

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)  
Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk)  
**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)  
**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)  
**Fr Andrew Bishop** - [andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk)  
**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)  
**Deacon Ray Williamson** - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 21 APRIL 2024 Yr B

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

The second collection  
is for the  
Priest Training Fund

*"I ask each and all of you, that as part of the current of grace of Charismatic Renewal you organise seminars of **Life in the Spirit** in your parishes and seminaries, schools, and neighbourhoods, to share Baptism in the Spirit".*

**Pope Francis.**

St Edmunds is a hub for Life in the Spirit Seminars taking place throughout the Archdiocese in preparation for Pentecost.

Go deeper in your faith!

The Life in the Spirit Seminars begin this Wednesday in the Hall. There will be a parish Mass beforehand at 7.30 pm in the church for anyone to attend, whether or not you plan to join the seminars at 8.00pm.

If you have registered, this is helpful, and if not there are leaflets still available in the narthex, **but you can register in person on the night!**

The evening will begin with lively hymns followed by the keynote talk streamed from St George's Cathedral. This will be followed by group discussion on the talk and the evening will end with refreshments at 9.30 pm for those who can stay.

For more information - [bit.ly/LISS2024](https://bit.ly/LISS2024)

**Come and see. All welcome.**



The next Baptism Preparation session for parents wanting to have their first child baptised will be on Sunday 28 April in the Hall, at about 10.45 am, when the Family Mass has finished. Just turn up - no need to book.

## PRIEST TRAINING FUND

### Second collection

**Sunday 21 April**

By supporting this collection, you will directly help the formation of the men who have said "Yes!" to their calling to the Catholic Priesthood.

Please support our priests of the future with a gift today.

Thank you!

Donate Online

[www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF)

or Scan QR Code

Phone Mon-Fri 9 00 – 5 00 pm:

020 7960 2504

Cash/Cheque – please use the Priest Training Fund envelopes at the back of church.



## BIBLE IN A YEAR

Hello to those of you who are following Fr Mike Schmitz's inspiring Bible in a Year podcast. I am proposing to host an informal meeting (with coffee and cake), for us to meet together, to share our experience and encourage one another to keep pressing play! It doesn't matter if you are up to date, a bit behind (like me) or still thinking about starting!

Please email [anniepwilliamson@gmail.com](mailto:anniepwilliamson@gmail.com) (or leave a note with the parish office marked BIY Annie) if you would be interested in meeting so that I have an idea of numbers - we can do daytime or evening, so please indicate what would work for you. I can then decide when and where would be most suitable.

**Annie Williamson**

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

I would like to thank everyone for your warm welcome as I settle into the parish. I look forward to getting to know you better.

Fr Andrew



All red missio boxes are returned to the porch for collection when they have been emptied. Please collect yours from there.

**PAX CHRISTI** has sent a letter of thanks for the £727.60 sent to them after your donations on Peace Sunday.

Archbishop John warmly invites you to join him as he leads the Southwark Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, from 23 to 30 August.

Details of the pilgrimage can be found on the Archdiocesan website: [rcaos.org.uk](http://rcaos.org.uk).

### **A DAY IN CAMBRIDGE**

Wednesday 24 April

Join a London Interfaith group for an inter-religious tour around Cambridge. The day includes a tour of the Woolf Institute, tour of the Cambridge eco Mosque and evensong at King's College. To book your place please email [woodhouseopten@btinternet.com](mailto:woodhouseopten@btinternet.com)

### **GIFT AID ENVELOPES**

Unclaimed Gift Aid envelopes have been removed from the narthex and are now in the Office.

Please would you collect them from there or we can post them to you.

### **ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL**

Second Collection **28 April**

St George's Cathedral is entirely reliant upon the generosity of its parishioners, volunteers and the Archdiocese of Southwark to keep its doors open. It does not receive Vatican or government funding. Your support this weekend can enable the Cathedral to remain open daily to those seeking a place of peace, prayer and worship.

### **THANK YOU FROM DEACON SEAN**

Last weekend, our golf tournament in Warlingham and Desert Island Discs with Fr Stephen in our Hall raised close on £5,000 for my Ghana charity, the Nankesido Education and Welfare Trust

I would like to thank parishioners, their families and friends for helping us to raise this wonderful amount. As I never tire of saying, money goes a lot further in Ghana than it does here, so this sum will make a big difference to the lives of the children and young people of Nankesido and their families.

You can see more about what we have been able to achieve over the years by visiting our website – [newt.org.uk](http://newt.org.uk). We will be holding more fund-raising events in the coming months and we look forward to seeing you again then.

But I have a further request to make of you. While our big fund-raising events can bring in sizeable sums, our work in Ghana is continuous, and it would really help us to plan if we could persuade more of our supporters to make regular donations to us through standing orders. The price of a cup or two of coffee each month from enough people would provide a more regular source of income and would make a big difference to how we go about our work.

Details of how to donate are below or can be found on the website, where you can also see examples of how your donations can help.

Our bank details for one-off payments and standing order mandates are:

**BARCLAYS BANK PLC**

**SORT CODE: 20-05-57**

**ACCOUNT NUMBER: 73341607**

**ACCOUNT NAME: NANKESIDO**

**EDUCATION AND WELFARE TRUST**

Details about gift-aiding your contributions can also be found on the website or by emailing me at [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

### **LOST PROPERTY**

All items left in the church over the last few weeks are laid out on the reading slopes. Please claim what is yours. Anything left will be re-homed.

### ***A DAY WITH MARY***

St Joseph's Church, Bromley  
Saturday 27 April from 9.30 am

### **MARY MACNAMARA RIP**

Mrs MacNamara, who for many years was a parishioner at St Edmund's has recently died.

Her family has asked us to let parishioners who may remember her know that her funeral will be at:

St Joseph's Church, Bromley  
Thursday May 2 at 12.30 pm  
Hither Green Crematorium at 2.00 pm  
followed by a reception at  
Sundridge Park Golf Club.

### **A REMINDER ABOUT MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

In the our diocese couples wanting to marry in church must contact the parish priest six months ahead of their intended wedding date. This is to allow sufficient time for them to attend the Marriage Preparation Course but also to allow sufficient time for all necessary paperwork to be completed.

Our priests prefer to be given a year to complete the paperwork and suggest that couples do not set a date for their wedding until they have first spoken to a priest.

Once you have decided to get married please email the Parish Office with your names and addresses and a preliminary marriage application form will be sent to you plus an enrolment form for the Marriage Preparation Course.

**If you intend to get married at a church other than St Edmund's, or overseas, the clergy at St Edmund's is still responsible for all the paperwork.**

For parishioners born outside the UK we need to obtain documentation from their previous parishes. This can take some time.

There is also extra work to be completed for those who are having their ceremony abroad or for those who have had a previous marriage. So, in short, as soon as you decide to get married, please start the ball rolling by getting in touch with us.

### **PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY**

**22 September to 1 October**

Pilgrimage to Rome, Loreto, Assisi and San Giovanni Rotondo organised by Diane Brelu for Fr Mark's Our Lady of Assumption Parish.

Cost per person is £1350 sharing, single £1600, on half board basis and including flights.

For more information and booking forms please contact Diane on 07951 194 036. Brochures are available in the narthex .

### **THE BELOVED SON**

**Saturday 27 April**

St Paul's Church on Brackley Road is staging a new one man play written by Murray Watts inspired by the life of Henri Nouwen, the late Catholic priest, writer and educator.

There are flyers and a poster in the porch

### **BACH CHORAL MUSIC**

**Sunday 28 April**

The Bromley Adult Choir is presenting an evening of choral works by Bach in All Saints Church, Orpington.

See the poster in the porch for details.

### **PARISH GIVING - MASS STIPENDS**

If you request a Mass intention it is usual to give a donation (known as a Mass stipend). There is no fixed amount but a **minimum of £10 is suggested**. Cash for Mass stipends can be put in the Mass Intention envelopes which are in the porch, and then, either be put in the offertory collection or through the office door, or your donation can be made by going to the website and following the DONATE option.

Please do not put a note through the door asking for a Mass intention on a specific date without also including your name and phone number, so we can get in contact with you if needed.

### **SOUTHWARK ALTAR SERVERS RALLY**

The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Kent  
Monday 6 May

All altar servers are invited to this day  
which starts at 11.30 am

All Welcome ... to Worship ... to Witness  
... to Pray ... to Picnic ... to Play ...football  
with other servers and generally have fun.

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 21 April</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>
6.00 pm	Dr Michael Ekong RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>	
8.00 am	Ints of Alda Kelleher
9.30 am	Sylvia Maria De Souza RIP (b'day)
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	For the people
5.30 pm	Mike Howard & Edward Piatek RIP
<b>Mon 22 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Pet Kilcullen RIP
<b>Tues 23 April</b>	<b>St George</b>
10.00 am	Margaret Wymer RIP
<b>Wed 24 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Olimpia Cominetti RIP (6th anniv)
8.00 pm HALL	Life in the Spirit Mass For vocations
<b>Thurs 25 April</b>	<b>St Mark</b>
10.00 am	For the family of Charlotte Flannery
11.30 am	Funeral service for Linda Himsworth
8.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
<b>Friday 26 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
9.00 am ST MARY'S	Mass for Y4
10.00 am	The Claver Sisters Adoration & Benediction
<b>Sat 27 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Dr Mervyn & Dr Mary Shipsey RIP
6.00 pm	Dec'd members of the Halpin & Dougan families
<b>Sunday 28 April</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>
8.00 am	Jillian Heather Davis Rowlands RIP
9.30 am	Archie McCaughan RIP (1st anniv)
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	Dr Michael Ekong RIP
5.30 pm	For the people

*Confessions are on Saturday from  
10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 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 unless there is a funeral.*

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 14.04.24</b>	
Plate Collection	920.24
Contactless	301.44
Bank Standing Order	545.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1283.43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3050.11</b>

**We pray for those who have died:**  
Anthony Hale, Fr Barry Hughes, Linda Himsworth, Mary Fitzgerald, Pet Kilcullen, Dr Peter Rodrigues, Father David Standley, Mary MacNamara.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur this week:** Fr Tony Pyle, Eileen Ridgeway, Catherine Shipton, Theresa Cooper, Josie Wait, John Mattison, Edward Callaghan, Rose Dimeo, Anthony Kilcullen, Mary (Maureen) Dickson, John Ferreira, Margaret Cassar, Archibald Taylor, Monica Wells, Michael Howard.

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

Meditation in the Hall every Monday from  
5.30 - 6.20 pm except bank holidays. First  
Monday of the month in the Lady Chapel.

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

Contemplative Saturday on 4 May from  
11-12 in the Hall.

## DIARY

### April

Thur 25	Funeral Service for Linda Himsworth at 11.30
Tues 30	Requiem for Mary Fitzgerald at noon

### May

Thur 2	Requiem for Pet Kilcullen at 10.00
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### June

Sat 8	Afternoon Tea at the Claver Convent. 1.00 - 4.00 pm
Sat 29	International Day

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



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Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Andrew Bishop - [andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 14 APRIL 2024 Yr B

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver  
020 8313 3915

[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

Next weekend the second  
collection is for the  
Priests Training Fund

### WELCOME TO FR ANDREW BISHOP



I am looking forward to serving you in Beckenham as my first placement as a priest.

