on Easter morning!

Fr Steve



This weekend we will be collecting your donations for Living Well. They particularly request:

UHT milk
Tinned vegetables/pulses/meat/
fruit/soup/tomatoes
Rice
Pasta
Biscuits
Cereal
Toilet roll
Shower gel and shampoo
Sanitary towels
Pet food (dogs and cats)
.....and maybe some Easter
treats?

We will also be having a second collection for them as they now need to buy in much of the food that they distribute.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The attendance at Stations of the Cross last Wednesday, after the 10.00 am Mass was so encouraging that Fr Steve has decided that we will walk the way again next Wednesday after morning Mass.



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Are you experiencing a bereavement?

St Edmunds is running a

Bereavement Support Group soon.

The group will be held in the Meeting Room of St Edmunds Hall (step free), on Thursday evenings, from 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm,

April 18 – May 23.

As a first step, if you are interested and would like to know more, please ring the office on 020 8650 0970 when you can learn more about the group.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEACON RAY

Deacon Ray Williamson has been studying for his MA in Catholic Social Teaching at St Mary's University. He was awarded a distinction and this Saturday he will be receiving his degree.

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

Next Sunday please will you gather in Croydon Recreation ground at 9.15 am to process into the church for the start of the Family Mass. There will be palms for all to carry and a hymn will be sung.

EASTER VIGIL REFRESHMENTS

There will be refreshments in the hall after the Saturday vigil and we would be most grateful if people coming could provide a plate of finger food for sharing. Food can be taken to the hall before the vigil starts.

ITEMS FOR COLLECTION

Please would you pick up these items from the parish office. Some have been waiting for collection for many months.

Baptism certificates for Nathan Hind, Ikeora Njamma, Darcey Dias, Chloe Mandryk, May Cosgrave, George Varughese.

Envelopes for Laura Denyer, Pauline Spillane, Diane Fleming.

On Saturday 23 March, the Vigil of Palm Sunday, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this country.

Through God's grace we have seen thousands of mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support.

www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

MISSIO BOXES

If you have a red box at home would you please bring it to the Office for its half yearly emptying.



The Light of Christ Catholic Charismatic Prayer Meeting invites you to join us in the parish hall on Wednesday 20 March at

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr David Gummett

(Our Lady of the Crays parish)

Followed by Informal Prayer meeting

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

St George's Cathedral hosts a Young Adult Mass on the first Sunday of every month at 6.00 pm, followed by a social gathering (for those aged 18+). There are also weekly events and socials on Thursday evenings. Details can be found on the [RCAOS website](#), Facebook, and Instagram @stgeorgesya.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

St Mark's, West Wickham

Friday March 22

This service is for all the parishes in the Bromley Deanery and this year is being hosted by Fr Ashley at St Mark's.

It will follow Stations of the Cross at 6.00 pm.

SOUTHWARK DIOCESE PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

On Sat 27 April Bishop Philip Moger will lead the pilgrimage during this 2024 Year of Prayer. A coach has been arranged from Upper Norwood parish to drive direct to the Shrine. We will have adoration and confessions at the Basilica from 11.00 am, Mass at noon, then packed lunch, and at 2.15 pm a procession to the ancient abbey grounds (dating to around 1061AD). For more details see the poster on the notice board and to book a place on the coach please telephone Fr James Clark 020 8670 2777 or email norwoodupper@rcaos.org.uk

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

We have received a letter from the society thanking us for the donation of £1227.88 which came from donations given after visiting our Christmas nativity scene, and the second collection taken on 14 January.

All the money raised goes to help local disadvantaged children and families.

PARKING ON THE PRESBYTERY FORECOURT

Parking on the forecourt is not permitted unless you have prior authorization from the clergy team or the parish office. The presbytery forecourt is reserved for clergy use, and for those who have meetings with them.

If there are bollards in place **PLEASE DO NOT MOVE THEM** to park your car. They are there for a reason.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY 10 – 19 September

This pilgrimage is being organised by Gill Tomei from St Columba's Parish, Selsdon, and operated by Special Pilgrimages 'Christian Tours' taking in Pisa, Florence/Assisi/Greccio/Castel Gandolfo & Rome. It will be led by Fr Roy Tablizo. If interested why not contact the organiser: Gill Tomei at email: g.tomei@btopenworld.com who will be able to answer any queries you may have.

KEEPING OUR CHURCH TIDY

When you visit a friend, do you leave behind soiled tissues or sweet wrappers?

Probably not.

Over the last few months we have noticed an increase in general rubbish left in the church and we urge you to treat God's house with more respect.

Please take away everything you bring in to the church, and also return anything you use such as hymn books or missalettes, to its place.

This will be particularly important over the Triduum when a small number of people work tirelessly to prepare the church for each service and then work so hard to restore it to order in time for the next service.