I was ordained just a few weeks ago on 23 February at the grand old age of 64, after studying at the Beda seminary in Rome for four years. Before that I was Pastoral Assistant in Dover, which has been my UK base while at seminary, and I have been for some time.

I am originally from Nuneaton in Warwickshire and was for many years (1981 to 2018) a secondary school teacher of French and Spanish, most recently in south east London and Dartford where I lived and was part of St Stephen's parish in Welling.

Please pray for me as I start this ministry.

Whilst we offer a warm welcome to Fr Andrew, we also have to say a fond farewell to Fr Damian who leaves us on Monday to start his new posting at St Bartholemew's Church in Norbury.

Fr Damian initially came to us for one month only but we were so pleased when his stay was extended and he was able to celebrate the Easter Triduum with us.

Fr Steve

### RCIA - NEW CATHOLICS

Please pray for Alda, Ruth, Philip, Jake, Tony and Glaucia, who were all received into the Catholic Church at Easter. Thank you to all those who supported them at the Easter Vigil and the celebration afterwards in the Church hall.

A really big thank you to those who provided and organised the food and drinks and worked late into the night to clear everything away. We all very much appreciate your kindness in helping to make this a very special occasion.

Fr Steve

*"I ask each and all of you, that as part of the current of grace of Charismatic Renewal you organise seminars of Life in the Spirit in your parishes and seminaries, schools, in neighbourhoods, to share Baptism in the Spirit".*

**Pope Francis.**

Pope Francis has called for Life in the Spirit Seminars in all parishes. Seminars are being run throughout the Archdiocese with the support and encouragement of Archbishop John Wilson and St Edmunds is the hub in this area.

Life in the Spirit Seminars at St Edmund's begin on Wednesday 24 April at 8.00 pm in the Hall. The seminars are preceded by Mass at 7.30 pm in the church to which all are invited.

For more information or to register please go to [bit.ly/LISS2024](https://bit.ly/LISS2024) or email

[norwoodsouthple@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:norwoodsouthple@rcaos.org.uk).

Pick up a printed flyer for more information or there are registration forms at the back of the church to complete and drop into the parish office in an envelope marked *Life in the Spirit*

There is still time to register for this group. Please call the Office and we will arrange for you to be contacted.

### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Are you experiencing a bereavement?

St Edmunds is running a  
Bereavement Support Group  
starting next week.

The group will be held in the Meeting Room of St Edmund's Hall (step free), on Thursday evenings, from 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm,  
April 18 – May 23.

If you are interested please ring the office on 020 8650 0970 and they will connect you with the group.

## Priest Training Fund Second Collection 21st April

\*\*\*\*Next weekend\*\*\*\*

The priesthood has always been essential to the life of the Church, from the time of Jesus until today. Good Shepherd Sunday is the day we pray for vocations, for our priests, and the day we take up the Priest Training Fund second collection.

This fund pays for the formation of men to become priests in our Archdiocese. After their ordination our priests dedicate their lives to serving Christ and His people in our parishes, hospitals, schools, chaplaincies, prisons and in service to the needy, throughout South London, Kent and Surrey.

We are blessed to have 5 men in formation to the Priesthood for our Archdiocese. However, it costs £30,000 a year to sponsor each seminarian. They study for 6 years before being ordained a Catholic priest.

We therefore rely on your generous support and prayers. Please support our priests of the future with a gift today.

Thank you!

- Donate Online  
[www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF)
- or Scan QR Code using your phone (right)
- Telephone weekdays  
9 am – 5 pm: 020 7960 2504
- Cash / Cheque – please use the Priest Training Fund envelopes at the back of church.



The next Baptism Preparation session for parents wanting to have their first child baptised will be on Sunday 28 April in the Hall, at about 10.45 am, when the Family Mass has finished. Just turn up - no need to book.

### BAPTISMS DURING MARCH

Zavier Maurice Edwin Evans Bright  
Hallie Auria Moor-Peddle  
Rory Sebastian McNamara White  
Leticia Gornati

Please keep these four young children in your prayers.



**The Light of Christ Catholic Charismatic Prayer Meeting** invites you to join them in the Hall on Wednesday 17 April at

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Regis Rubaya  
(Sydenham)

Followed by Informal Prayer meeting

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

### HALL CUPBOARD

The contents of the wooden cupboard in the Hall kitchen are for the shared use of any of the church groups using the Hall so that no one group needs to keep their own refreshments supplies.

The cupboard is currently being used as a dumping ground for items left behind, not wanted or half used.

Groups have until the end of April to remove items that shouldn't be in there, after which we will dispose of anything that remains, in order that we can clean and reorganise the cupboard so it can be safely used by all our groups.

John Woodhouse, a parishioner of St Edmund's, and also the leader of the Westminster Interfaith Group, is running an interesting and different day out to which all are invited.

**A Day in Cambridge: An Interreligious Tour** is on Wednesday 24 April.

It begins with a tour of the Woolf Institute, an organisation at the forefront of Christian, Jewish and Muslim dialogue. From there you will go to the Cambridge Central Mosque (the *Eco-Mosque*). The mosque has been inspired by Islamic and English religious architectural traditions and is underpinned by sustainable, ecological values. The day will finish with Evensong at King's College Chapel.

There is no charge for the day, but you are asked to make your own travel arrangements.

Confirmation of attendance should be sent to John Woodhouse at

**[woodhousesopten@btinternet.com](mailto:woodhousesopten@btinternet.com)**

### THE JOSEPH EVENT

Held after the Family Mass last Sunday, *The Joseph Event* had a great turnout and an amazing buzz! Thank you all for joining in so enthusiastically.

The raffle results are below and the prizes can be collected after Family Mass this Sunday.

Alasdair (AJ) Oakley won the olive wood tortoise.

Eddie Mitchell won a copy of each of Tammy Fernando's books.

Liam Fernandes won the painting of The Resurrection.

The next book title will be revealed after Tammy's visit to a neighbouring parish in May.

Please see Tammy next Sunday in the Hall after the Family Mass.

### MASS INTENTIONS

We have many parishioners who regularly remember their friends and family at our Masses but there are many parishioners who may never have requested a Mass intention and are unsure of how to go about it.

It is very straightforward. The Office needs to know the name of the person you wish to be prayed for - just their name will do - or you can give a brief reason why prayers are being requested. You can request a week-day Mass or a Sunday Mass, but it helps if you are not date and time specific, unless the date is important (anniversary or birthday) in which case it is necessary to contact the Office well in advance.

A Mass offering (stipend) is always offered when a Mass is requested. The diocese suggest a minimum of £10.00.

Requests can be made to the Office, by email, or by a note through the letter box, and payment can be made by ChurchSuite or cheque or cash.

We will take requests at the door but prefer to receive them in writing, particularly if you are submitting a list of requests.

### PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

**22 September to 1 October**

Pilgrimage to Rome, Loreto, Assisi and San Giovanni Rotondo organised by Diane Brelu for Fr Mark's Our Lady of Assumption Parish.

Cost per person is £1350 sharing, single £1600, on half board basis and including flights.

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**Sunday 28 April**

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### BIBLE IN A YEAR

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**Annie Williamson**

### ANNA MANSFIELD RIP

Please remember the funeral of Anna Mansfield this Monday at 12.30. Anna was a parishioner well known to many, and her family would be delighted to welcome you to her funeral.

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 14 April</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>
6.00 pm	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>	
8.00 am	Safe delivery of Imani Rogers
9.30 am	Monica Grima RIP
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	Peter Calderwood RIP
5.30 pm	For the people
<b>Mon 15 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Vincenzo Colonnese RIP
12.30 pm	Requiem for Anna Mansfield
<b>Tues 16 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Delisa Panetta RIP
12.00 pm	Requiem for Vincenzina Grillo
<b>Wed 17 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	William Brady RIP
8.00 pm HALL	Life in the Spirit Mass
<b>Thurs 18 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Benjamin Stanislaus Dunn RIP & dec'd family members
8.00 pm CLAUVER	Adoration
<b>Friday 19 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
9.00 am ST MARY'S	Beginning of Term Mass
10.00 am	Don O'Reilly RIP
	Adoration & Benediction
<b>Sat 20 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	In thanksgiving to St Clare
6.00 pm	Dr Michael Ekong RIP
<b>Sunday 21 April</b>	<b>Feria</b>
8.00 am	Ints of Alda Kelleher
9.30 am	Sylvia Maria De Souza RIP (b'day)
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	For the people
5.30 pm	Mike Howard & Edward Piatek RIP

*Confessions are on Saturday from  
10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 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 unless there is a funeral.*

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 07.04.24	
Plate Collection	905.25
Contactless	252.76
Bank Standing Order	2168.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1990.16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5316.17</b>

**We pray for those who have died:** Anna Mansfield, Vincenzina Grillo, Anthony Hale, Fr Barry Hughes, Linda Himsworth, Mary Fitzgerald, Pet Kilcullen, Dr Peter Rodrigues, Father David Standley.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur this week:** David Gardner, Mike Eilers, Fr Michael Hayes, Ann Elmer, Vincenzo Colonnese, Sheila Wilson, Margaret Baker, Clifford Hart, Msgr Michael Smith, Fr Tom Laundry, Stephen McConnell, Martin Lynch, Kevin Twomey, Patricia Paa, Don O'Reilly.

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

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 4 May from 11-12 in the Hall.

## DIARY

### April

Mon 15	Requiem Mass of Anna Mansfield at 12.30
Tues 16	Requiem for Vincenzina Grillo at 12.00 noon
Thur 25	Funeral Service for Linda Himsworth at 11.30
Tues 30	Requiem for Mary Fitzgerald at noon

### May

Thur 2	Requiem for Pet Kilcullen at 10.00
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### June

Sat 29	International Day
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**Being formed in the likeness of Christ we strive to become a truly Christ centred community, through humble witness, love, compassion and communion**



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP

Email [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk)Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Phone: 020 8650 0970

**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr Damian Ilodigwe** - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 020 3490 5693 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Ray Williamson** - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)**EASTER SUNDAY 2024 YR B****Missionary Sisters of****St. Peter Claver****020 8313 3915**[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)*Christ is Risen!  
Alleluia, Alleluia!***EXULT**

"O truly blessed night, when things of heaven are wed to those of earth, and divine to the human."

So says the Easter Proclamation, or Exsultet, which is chanted at the beginning of the Easter Vigil, in the darkened church. I have spent a lot of time with this magnificent prayer in recent weeks and I have found its riches to be truly inexhaustible. No other prayer tells the entire salvation history of the Church whilst expressing how the New and Old Testament form one seamless whole. At the heart of Easter, the greatest celebration in the Christian calendar, is the mystery of this union of heaven and earth. Easter is truly a marriage, Christ is joined to his Church and we, the people, are cleaved to God. Cleave has two contradictory meanings, to join and to separate. The sin of Adam separated us from God; but the sacrifice of Christ joins us to God, divine and human are brought together as they were in the body of Christ. Throughout the Passion we see glimpses of Christ's human frailty, as the burden of His impending suffering seems too great to bear. And yet, He endures so as to win our salvation. Christ is fully human and fully God and in this marriage of His two natures heaven and earth are brought together.

In the Easter Vigil this marriage is most powerfully symbolised by the reception of new Catholics into our community. The 'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults' (RCIA) reaches a climax at Easter, as around the world those who have heard and responded to God's call embrace their new life in Christ. In Beckenham we welcome our 3 catechumens and 3 candidates as they embrace the divine in their lives on this truly blessed night. It is a moment for us all to reflect on the incredible gift with which we have been blessed, the divine spark within each of us is rekindled by the light of Christ.

If Easter represents the marriage between Christ and His church what does that mean for each of us? Marriage is built on the found-

ations of commitment, fidelity, honesty and communication. Our relationship with Christ calls us to to commit to him exclusively and wholeheartedly, to be honest, especially when addressing our failings, and to speak and listen to Him, through prayer. So, this Easter let us seize the opportunity to strengthen our commitment to Christ, to build a loving relationship with Him, so that we can renew the face of the earth.

With Easter Blessings,  
Deacon Ray

Risen Jesus, who on the first Easter Day stood among your disciples and said, "Peace be with you", be present with us in your risen power. Fill us with hope and joy and pour your Spirit into our hearts that we may proclaim your Easter Gospel today and always for we are your Easter People and Alleluia is our song!

[From Generous Love by Arthur Howells]

On behalf of Fr John, Fr Damian, Deacon Sean, Deacon Ray and myself, I would like to wish you all a wonderful Easter. Thank you to all the people who have worked tirelessly to prepare for the Triduum.

God bless, Fr Steve

**COLLECTIONS AT SERVICES****Maundy Thursday**

The collection will be for Mary's Meals. (See next page of the newsletter.)

**Good Friday**

At the Pope's request the collection is for the upkeep of the Holy Places in Palestine

**Easter Masses**

Offerings made at the Easter Vigil and all the Masses of Easter Sunday are your personal gifts to our priests.

Donations can be made can be made using the contactless machine, through Church Suite using this link <https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>, in the basket or by bank transfer:

Account Name: RCAS Beckenham

Sort Code: 60 02 12 Account Number: 14282887



## MAUNDY THURSDAY COLLECTION

### Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals serves nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries. The promise of a good meal attracts these hungry children into the classroom, giving them the energy to learn and hope for a better future.

By providing a daily meal at school, Mary's Meals creates a fundamental change in the lives of children who don't have enough to eat and provides hope for today and tomorrow. This hope feels even more important when these children are growing up in war zones and places of conflict, as many in these programme countries are.

Mary's Meals can provide a meal for just 10p (thanks to the work of many thousands of volunteer cooks and their experience in sourcing locally procured food in bulk), meaning that a child can be fed for a whole school year for £19.15.

Fr Steve has asked that Mary's Meals is our charity for Maundy Thursday.

## MY DAY BY DAY FOR EASTER

Once again we have copies of these little booklets to help you navigate your way through the days after Easter. There are versions for infants, juniors and adults. A donation of at least £1 is requested which can be placed in the wall box in the porch marked papers

A happy Easter from Rosemary and Barbara in the Parish Office, Von in the Presbytery and Johnny who is everywhere else.

The Office will be closed on Easter Monday but will also be shut on Tuesday.

**This newsletter is a double issue covering two weekends.**

Please collect your Gift Aid envelopes from the porch

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

Did you know you can donate to the second collection by card at the back of the church?

We recently installed a second card donation device at the back of the church just for second collections, so you don't have to remember to bring cash with you.

We are aware that the devices sometimes freeze - the software has been updated recently, which should improve things, but you can also try lifting the lid and pressing the small power button on the right side of the device to reset them.

## LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

There will be **no meeting** this Wednesday 3 April.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday 10 April

7.40 pm Praise and Worship  
8.00 pm Mass  
9.00 pm Adoration  
9.30 pm Meeting concludes with refreshments

All Welcome. Further details from Tom on 07982 999 319

## DESERT ISLAND DISCS

Saturday 13 April at 7.00 pm.  
in the Church Hall.

Please come and support Deacon Sean's charity NEWT and enjoy a fish and chip supper as we dive into Fr Steve's favourite music.

Reserve your tickets - £20 per head, now, to be paid for on the night, by emailing [ticcy.colling@gmail.com](mailto:ticcy.colling@gmail.com)

Any tickets left will be on sale after all Masses on Saturday/Sunday 6/7 April

**Please buy your tickets in advance.**  
There will be a bar and a raffle

Just a reminder that the clocks go forward one hour on Saturday night.

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

### JOHN POTTER RIP

Celebration of Life – Saturday 6 April  
St Peter & St Paul's Church, Bromley

Tea and biscuits at 12.30

Service at 1.30 pm

Reception at 3.00 pm at the Scout Hut  
(Bishop Challoner School)

The following link gives further details and  
how to RSVP

<https://thefifth.org.uk/john-potter/>

### A TRIP TO READING MUSEUM

**Tuesday 23 April**

I plan to take a group to Reading Museum to see a copy of the British Bayeux Tapestry which was made by groups of women from nearby towns in the late nineteenth century.

We will meet at 9.30 am at Beckenham Junction for the 9.40 train. Underground to Paddington then the Elizabeth Line (1 hour journey) to Reading. If you have a Freedom Pass travel is free there and back.

The museum is a 5 minute walk from the station. Entry is free but donations are welcomed. Picnic or cafe lunch. We have a free hour after our timed visit; there are some interesting abbey ruins to see or you can take a stroll along the river.

Group visits have to be booked so please text 07904 812 350 or email

[alagar@pobroadband.co.uk](mailto:alagar@pobroadband.co.uk)

by Friday 12 April if you want to join me.

Mavis Alagar

### THE JOSEPH EVENT

7 April in the Hall after Family Mass

Tammy Ferrando, a parishioner at St Edmund's, is the author of religious books for young children.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> she is asking you to vote for the title of her third book which is about little Chris desperately wanting to be Joseph in the school nativity.

The Joseph Event is for everyone but mainly for people who buy books for the 3-7 year age group. There will be treats for those who cast their vote but there will be something special for everyone who comes across.

Tammy's first book, A Prayer from the Heart is on sale in the Repository and her second, Lost Until the Light Comes, is just about to be published.

### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

Pope Frances has called for Life in the Spirit seminars to be held in all parishes. Seminars are being run throughout the archdiocese with the support and encouragement of Archbishop John Wilson.

St Edmunds will be a hub for the seminars.

The seminars will be running in St Edmund's Hall as follows:

Wednesdays at 8 00 pm on 24 April, and 1, 8, 22 and 29 May.

All these seminars will be preceded by Mass in the church at 7.30 pm.

There will be a retreat day at St George's Cathedral on Saturday 18 May.

For more information or to register, go to [bit.ly/LISS2024](https://bit.ly/LISS2024) or email

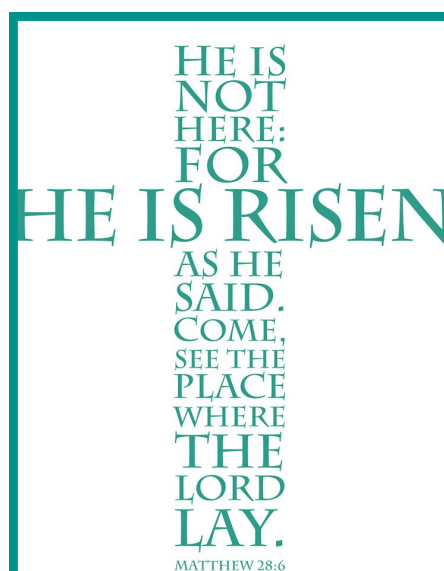
[norwoodsouth.org.uk](mailto:norwoodsouth.org.uk)

Flyers will be available at the back of the church after Easter.

*I ask each and all of you that as part of the current of grace of Charismatic Renewal you organise seminars of Life in the Spirit in your parishes and seminaries, schools, in neighbourhoods, to share Baptism in the Spirit*

*Pope Francis.*

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 23.03.24	
Plate Collection	1365.51
Contactless	248.30
Bank Standing Order	614.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1266.63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3494.44</b>



## **MASSES FOR WEEK BEGINNING 31 March Year B**

### **Saturday 30 March**

7.45 pm Church

### **Easter Vigil in the Holy Night**

Colin Dowling RIP  
Pietro Perdoni RIP  
Dr Michael Ekong RIP

### **Sunday 31 March**

8.00 am Church

### **Easter Sunday**

Dec'd Brothers of Beckenham  
Catenians  
Lucas Ubaldina Sylvia & Amon de Souza.  
James Dougan RIP (12th anniv)  
Phil Wheat RIP

### **FAMILY**

11.00 am Church  
5.30 pm Church

### **Monday 1 April**

10.00 am Church

### **Feria**

Marie Cronin RIP

### **Tuesday 2 April**

10.00 pm Church

### **Feria**

In thanksgiving-Charlotte,  
Michael & Jacqueline Ekong

### **Wednesday 3 April**

10.00 am Church

### **Feria**

John Potter RIP  
No Life in the Spirit Mass

### **Thursday 4 April**

10.00 am Church  
12.45 pm Church  
8.00 pm Claver

### **Feria**

Renate Betson RIP  
Requiem of Margaret Knowles  
Adoration

### **Friday 5 April**

10.00 am Church  
1.30 pm Church

### **Feria**

Fiadh O'Connor RIP (1st anniv)  
Adoration & Benediction  
Requiem of Jean Porter

### **Saturday 6 April**

10.00 am Church  
6.00 pm Church

### **Feria**

In thanksgiving to St Martha  
For the people

### **VIGIL**

### **Sunday 7 April**

8.00 am Church  
9.30 am Church  
**FAMILY**

### **Second Sunday of Easter**

Michael Keane RIP  
Keith Guinane RIP  
Patricia Hanrahan RIP  
Doreen Cameron RIP

### **FAMILY**

11.00 am Church  
5.30 pm Church

### **Monday 8 April**

10.00 am Church

### **The Annunciation of the Lord**

Dec'd members of the O'Flynn  
Family

### **Tuesday 9 April**

10.00 pm Church

### **Feria**

Intentions of the Geoghegan &  
Flannery Families

### **Wednesday 10 April**

10.00 am Church  
11.30 am Church  
8.00 pm Hall

### **Feria**

Patricia Griffin RIP (101 b'day)  
**NO ADORATION**  
Requiem of Donald Clarke  
Life in the Spirit Mass

### **Thursday 11 April**

10.00 am Church  
8.00 pm Claver

### **St Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr**

Amancia Senio Eguia RIP  
Adoration

### **Friday 12 April**

10.00 am Church

### **Feria**

Ann Elmer RIP

### **Saturday 13 April**

10.00 am Church  
6.00 pm Church  
**VIGIL**

### **Feria**

Ints of Loretta  
Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP

### **Sunday 14 April**

8.00 am Church  
9.30 am Church  
**FAMILY**  
11.00 am Church  
5.30 pm Church

### **Third Sunday of Easter**

Safe delivery of Imani Rogers  
Monica Grima RIP  
Peter Calderwood RIP  
For the people

*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, confessions will be heard after the weekday 10.00 am Mass.*

### **We remember in our prayers the sick, the house-bound and their carers.**

In particular, we pray for: 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, Catherine Sanders.