SAVE THE DATE

Desert Island Discs

13 April

Come and find out what 8 records Fr Steve would take on his desert island and enjoy a fish and chip supper.

The evening start time will be confirmed shortly.

PILGRIMAGES 2024

Diane Brelu is organising two pilgrimages this year. The first is to Lourdes from 8-12 April. Full board basis, £625 in shared twin, and £765 in a single.

The second will be to Santiago and Fatima from 8-14 June. Half board £850 in a shared twin, and £1000 single.

For booking forms and more information please contact Diane on 0795 119 4036. There are brochures in the narthex.

Calling all golfers - Deacon Sean's NEWT* Fundraising Open 2024

Date: 12 April - Farleigh Golf Course

Old Farleigh Road, Warlingham

Surrey CR6 9PE

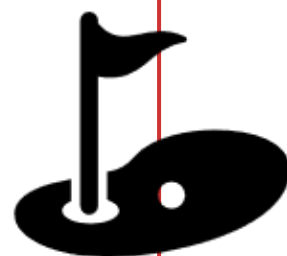
Including breakfast, good fun, lunch and great prizes

For more information (see poster in the porch) and contact:

Coragreen@hotmail.com or David.I.Lee@haringey.gov.uk

Mob: 07746 857074 after 7pm

*** <https://newt.org.uk> - Registered Charity No. 1148470**



MASSES

Sunday 17 March Fifth Sunday of Lent

6.00 pm Dominic Geoghegan RIP
VIGIL
 9.30 am Caragh, Mark and family
FAMILY MASS
 11.00 am Anne Reilly RIP (6th anniv)
LATIN
 5.30 pm Michael Hanrahan RIP
3RD SCRUTINY

Mon 18 March FERIA

10.00 am John O'Neill & Family

Tues 19 March St Joseph

10.00 am Nancy & Cormac Hargreaves RIP

Wed 20 March FERIA

10.00 am Rosina Porta RIP
 Followed by Stations of the Cross
 8.00 am **HALL** Life in the Spirit Mass

Thursday 21 Mar FERIA

10.00 am Welfare of Raphael Fleming
 8.00 pm **CLAUER** Adoration

Friday 22 March FERIA

10.00 am Margaret Larmer RIP
 Adoration & Benediction
 3.00 pm **CLAUER** Stations of the Cross
 6.00 pm Stations of the Cross

*Deanery Lenten Reconciliation Service at St Mark's,
 West Wickham, following Stations of the Cross
 at 6.00 pm*

Sat 23 March FERIA

10.00 am Carmel Cardiff RIP (2nd anniv)
 6.00 pm David Stephens RIP

Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday

9.30 am Commitment Mass for Confirmandi
FAMILY MASS For the intentions of the
 Confirmandi

***Please gather at the recreation ground near the
 Sainsbury's exit at 9.15 for the procession with
 palms into the church***

11.00 am Luzminda Eguia RIP
 5.30 pm Deacon Bill Boyd RIP (3rd anniv)

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

Those in need of prayer: Pet Kilcullen, Hedwig Harper, Keith Kench, Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Marie Rennie, Elizabeth, Rosanna Sookram, Anne Flynn, Ursula Dyer, Michael Stannard, Hans Halpin, Paul, Margaret Ziolek, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Fr Barry Hughes, Emma Carlile

We pray for those who have died: Jean Porter, Anna Mansfield, Barbara Cole, Donald Clarke, Margaret Knowles.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Finola Butler, Ann (Nancy) Simms, Margaret Durkin, Dick Laker, Nancy Hargreaves, Audrey Davidson, Ann Haines, Dolores Leahy, Annette Virdee, Brenda Mary White, Joan Harvey, Magda Wouters, Ellen White, Dr Daniel White, Dr Mervyn Shipsey, Kathleen Cosgrove, Silvia Amiri, Jeanette Micallef, Barbara Oke, Sydney John Perkins, Sadie Rance.

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

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 10.03.24	
Plate Collection	944.35
Contactless	286.00
Bank Standing Order	Not available
Church Suite Regular Giving	1168.51
TOTAL	1398.86

Monday Meditation will be in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm except for the first Monday of the month when it will be in the Lady Chapel.

Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence.

Contemplative Saturday on 23 March from 11-12 in the Hall.

DIARY

March

Fri 22 Deanery Lenten Reconciliation Service, at St Mark's, West Wickham, follows Stations of the Cross at 6.00
 Tues 26 Requiem Mass for Barbara Cole at noon

April

Thu 4 Requiem Mass for Margaret Knowles at 12.45
 Fri 5 Requiem for Jean Porter at 1.30
 Sat 13 Desert Island Discs with Fr Steve. In the Hall (time tbc)
 Mon 15 Requiem Mass of Anna Mansfield at 12.30

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