**We pray for those who have died:** Jean Porter, Anna Mansfield, Donald Clarke, Margaret Knowles, Angela Bowers, Linda Himsworth, Dr George Oriokot, Pamela Venkatasami, Ivor Nazareth, Michael Keane, Pablo Rodriguez & Anthony Hale.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Marise Daniel Howells, Hugh Beck, Dcn Ray Zacaroli, Daphne Rowe, Jose Urbano Blanchet, Sandra Naughton, Johanna Walsh, Mario de Pascalis, Kathleen Scanlon, Mary J Edet, Peter Abbott, Jane Keappock, Gian Bianca Inzani, Constantino Basconcillo, Anne Barber, Jay Leader, Martin Calver, Patrick Keegan, Viktor Ugincius, Kate Mashall, Patrick Hunt, Monica Richardson, Basil Howells, John Edet, Terence Arnaud, Rainer Stuper, Harry Bradford, Sarah Chaplin, Zoran Jovic, Brian Glynn, Patrick Keegan, Martha Brown, Ellen McGrath.

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

Regrettably, Monday Meditation will be cancelled until 8 April.

Contemplative Saturday on 23 March will also now not take place.

## **DIARY**

### **April**

Thu 4 Requiem Mass for Margaret Knowles at 12.45  
Fri 5 Requiem for Jean Porter at 1.30  
Mon 8 Law Surgery in Hall Meeting Room  
Wed 10 Requiem for Donald Clarke 11.30  
Sat 13 Desert Island Discs with Fr Steve. In the Hall at 7.00  
Mon 15 Requiem Mass of Anna Mansfield at 12.30

### **December**

Saturday 7 Parish Christmas Fair



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 24 MARCH 2024 Yr B

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

Second collection for our  
local SVP



### PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION 9.30 am

This Sunday please gather in Croydon Rd Recreation ground, Sainsbury's exit, 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 hymn sheets.

### A WARM WELCOME TO MAC

Hi, my name is Mac and I'm a second year seminarian studying at Allen Hall. I'm originally from London but spent most of my teenage years on the Isle of Wight before moving back to London for university. I was an actor before joining seminary. I've had many great experiences since starting formation, especially in my first year of studies in Spain at The English College in Valladolid. I'm looking forward to spending Holy Week with you all.



Please come and join us for  
a special  
Stations of the Cross for  
children at  
9.30 am on Good Friday

### ALTAR SERVERS REHEARSALS FOR THE TRIDUUM

We warmly welcome any altar servers to come and assist at the Masses of the Easter Triduum.

Rehearsals will take place in the church at the following times:

Thursday 28 March at 3.00 pm for the Maundy Thursday Vigil

Thursday 28 March at 3.30 pm for the Good Friday service

Saturday 30 March at 1:30 pm for the Holy Saturday Easter Vigil.

### 9.30 FAMILY MASS ON EASTER SUNDAY

Everyone attending 9.30 Mass on Easter Sunday is invited to bring a flower to add to our cross. Your flower should have a very short stem.

The cross will be at the back of the church when you arrive for Mass, and you can add your flower then.

In this way we will be contributing to the creation of a representation of new life.

### GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR 2024/25

The new envelopes are on the reading slope in the narthex. Please collect yours today.

### **Desert Island Discs**

Saturday 13 April at 7.00 pm.  
in the Church Hall.

Please come and support Deacon Sean's charity NEWT and enjoy a fish and chip supper as we dive into Fr Steve's favourite music.

Reserve your tickets £20 per head, now, to be paid for on the night, by emailing [ticcy.colling@gmail.com](mailto:ticcy.colling@gmail.com)

Any tickets left will be on sale after all Masses on Saturday/Sunday 6/7 April

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

**The Light of Christ Catholic Charismatic Prayer Meeting** invites you to join us in the parish hall on Wednesday 27 March at

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr John Olaniran

Followed by Adoration

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

### **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.

### **MISSIO BOXES**



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

It will be returned to the narthex for you to collect.

### **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](mailto:norwoodupper@rcaos.org.uk)





The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London, is holding a **Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday Retreat** at Aylesford Priory on Saturday 6th April from 10 am to 4:30 pm. The retreat will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome.

Call Millie on 0795 759 4646 for more information.

**The Beckenham Wellbeing Café** aims to connect Beckenham residents to each other and to the local health services by sharing more about what their services do to support the community. It's run by the Beckenham Primary Care Network (PCN) with the support of Bromley Healthcare.

There will be guest speakers from a variety of local healthcare providers and voluntary sectors, who will discuss their services in detail.

There will also be an opportunity for patients to check in with one of our healthcare professionals and ensure all your personal information is up to date, including your blood pressure - finishing off the session with a low impact exercise class!

Location: St Johns Church,  
251 Eden Park Avenue, Beckenham, BR3 3JN  
**Last Tuesday of each month**  
Time: 13:00 pm-15:00 pm

### THE JOSEPH EVENT

7 April in the Hall after Family Mass

Tammy Ferrando, a parishioner at St Edmund's, is the author of religious books for young children.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> she is asking you to vote for the title of her third book which is about little Chris desperately wanting to be Joseph in the school nativity.

The Joseph Event is for everyone but mainly for people who buy books for the 3-7 year age group. There will be treats for those who cast their vote but there will be something special for everyone who comes across.

Tammy's first book, A Prayer from the Heart is on sale in the Repository and her second, Lost Until the Light Comes, is just about to be published.

### PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

10 – 19 September

This pilgrimage is being organised by Gill Tomei from St Columba's Parish, Selsdon, and is operated by Special Pilgrimages 'Christian Tours' taking in Pisa, Florence/ Assisi/Greccio/Castel Gandolfo & Rome. It will be led by Fr Roy Tablizo.

For further information please contact the organiser Gill Tomei at

[g.tomei@btinternet.com](mailto:g.tomei@btinternet.com)

She will be able to answer any queries.

### 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.

### ST MARK'S PARISH GOLF SOCIETY

St Mark's has a golf society which has been running for over 25 years. If you are a golfer, with a handicap, you would be more than welcome to join us. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1 May, at Nizels Golf & Country Club.

If you are interested, please email the Secretary Anne Bant at [annealicebrant@gmail.com](mailto:annealicebrant@gmail.com) for an Entry Form, which gives full details of the day.

### 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](mailto:Coragreen@hotmail.com) or  
[David1.Lee@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:David1.Lee@haringey.gov.uk)

**Mob: 07746 857074 after 7pm**

<https://newt.org.uk>

**Registered Charity No. 1148470**

## MASSES

### Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday

6.00 pm David Stephens RIP

#### VIGIL

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 Dcn Bill Boyd RIP (3rd anniv)

### Mon 25 March Monday of Holy Week

10.00 am Pat Parfitt RIP (2nd anniv)

### Tues 26 March Tuesday of Holy Week

9.00 am **ST MARY'S** End of Term Mass

10.00 am Joanne Jones RIP

#### No Adoration

11.15 am Reception of body of Barbara Cole

12.00 pm Requiem of Barbara Cole

### Wed 27 March Wednesday of Holy Week

#### No morning Mass today

6.00 pm Stations of the Cross

8.00 pm **HALL** Life in the Spirit Mass

### Thursday 28 Mar Maundy Thursday

8.00 pm Raymond Kelly RIP  
In thanksgiving for Charles, Sarah, Sven & Lloyd and God's healing from cancer  
A private intention

### Friday 29 March Friday of the Passion of the Lord

9.30 am Stations of the Cross for children

11.00 am Walk of Witness to Beckenham Green

3.00 pm The Lord's Passion

### Sat 30 March Holy Saturday

10.00 am Blessing of Foods

#### Vigil of Easter

7.45 pm Colin Dowling RIP

Pietro Perdoni RIP

Dr Michael Ekong RIP

### Sunday 31 March Easter Sunday

8.00 am Dec'd Brothers of Beckenham

Catenians

9.30 am Lucas Ubaldina, Sylvia, Amon De

**FAMILY MASS** Souza RIP

11.00 am James Dougan RIP (12th anniv)

5.30 pm Phil Wheat RIP

### We remember in our prayers the sick, the house-bound and their carers.

In particular, we pray for: 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, Angela Bowers, Linda Himsworth.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** William McDermott (Billy), Yvonne Morrison, Martin Leigh, Gerald Stannard, Charles Patrick Parfitt, Catherine O'Marney, Pat Parfitt, Baby John Edward Hobson, Patrick Pettican, John Taylor, Beth Rose Nee, Kweku Ansah, Kath Carr, Susannah Hayes, Ray Sharpe, Maureen Turner, Austin Waldron and David Stephens.

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

## OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 17.03.24

Plate Collection	953.50
Contactless	82.61
Bank Standing Order	1013.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1090.88
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3139.99</b>

Regrettably, Monday Meditation will be cancelled until 8 April.

Contemplative Saturday on 23 March will also now not take place.

## DIARY

### March

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

Mon 8 Law Surgery in Hall Meeting Room

Wed 10 Requiem for Donald Clarke

Sat 13 Desert Island Discs with Fr Steve. In the Hall at 7.00

Mon 15 Requiem Mass of Anna Mansfield at 12.30

### December

Saturday 7 Parish Christmas Fair



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

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 17 MARCH 2024 Yr B

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

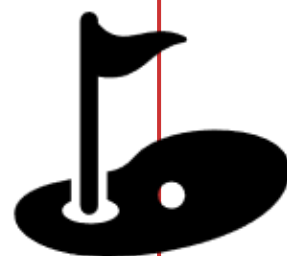
**Including breakfast, good fun, lunch and great prizes**

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

**[Coragreen@hotmail.com](mailto:Coragreen@hotmail.com) or [David.I.Lee@haringey.gov.uk](mailto: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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1398.86</b>

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**

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Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 10 MARCH 2024 Yr B

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

**Collection for the poor  
parishes of the diocese**

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fr Steve will be leading Stations of the Cross immediately after the 10.00 am Mass on **Wednesday 13 March**. He is doing this to offer an opportunity for those who do not wish to come out in the evening to attend this beautiful and moving service.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

Every year on the 1st Friday of March the whole world is united in a prayer service prepared by the women of a particular country. In Beckenham, this service takes place in a different Christian church each year; this year the liturgy had been prepared (months before October 2023) by the women of Palestine and it was celebrated at St Edmund's Church last Friday; the theme was "I beg you, bear with one another in love". We were delighted to welcome many members of other local churches as well as many of our own parishioners, who joined together in a thoughtful and prayerful reflection on life in Palestine.

Thank you to all who came together for the service, despite the cold, wet weather. Special thanks are due to the wonderful musicians and choir and also to those who prepared and served very welcome refreshments after the service. It was heart-warming to experience the sense of community, both during the service and in the Hall afterwards.

Please continue to pray for all those affected by conflict in this troubled region of our world.

In 2025, the World Day of Prayer will focus on the Cook Islands and the service will be hosted by Beckenham Baptist Church on Friday 7 March. All will be welcome.

### TELEPHONE MESSAGES

This week we have had three messages left for us where we couldn't make out the telephone number to respond to. Please leave your details slowly and clearly so we can return your call.

### MASS BOOKINGS

Parishioners are advised that, regrettably, Mass intentions received at short notice cannot always be accommodated on the dates requested. This is because the calendar becomes booked up very quickly. We are currently fully booked until well into May. To avoid any confusion and disappointment we recommend that your name and number are clearly written on your Mass intention request. We will then be able to call you to advise if your requested date is unavailable, and do our best to book in your Mass intention as close as possible to the date requested.

### SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC YOUTH

The Southwark Catholic Youth Service has relaunched several activities in 2024 for those aged 10 - 35. For more details on what is on offer, please sign up to their network at: [tinyurl.com/scysnetwork](http://tinyurl.com/scysnetwork)

There are also a few flyers on the reading slope.



Living Well  
Bromley

Next 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.



### **CARITAS SOUTHWARK 1ST ANNIVERSARY MASS**

All are invited to attend this Mass which will be celebrated by Archbishop John at 12.30 pm on **Sat 16 March** in St George's Cathedral, followed by a reception in Amigo Hall with Raymond Friel, the CEO of the Caritas Social Network, who will be speaking about the national and diocesan position.

### **ANNA MANSFIELD RIP**



Many of you will remember Anna Mansfield from her many years living in Beckenham, and attending St Edmund's. You may have seen her at Mass collecting for the offertory. You may have seen her on her bicycle travelling around Beckenham.

Mum has now died peacefully, after gracefully progressing through dementia.

Her funeral mass will be at 12.30 pm, on Monday 15 April. The family welcomes everyone to attend. If you wish, please also come to celebrate mum's life, from around 2.00 pm at Fethr Lounge, Croydon Road, Elmers End.

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](http://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.

It will be returned to the narthex for you to collect.

### **THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING**

You are invited to join them in the hall on Wednesday 13 March at

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass - Celebrant

Fr Uduak Abara (Beckenham Hill)

Followed by Adoration, Prayer and praise

### **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.

### **DEACON DENNIS BARRATT RIP**

Deacon Dennis's Requiem Mass will be held at St Gregory the Great with Our Lady of Peace, Warwick Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6UJ on Thursday 14 March at 2.30 pm.



### **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 collection for many months.**

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

Envelopes for Laura Denyer, Rose Elgar, Pauline Spillane, Sheila Stapleton, Diane Fleming.

We have a St Martin of Porres prayer book in the office. It is clearly well used and well loved. If it is yours please call in to be reunited with it.

### **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.

### **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, from 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.

### **DEACON SEAN'S CHARITY THANK YOU FROM GHANA**

On behalf of my people in Nankesido and the trustees of our charity, the Nankesido Education and Welfare Trust (NEWT), I would like to thank parishioners for their generous support for my appeal at Masses last weekend. The appeal raised over two and a half thousand pounds and, as money goes a long way in Ghana, this will make a real difference to the lives of people in my village.

If you would like to see what we have done with your help over the years, **please visit our website** at [newt.org.uk](http://newt.org.uk) where you can also find guidance on how to help us in future.

Forthcoming fund-raising events include a **golf tournament** (all levels of ability welcome) at Farleigh Golf Club on **Friday 12 April** (details on website and on flyers in the church), while **Fr Stephen will be selecting his Desert Island Discs** for us in the Hall on **Saturday 13 April** (details soon in the newsletter). If you missed last week's collection but would like to donate, there are envelopes and flyers in the church.

With thanks again, Deacon Seán

### **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.

Full details to follow.

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

**Date: 12 April - Farleigh Golf Course**

**Old Farleigh Road, Warlingham**

**Surrey CR6 9PE**

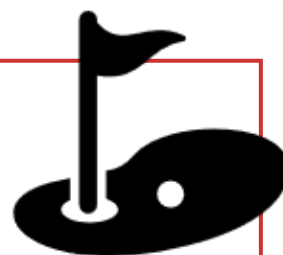
**Including breakfast, good fun, lunch and great prizes**

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

[Coragreen@hotmail.com](mailto:Coragreen@hotmail.com) or [David.Lee@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:David.Lee@haringey.gov.uk)

**Mob: 07746 857074 after 7pm**

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





## MASSES

### Sunday 10 March Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Laetare Sunday**

6.00 pm Thanksgiving to the Immaculate  
**VIGIL**  
**2ND SCRUTINY** Heart of Mary  
 9.30 am Olga Cominetti RIP (1st anniv)  
**FAMILY MASS**  
 11.00 am For the people  
 5.30 pm Bruno Panetta RIP

### Monday 11 March FERIA

10.00 am Ints of David

### Tues 12 March FERIA

10.00 am In thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart

### Wed 13 March FERIA

10.00 am Pauline Wood RIP

**Stations of the Cross**

8.00 am HALL **Charismatic Mass**

### Thursday 14 Mar FERIA

10.00 am Monica Grima RIP

**No Adoration**

11.30 am Funeral Service for Charles Gerrard

8.00 pm CLAUVER Adoration

### Friday 15 March FERIA

9.00 ST MARY'S Yr6  
 10.00 am Dr Michael Ekong RIP

Adoration & Benediction

3.00 pm Claver Stations of the Cross

6.00 pm Stations of the Cross

### Sat 16 March FERIA

10.00 am In thanksgiving to St Anthony  
 2.00 pm Reconciliation for the First Holy Communion candidates  
 6.00 pm Dominic Geoghegan RIP

### Sunday 17 March Fifth Sunday of Lent

9.30 am Caragh, Mark and family

**FAMILY MASS**

11.00 am Anne Reilly RIP (6th anniv)

5.30 pm Michael Hanrahan RIP

**3RD SCRUTINY**

*Confessions are on Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and from 5.00 - 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 unless there is a funeral.*



**We pray for those who have died:** Dr Michael Ekong, Roger Ivol, Rodney Williams, Deacon Dennis Barratt, Charles Gerrard, Mary Booth, Jean Porter, Anna Mansfield, Barbara Cole, Margaret Knowles.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Pietro Perdoni, Stanley Barnard, Robert Commiade, Gerry Harris, Ian Beston, Patrick Mulcahy, Jack Fleming, Mary Teresa Carroll, Maurice Osbourne, Emer Fox, Phil Fleming, Anne Reilly, Carolina (Lina) Phillips, Jimmy Mortimer, Frances Plume, Mary Flood,

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

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 07.03.24	
Plate Collection	994.27
Contactless	216.34
Bank Standing Order	1929.33
Church Suite Regular Giving	2821.51
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5961.45</b>

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.

## DIARY

### March

Thu 14 Funeral Service for Charles Gerrard at 11.30

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

Mon 15 Requiem Mass of Anna Mansfield at 12.30

### September

Sat 28 Day for Catechists in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.

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



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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SUNDAY 3 MARCH 2024 Yr B

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

Talk and collection for  
Deacon Sean's Ghana charity

# Lent

## HOME VISITS TO THE SICK & THE HOUSEBOUND

When the country went into lockdown we had to stop visiting sick people in their homes. Even when the restrictions were lifted, many sick and frail people remained understandably reluctant to ask us to start visiting them again. But there is another problem. After the lockdown, many parishioners who had been visiting people *before* Covid, became reluctant to resume visiting again, because they did not want to risk inadvertently bringing sickness into people's homes. As a result our number of willing visitors dwindled.

### Our appeal to the sick and housebound

Receiving Holy Communion should be the norm for all Catholics: it is the most perfect way in which Christ can enter into our lives. So if you are housebound and would like somebody to bring you Holy Communion, please get in touch – we will observe whatever safety measures you may ask of us. And, so that you know, we will not allow anybody to visit you unless they have been recently vetted by the archdiocese. And please, if you know somebody who could benefit from visits but who does not see this newsletter, could you please approach them for us?

### Our appeal to Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Happily, we now have a few more volunteers to bring Holy Communion to the sick, while several members of the SVP are able to offer social visits as well as Holy Communion. But if we are to live up to Jesus' command to visit the sick, we still need more volunteers to help with this work. Lay ministers are not intended only to help in church: they are also commissioned to bring the Sacrament to the sick in their homes. Work, family commitments and personal health issues may not always make this possible, but if you are a lay minister, please consider this request and get in touch with us to offer your services.

Deacon Sean

## RCIA

### RITE OF ELECTION AND SCRUTINIES

On Saturday 17 February Cathy and I accompanied our catechumens and candidates to the Rite of Election at St George's Cathedral, which was led by Archbishop John Wilson. This year there were 450 enquirers at the service together with their sponsors/godparents. This is the largest number for a decade, and we were also told that Mass attendance has increased throughout the Diocese. It was encouraging for us all to attend a service that was both uplifting and optimistic and you will see photos of this occasion in the Narthex.

We continue with the three Lenten Scrutinies which are a period of deep reflection for our enquirers, who will also be presented with The Creed and the Lords Prayer. Our first Scrutiny is at 11.00 am Mass on Sunday 3 March, the second at 6.00 pm Mass on Saturday 9 March, and the third at 5.30 pm Mass on Sunday 17 March. Please pray for Alda, Ruth, Philip, Glaucia, Tony and Jake as they prepare to be baptised and confirmed into the Catholic Church at Easter.

Mary Deering

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

St Edmunds Parish is planning another series of support groups for anyone who is experiencing a bereavement. Each group will run for just six weeks, and the first of these this year, will be starting in April, others will follow, based on demand. Each meeting will be held in the small meeting room in St Edmunds Hall (step free), and the first set of six meetings will be held on Thursday evenings from 6.00 pm - 7.30 pm, from April 18th - May 23rd. 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.



### **CARITAS SOUTHWARK 1ST ANNIVERSARY MASS**

All are invited to this Mass which will be celebrated by Archbishop John at 12.30 pm on Sat 16 March in St George's Cathedral, followed by a reception in Amigo Hall with Raymond Friel, the CEO of the Caritas Social Network, talking about the national and diocesan position.

### **BOOK LAUNCH**

We are invited by Archbishop John to the launch of his new book

#### **Pondering & Praying Vatican II**

Wednesday 6 March 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm  
Amigo Hall, next to St George's Cathedral.

Have you heard about Vatican II, and want to know more, but are not sure where or how to begin? Then this introduction is for you. It will help you start a journey of discovery by pondering and praying some essential themes. It requires no previous or specialist knowledge and has been written for easy access to what the Church said at Vatican II, and what this means for our life of faith in the Body of Christ.

There will be refreshments and a short presentation. Books for sale on the evening, also available at:

[www.PaulineUK.org](http://www.PaulineUK.org) and  
[www.Amazon.co.uk](http://www.Amazon.co.uk)  
All Welcome



### **CTS BOOKSTAND**

The bookstand at the far end of the narthex has recently been restocked with a range of books. These include Lenten reading and devotions, and a new publication on Artificial Intelligence.

Please browse and buy.

### **LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING**

Wednesday 6 March

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass,

Celebrant Fr Damien

Followed by Lectio Divina

10.00 pm Evening concludes



The CWL would like to thank all those who supported our tabletop sale last Sunday, which raised £50:00 for our funds. It was encouraging to see so many families enjoying a cup of coffee after Mass, and the children were our best customers. We hope to repeat this in the future, so watch this space!

Those named below have been baptised in the last few months.

Charlotte Mary Flannery  
(now with God)

John Rudy Church

Lijoy Varughese

Isla Evelyn Cosgrove

Audra Evelyn Dvorak

Milly Rutherford

Theodore Robin Williams

Amelia Chloe Williams

Mabel Scarlett Tuck

Ikeora Noah Mjamma

Antony Weeks

Joel-Arnaud Jenson Kouassi Boa

Rita Sophia Kean

Tracy-Rose Komba

Please keep them and their families  
in your prayers.

Some will recall that the late Ann Elmer's granddaughter, Beth, suffered from a little-understood and life-limiting disease that kills those afflicted by thirty. Beth's lifespan was half that and she died a fortnight ago. Never having walked, may she now dance in Heaven. Please pray for the Selwood family.

Michael Elmer



### **MISSIO BOXES**

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

It will be returned to the narthex for you to collect.

### DEACON DENNIS & MARY BARRATT

Parishioners who remember Deacon Dennis Barratt and Mary his wife, will be sad to hear that both of them have died recently, within a few weeks of each other. Deacon Dennis was the first Permanent Deacon in this parish and he served here for many years as well as working in the Diocesan Chancery Office. After he retired, about fifteen years ago, he and Mary moved to Stratford-Upon-Avon in Warwickshire to be nearer to some of their family. Their son, Fr Anthony Barrett celebrated Mary's funeral earlier this week. We will inform you of Deacon Dennis's funeral arrangements in due course. May Mary and Deacon Dennis rest in peace.

Please keep their family in your prayers.

### DEACON SEÁN'S GHANA CHARITY APPEAL

This weekend Deacon Seán will be making an emergency appeal at all Sunday Masses on behalf of his charity, the Nankesido Education and Welfare Trust (NEWT).

Thanks to a parishioner, Steve Hewitt, NEWT now has a beautiful website, at [newt.org.uk](http://newt.org.uk) where you will find information and pictures about what NEWT has achieved with your help over the years.

Nearly all of NEWT's income has come - directly or indirectly - through parishioners and their networks: sometimes through one-off donations and standing orders; sometimes through support for NEWT's fund-raising events; or sometimes through connections with schools, clubs, workplaces or other charities. One other important source of funding has been money people have left to NEWT in their wills: if it hadn't been for such bequests, NEWT'S work would have had to stop during the lockdown when fundraising activity came to a standstill.

As Deacon Seán will be telling us, the charity's reserves were almost completely wiped out when it came to the rescue after one of the main blocks at the local school was seriously damaged by storms, and he will be appealing for your help once more.

As well as this weekend's collection at Mass, you can donate via our website's Donations page, and in the coming weeks you can support some of NEWT's fundraising activities.

There will be an open golf tournament at Farleigh Golf Club on 12<sup>th</sup> April (details below or on the website). On 13<sup>th</sup> April in the Hall Fr Stephen will share with us his Desert Island Discs and we will celebrate with fish and chips and a bar. A few weeks later NEWT will be holding a Race Night, and in the summer there will be a garden concert

NEWT has made a huge amount of difference to many, many lives, whether through major school building projects, or through help for individuals - such as paying school fees, helping the disabled widow whose house NEWT repaired after part of it was swept away by floods; funding life-changing operations, and helping people like Joyce - Deacon Seán will be speaking about her - when NEWT plucked her from selling foodstuff at the roadside to put her through university. And there are lots more stories like that. Please, if you can, **do** help NEWT to continue to change lives.

Charity Trustees

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

**Date: 12 April - Farleigh Golf Course**

**Old Farleigh Road, Warlingham**

**Surrey CR6 9PE**

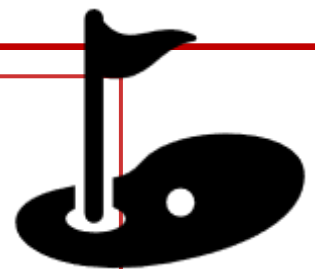
**Including breakfast, good fun, lunch and great prizes**

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

**[Coragreen@hotmail.com](mailto:Coragreen@hotmail.com) or [David.I.Lee@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:David.I.Lee@haringey.gov.uk)**

**Mob: 07746 857074 after 7pm**

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



## MASSES

<b>Sunday 3 March</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>
6.00 pm	Aquilina Pampin Mosquera RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>	(1st anniv)
9.30 am	For Enam's second birthday
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	Beatrice Daga RIP
	First Scrutiny
5.30 pm	For the Confirmandi and their families
<b>ENROLLMENT MASS FOR THE CONFIRMANDI</b>	
<b>Monday 4 March</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Paraic McCann RIP (1st anniv)
<b>Tuesday 5 March</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Leah Clent RIP
<b>Wed 6 March</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Thomas Walsh
<b>Charismatic Mass</b>	
<b>Thursday 7 Mar</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Garry Bowyer RIP
8.00 pm <b>CLAVER</b>	Adoration
<b>Friday 8 March</b>	<b>Feria</b>
9.00 <b>ST MARY'S</b>	Yr1
10.00 am	Valerie Parker RIP
	Adoration & Benediction
3.00 pm <b>Claver</b>	Stations of the Cross
6.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
<b>Sat 9 March</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	May McMahon RIP & Nora Kelly RIP
6.00 pm	Thanksgiving to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
<b>2ND SCRUTINY</b>	
<b>Sunday 10 March</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>
9.30 am	Olga Cominetti RIP (1st anniv)
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	For the people
5.30 pm	Bruno Panetta RIP

*Confessions are on Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and from 5.00 - 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 unless there is a funeral.*

There are still spaces available on the pilgrimages being run by Diane Brelu to Lourdes from 8-12 April and to Santiago and Fatima from 8-14 June.

For booking forms and for more information please phone Diane on 0795 119 4036.

There are brochures on the reading slopes.

**We pray for those who have died:** Dr Michael Ekong, Roger Ivol, Rodney Williams, Deacon Dennis Barratt, Charles Gerrard, Mary Ann Booth.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Anthony Earley, Krystyna Stefanska, Francis Edward Johnson, Delia Walsh, Olga Brookes, Elizabeth Conrath, Freda Bentley, Leah Clent, Dr Bill Radley, Canon John Devane, Anthony Galloway, Frances Carroll, Eamon McGrath, Kitty Conroy, Valerie Parker, Peter Deane, Mary Ellen Smith, Ruby Armfield, David Joseph Barclay, Marguerite Bula, Yemi Olaonipekun, Anthony Walsh.

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



<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 25.02.24</b>	
Plate Collection	1007.09
Contactless	158.34
Bank Standing Order	654.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1364.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3184.27</b>

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.

## DIARY

### March

Mon 4 Law Surgery in Hall Meeting Room at 6.00

Fri 22 Deanery Lenten Reconciliation Service, at St Mark's, West Wickham, follows Stations of the Cross at 6.00

### September

Sat 28 Day for Catechists in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.

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



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 25 FEB 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  
for Cafod

## Pray Fast Give



Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

CAFOD Lent Fast  
Day was **two days**  
**ago**, when we were  
encouraged to eat  
very simply in  
solidarity with our

sisters and brothers throughout the world.  
There were Cafod speakers at all our Masses  
who explained how your gifts could be used.

Have you brought your Cafod envelope back  
to church with you? If you are a UK taxpayer,  
using an envelope so your donation can be gift  
aided increases its value to Cafod by 25% at  
no extra cost to you.

More details about Cafod's Lent appeal can be  
found at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) and on the Cafod notice-  
board in the church porch.



### REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.30 MASS

The refreshments after  
today's Family Mass are  
organised by our CWL (Catholic  
Women's League), and this

Sunday they will also be having a table sale.

Please cross over the road to the Hall and  
browse the tables whilst having a coffee and  
biscuit and meeting your friends.

Any money raised will benefit the charities  
supported by the CWL.

### READERS FOR HOLY WEEK SERVICES

If you will be attending any of the major  
services of Holy Week and would like to do  
one of the readings, please email Deacon  
Sean at [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)  
straight way.

He would like to have the readers organised in  
the next week.



The World Day of Prayer is an international  
ecumenical Christian laywomen's event. It is  
run under the motto "*Informed prayer and  
prayerful action*" and is celebrated annually  
in over 170 countries on the first Friday in  
March.

Our service for this year's World Day of  
Prayer will take place at St Edmund's at  
3.30 pm on Friday 1st March.

The service this year has been prepared  
(many months before 7 October 2023) by the  
women of Palestine.

Please put the date in your diary and come  
along. As we are the hosts, it would be love-  
ly to have a good representation from St  
Edmund's parishioners.

### PALM CROSSES

If you have a number of palm crosses in your  
home you are welcome to return them to  
church and place them in the  
basket on the table by the central aisle.

We will burn these to use for our ashes  
next year.



Thank you to those of you who have already  
returned your old palm crosses.

**MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE  
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

**July 13 at St George's Cathedral**

If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup> + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible **and no later than May 31**, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited.

Email us at [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk) and please put Beckenham in the subject line of your email.

**LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING**

There will be no meeting this Wednesday. Instead we recommend the parish mission at St Chad, South Norwood led by Sr. Briege McKenna OSC and Father Pablo Escriva De Romani.

All details can be found on the St Chad, South Norwood website.

**A DAY WITH MARY PILGRIMAGES**

Further information on A Day With Mary 2024 Pilgrimages to Fatima (7-14 June) and Italy (4-12 September) is available at [www adaywithmary.org](http://www adaywithmary.org) or email [adwmary.uk@gmail.com](mailto:adwmary.uk@gmail.com)  
Poster in the porch

**BOOK LAUNCH**

We are invited by Archbishop John to the launch of his new book

**Pondering & Praying Vatican II**

Wednesday 6 March 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm  
Amigo Hall, next to St George's Cathedral.

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There will be refreshments and a short presentation. Books for sale on the evening, also available at:

[www.PaulineUK.org](http://www.PaulineUK.org) and  
[www.Amazon.co.uk](http://www.Amazon.co.uk)  
All Welcome

**THE BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS**

In many Eastern European countries, it is a tradition to have a basket of food blessed at a church service on Holy Saturday. This Catholic ritual has been cherished for centuries and it has now been adopted by people from many backgrounds who enjoy this richly symbolic custom.

We have embraced this custom at St Edmund's for a number of years and will be celebrating it once more at 10.00 am on Holy Saturday.

We need a small team of parishioners to assist in the preparation of this service and it would be lovely to have parents from our Family Mass group to assist. If you could offer a little time please contact Deacon Sean at [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Google *Blessings of Easter foods* to learn more about this custom.

**LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

St Mark's, West Wickham  
Saturday March 23

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 which begins at 6.00 pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

**GOOD FRIDAY - WALK OF WITNESS**

This annual visible profession of faith needs stewards to help marshal those who are walking behind the cross. Stewards help keep people safely in line and assist in traffic management, and on Beckenham Green they act as welcomers and stewards.

If you could help please email:  
[davidjohnson127@talktalk.net](mailto:davidjohnson127@talktalk.net)  
giving your name and contact details,

**Southwark Catholic Youth Service** has relaunched several activities in 2024 for those aged 10-35. For more details about what is on offer, please sign up to their network at [tinyurl.com/scysnetwork](http://tinyurl.com/scysnetwork) to receive regular updates

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 25 Feb</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>
6.00 pm	Oleksandr Milinievskyi RIP (1st anniv)
<b>VIGIL</b>	
9.30 am	For the parishioners
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	Dr Cyril McNulty RIP
5.30 pm	Ints of Buddy Gibbons
<b>Monday 26 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Alfred Lutz
<b>Tuesday 27 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Maisie & Paul O'Keefe RIP
<b>Wed 28 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Ronan Commene RIP (1st anniv)
	<b>No Adoration</b>
11.15 am	Requiem for John O'Hagan
<b>Thursday 29 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Efisio Luigi Floris RIP
8.00 pm <b>CLAUVER</b>	Adoration
<b>Friday 1 March</b>	<b>St David, Patron of Wales</b>
9.00 <b>ST MARY'S</b>	Yr4
10.00 am	Dec'd members of the Keane Family
	First Friday Adoration & Benediction
3.00 pm <b>Claver</b>	Stations of the Cross
3.30 pm	World day of Prayer
6.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
<b>Sat 2 March</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
6.00 pm	Aquilina Pampin Mosquera RIP (1st anniv)
<b>Sunday 3 March</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>
9.30 am	For Enam's second birthday
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	Beatrice Daga RIP
	First Scrutiny
5.30 pm	For the Confirmandi and their families
<b>ENROLLMENT MASS FOR THE CONFIRMANDI</b>	

*Confessions are on Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and from 5.00 - 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 unless*

## 300 CLUB

The winners of the February draw are:

No 274 Mrs H Ambiana £100  
No 69 Mrs Sheila Lake £50  
No 255 Mrs M A Humble £25  
Congratulations to them all.

**We pray for those who have died:** John O'Hagan, Dr Michael Ekong, Roger Ivof, Dr Alexander Uche.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Oleksandr Milinievskyi, John Chilton, Bill McConnell, David Flynn, Georges Sinon, Paul Morris, Mary O'Keeffe, Arleen Vince, Raymond Tesniere, Marie Laticia Hayock, Bridget Scully, Ronan Commene, Anthony Osei, George Halpin, Terry Davies, Margaret Fennessy, Joseph Duong, Phyllis 'Betty' Hanifan.

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

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 18.02.24</b>	
Plate Collection	1026.11
Contactless	219.80
Bank Standing Order	943.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1092.11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3281.02</b>

Monday Meditation will be in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm.  
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence.

## DIARY

### February

Wed 28 Requiem of John O'Hagan at 11.15

### March

Fri 1 World Day of Prayer 3.30 in church followed by refreshments in the hall  
Mon 4 Law Surgery in Hall Meeting Room at 6.00

Sat 23 Deanery Lenten Reconciliation Service, 4.30 pm at St Mark's, West Wickham

## MASS OF INDUCTION FR ASHLEY BECK

Sunday 25 February at 10.00 am  
St Mark's West Wickham

Everyone is welcome to attend.

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

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 18 FEB 2024 Yr B

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

**Clergy Support Fund -  
second collection**

**There will be a speaker from Cafod at every Mass**

### CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION

The clergy in our Archdiocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have done for parishes.

**You** make supporting our clergy in retirement possible. Find out how to donate to the Clergy Support Fund at [www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF) or scan the QR code below.

You can also donate by phone at 020 7960 2504 or by using the Clergy Support Fund envelopes available at the back of Church.

Please continue to keep our Priests in your prayers.



### BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

Sunday 18 February

Church Hall

10.45 am

All parents wishing to have their first child baptised need to attend.

Pre-registration is not required.

### PALM CROSSES

If you have a number of palm crosses in your home you are welcome to return them to church and place them in the basket on the table by the central aisle.

We will burn these to use for our ashes next year.



### PASSING ON THE FAITH

How do we start? How do we continue? What works well for children at different stages?

Four online sessions for parents starting Wednesday 28 February, 8.00 – 9.30 pm.

And for grandparents, focusing specifically on the conversations which can help to anchor faith, four online sessions starting Thursday 18 April, 7.30 – 9.00 pm.

Email Lisette on [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk)



Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

CAFOD Lent Fast  
Day is next **Friday  
23 February**, when  
we are asked to eat  
very simply in

solidarity with our sisters and brothers throughout the world. There will be Cafod speakers at all Masses this weekend.

Please take a Cafod envelope home and return it in the second collection next weekend. If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider gift-aiding your donation, as this increases its value to Cafod by 25% at no extra cost to you

More details about Cafod's Lent appeal can be found at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) and on the Cafod notice-board in the church porch.

### REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.30 MASS

For this to continue each week we really need more help. People to join the rota to serve the drinks are always needed, but we also need people to spend a few minutes before 9.30 to put out tables and chairs.

So far we have received no offers of help. Please think again and contact the Office at [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) if you could assist us





CAFOD is again inviting us, if we are able to do so, to walk 200km during Lent to help fight global poverty. Their hope is that all over Great Britain people will walk, run and stroll with their friends and family, with their schools or parishes or on their own as an act of solidarity with and to raise money for communities around the world. To find out more and to sign up, visit the CAFOD website, [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)

**MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE  
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE  
July 13 at St George's Cathedral**

If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup> + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible **and no later than May 31**, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited.

Email us at [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk) and please put Beckenham in the subject line of your email.

**GOOD FRIDAY - WALK OF WITNESS**

This annual visible profession of faith needs stewards to help marshal those who are walking behind the cross. Stewards help keep people safely in line and assist in traffic management, and on Beckenham Green they act as welcomers and stewards.

If you could help please email:  
[davidjohnson127@talktalk.net](mailto:davidjohnson127@talktalk.net)  
giving your name and contact details,  
by 29 February please.

**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.

The **Light of Christ** Catholic Charismatic Prayer Meeting invites you to join us in the hall on Wednesday 21 February at:

7.45 pm Praise and Worship  
8.00 pm Holy Mass  
Celebrant Fr Regis Rubya (Sydenham)  
Followed by informal Prayer Meeting  
10.00 pm Evening concludes.

**Young Adults 20-30 Easter Pilgrimage  
The Camino Santiago de Compostela, Spain**

1st - 7th April 2024

Approximate cost £500

Info at [The Camino Santiago de Compostela](http://The Camino Santiago de Compostela)

**THE BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS**

In many Eastern European countries, it is a tradition to have a basket of food blessed at a church service on Holy Saturday. This Catholic ritual has been cherished for centuries and it has now been adopted by people from many backgrounds who enjoy this richly symbolic custom.

We have embraced this custom at St Edmund's for a number of years and will be celebrating it once more at 10.00 am on Holy Saturday.

We need a small team of parents to assist in the preparation of this service and it would be lovely to have parents from our Family Mass group to assist. If you could offer a little time please would you contact Deacon Sean at [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Google *Blessings of Easter foods* to learn more about this custom.

**CAFOD - 'NO FAITH IN FOSSIL FUELS'**

CAFOD are supporting the Lent 'No Faith in Fossil Fuels' Vigil outside Parliament from Ash Wednesday for 10 days and nights (14 - 24th February) including services on Sunday 18 and Saturday 24 Feb. For further details or to sign up to the vigil rota please visit [www.christianclimateaction.org/events/](http://www.christianclimateaction.org/events/) and scroll down (about 10th event listed) or contact Gill on 07796 340193

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 18 Feb</b>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>
6.00 pm	Rita Costelloe RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>	
9.30 am	Thanksgiving for the successful completion of studies
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	James Henry RIP
5.30 pm	Ints of Sandy Baron
<b>Monday 19 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	James Dempsey RIP (1st anniv)
1.00 pm	Funeral Service for Mavis Kelly
<b>Tuesday 20 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Thomas Keane Jr RIP
	No Adoration
12.00 pm	Requiem of Ita Smith
<b>Wed 21 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Welfare of Raphael Fleming
8.00 pm HALL	Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 22 Feb</b>	<b>The Chair of St Peter the Apostle</b>
10.00 am	Grace Mary Friend-Pereira RIP
8.00 pm CLAVER	Adoration
<b>Friday 23 Feb</b>	<b>Feria Cafod Fast Day</b>
9.00 ST MARY'S	Yr2 Agnes Chambers RIP (1st anniv)
10.00 am	Ints of Anna & Marie Cronin
	Adoration & Benediction
3.00 pm Claver	Stations of the Cross
6.00 pm	Stations of the Cross led by Cafod
<b>Saturday 24 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Margaret Larmer RIP
6.00 pm	Oleksandr Milinievskyi RIP (1st anniv)
<b>Sunday 25 Feb</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Lent</b>
9.30 am	For the parishioners
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	Dr Cyril McNulty RIP
5.30 pm	Ints of Buddy Gibbons

*Confessions are on Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and from 5.00 - 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 unless there is a funeral.*

Eucharistic ministers and Readers: let's pray together during adoration on Saturday, 24 February, after 10.00 am Mass, for us and our families and friends

Mavis

## CHURCH SHOP

The shop has some new booklets to help you during Lent, and others to help you follow the Stations of the Cross. These are for adults and children. There are also some fun Lenten sticker activity sheets.

**We pray for those who have died:** Teresa Edwards, John O'Hagan, Dr Michael Ekong, Geraldine Muir, Mavis Kelly, Ita Smith.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Eileen Blackeby, Shirley Haine, Michael Dilworth, Kathleen O'Sullivan, Paul Bones, James Dempsey, Terence Keeley, Margaret Mary Wilkes, Mary Dunne, Kenneth Meyrick, Dorothy Amandini, Daniel McGrory, Ann Goy, Patrick Kavanagh, James Greenan, Brenda & Anthony Boyle, Terence McCarthy, Agnes Chambers, Oleksandr Milinievskyi, Kieran Fleming.

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

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 11.02.24	
Plate Collection	973.97
Contactless	151.00
Bank Standing Order	681.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1256.51
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3062.48</b>

Monday Meditation will be in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm.  
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence.

## DIARY

### February

Sat 17	Contemplative Saturday 11-12 in the Hall
Mon 19	Funeral Service for Mavis Kelly at 1.00
Tues 20	Requiem of Ita Smith at noon
Wed 28	Requiem of John O'Hagan at 11.15

### March

Fri 1	World Day of Prayer 3.30 in church followed by refreshments in the hall
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### September

Sat 28	Day for Catechists in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.
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## MASS OF INDUCTION

### FR ASHLEY BECK

Sunday 25 February at 10.00 am  
St Mark's West Wickham

Everyone is welcome.

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

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ildigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianildigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianildigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 11 FEB 2024 Yr B

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

**This weekend the Spiritans  
will be making an appeal at all  
Masses**

## Moving into Lent

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent. You may already have given some thought to what you would like to give up. One thing I would encourage you all to do is to look anew at the Gospels and listen to what they are saying, an activity we should be engaged in throughout the year, but especially during this Lenten journey when we recall the 40 days of the great flood that led to the Covenant between God and Noah, the 40 days Moses spent on Mount Sinai at the end of which he received the Tablets of the Law. Most important of all is for us to reflect on the 40 days Jesus endured in the wilderness, after his baptism and before his mission.

I pray that these and other passages of scripture will penetrate our hearts and minds and give us a fresh understanding of the truth, of what it means to love, to make sacrifice, to forgive and persevere in faith. Ultimately, Lent is a wonderful opportunity for us to draw ever closer to our heavenly Father and to Jesus Christ his son, in the power of the Holy Spirit; alongside this it is a time to look upon our brothers and sisters with greater understanding and compassion. If we open our hearts to this, Easter when it comes, will be full of many blessings.

**Fr Steve**

### THE SPIRITANS

We are delighted to welcome Fr Vincent Nnatuanya to all our Masses this weekend. Our diocese has designated the Spiritans as their missionary charity for 2024.

Founded in 1703 the order now has over 3000 professed and lay Spiritans drawn from all continents, who today carry out their mission of evangelization in more than 60 countries.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

Sunday 18 February

Church Hall

10.45 am

All parents wishing to have their first child baptised need to attend.

There is no need to pre-register.

### Ash Wednesday

A day of fasting and abstinence

10.00 am – Mass with imposition of ashes

12 noon – Service of Ashes

6.00 pm – Stations of the Cross

followed by the imposition of ashes.

8.00 pm - In the Hall. Mass with imposition of ashes

### Stations of the Cross during Lent St Edmunds:

This week there will be two opportunities to pray the **Way of the Cross**: at 6.00 pm on Ash Wednesday (followed by imposition of ashes) **and** at 6.00 pm on Friday 16 February.

In the following weeks there will be Stations in the church at 6.00 pm every Friday of Lent and on the Wednesday of Holy Week.

**St Peter Claver Convent:** There will also be Stations of the Cross at the Claver Convent every Friday of Lent at 3.00 pm. All are most welcome to join them in their chapel.

### PASSING ON THE FAITH

How do we start? How do we continue? What works well for children at different stages?

Four online sessions for parents starting Wednesday 28 February, 8pm – 9:30pm.

And for grandparents, focusing specifically on the conversations which can help to anchor faith, four online sessions starting Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 7:30 – 9pm.

Email Lisette on [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk)

### REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.30 MASS

For this to continue each week we really need more help. People to join the rota to serve the drinks are always needed, but we also need a rota of people to spend a few minutes before 9.30 to put out some tables and chairs.

Please email the office if you can help.



Cafod is inviting us, if we are able, to walk 200km during Lent to help fight global poverty. Their hope is that all over Great Britain people will walk, run and stroll with their friends and family, with their schools or parishes or on their own as an act of solidarity with and to raise money for communities around the world.

To find out more and to sign up, visit the CAFOD website, [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)



There is a job advert in the porch for a Membership Support Officer for the SVP. It is a part time, home based role.

### **MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE** **July 13 at St George's Cathedral**

If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup> + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible **and no later than May 31**, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited.

Email us at [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk) and please put Beckenham in the subject line of your email.

### **St George's Cathedral Young Adult Group** **SEVEN SACRAMENTS** Thursday 15 February, 18 - 30

A series of winter talks about the seven sacraments. The first talk, on 15 February, given by Deacon Frazer Bellfield is on the topic of 'How do I know the will of God for my life?'. For more information check @stgeorgesya on Instagram.

We had the pleasure of Frazer joining us a couple of years ago for Holy Week. He made a wonderful contribution in that short time and made a great impression on those he encountered.

### **THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING**

We are happy to invite you to join us in the hall on Ash Wednesday

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Mass with Fr Damian as celebrant and to include Imposition of Ashes.

Mass is followed by Adoration

10.00 pm Evening concludes

Parishioners who have not attended this prayer meeting before are most welcome to come at 8.00 for Mass and imposition of ashes and to leave at the end of Mass if they wish.

More information from Tom Calouri on 0798 299 9319

The CTS stand is now on the wall by the gate to the balcony. Please keep an eye on it as we will shortly be receiving items for Lent.

### **Young Adults 20-30 Easter Pilgrimage** **The Camino Santiago de Compostela, Spain**

1st - 7th April 2024

Approximate cost £500

Info at [The Camino Santiago de Compostela](http://The Camino Santiago de Compostela)

### **GOOD FRIDAY—WALK OF WITNESS**

This annual visible profession of faith needs stewards to help marshal those who are walking behind the cross. Stewards help keep people safely in line and assist in traffic management, and on Beckenham Green they act as welcomers and stewards.

If you could help please email:

[davidjohnson127@talktalk.net](mailto:davidjohnson127@talktalk.net)

giving your name and contact details, by 29 February please.

### **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.



## MASSES

<b>Sunday 11 Feb</b>	<b>Sixth Sunday</b>
6.00 pm	Antonio Panetta & Family RIP
9.30 am	For the people
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	Eddie Griffin RIP (4th anniv)
5.30 pm	Sally Tomlinson RIP
<b>Monday 12 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	The intentions of Edward
<b>Tuesday 13 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Kevin Larmer
<b>Wed 14 Feb</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
10.00 am	Cornelius Donnelly RIP (anniv)
	<b>with Imposition of Ashes</b>
Noon	Liturgy of the Word and Imposition of Ashes
6.00 pm	Stations of the Cross followed by Imposition of Ashes
8.00 pm	<b>Hall</b> Charismatic Mass followed by Imposition of Ashes
<b>Thursday 15 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Colm Byrne RIP
8.00 pm	Claver Adoration
<b>Friday 16 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Geraldine Mulroy RIP
	Adoration & Benediction
3.00 pm	Claver Stations of the Cross
6.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
<b>Saturday 17 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	For the intentions of Megan Arthur and her dear departed husband on their 70th wedding anniversary.
6.00 pm	Rita Costelloe RIP
<b>Sunday 18 Feb</b>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>
9.30 am	Thanksgiving for the successful completion of studies
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	
11.00 am	James Henry RIP
5.30 pm	Ints of Sandy Baron

*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 unless there is a funeral.*



We were delighted to welcome pupils from Yr1 to the church last Wednesday. Fr Steve had a lovely time showing them all around the church and answering their questions.

**We pray for those who have died:** Teresa Edwards, baby Charlotte Flannery, John O'Hagan, Dr Michael Ekong, John Potter, Geraldine Muir, Mavis Kelly.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Mary Leonard, Derek Crawford, Colette Woods, Carmen Roper, Marion Ryan, Eddie Griffin, Mary Morgan, Michael Lavender, Milagros Purvis, Fiona Davies, Doris Irene Connor, Frank Twynan, Jaqui Lee, Fr David Rhys, Terence McNamara, Rumold Fleming, Michael Duffett, Ken Darryl Phelps, Anthony Faller, John McGrath, Joseph Brady.

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

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 04.02.24</b>	
Plate Collection	1359.10
Contactless	302.00
Bank Standing Order	1754.33
Church Suite Regular Giving	2563.23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5978.66</b>

This Monday Meditation will be in the **Hall** from 5.30 - 6.20 pm.  
Please respect the need to arrive promptly and observe the silence.

## DIARY

### February

Sat 17	Contemplative Saturday 11-12 in the Hall
Tues 20	Requiem of Ita Smith at noon
Wed 28	Requiem of John O'Hagan at 11.15

### March

Fri 1	World Day of Prayer 3.30 in church followed by refreshments in the hall
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### September

Sat 28	Day for Catechists in the Cathedral
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## CHURCH SHOP

The shop has some new booklets to help you during Lent and others to help you follow the Stations of the Cross. These are for adults and children. There are also some fun Lenten sticker activity sheets.

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

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

SUNDAY 4 FEB 2024 Yr B

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

Next weekend the Spiritans  
will be making an appeal for  
the missions

## A diocesan speaker will be speaking at all Masses about Faith in Action

**Young Adults 20-30 Easter Pilgrimage**  
**The Camino Santiago de Compostela, Spain**  
1st - 7th April 2024  
Approximate cost £500

Info at [The Camino Santiago de Compostela](#)

### **Bromley Deanery Young Adults 18-35** **Reflection Week at Taizé, France**

25 August to 1 September

Approximate cost £275 including return coach and accommodation for the week (dorms or tent). This is a Bromley Deanery trip - please register your interest via [this link](#)

### **THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE**

**10 February**

**1.30 - 4.30 pm St George's Cathedral**

This afternoon of Reflection will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Way of the Cross, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus.

Everyone is welcome to come for this.  
Please call Millie on 07957 594 646 for more information.

### **BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE**

For more information visit:

<https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life>

### **The Light of Christ** **Catholic Charismatic Prayer Meeting**

You are invited to join them in the Hall on  
Wednesday 7 February.

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Jude Ifezime,  
St. Saviour's

Followed by Lectio Divina

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

### **ST EDMUND'S WALKING GROUP**

**Saturday 3 February**

The walk to St. Blaise's Well will start outside St. Edmund's Church on Saturday, 3rd February after the 10 o'clock Mass. Those who wish, (there is a fairly steep hill to climb up to the theatre) may join the walk outside the Churchill Theatre, Bromley at approximately 11.30 am. We then continue to the Well at the Civic Centre. As the Civic Centre is moving to Bromley South, this may be the last opportunity to visit the Well.

Robert Richards

### **St George's Cathedral Young Adult Group** **SEVEN SACRAMENTS**

Thursday 15 February, 18 - 30

A series of winter talks about the seven sacraments. The first talk will be on 15 February given by Deacon Frazer Bellfield on the topic of 'How do I know the will of God for my life?'. For more information check @stgeorgesya on Instagram.

We had the pleasure of Frazer joining us a couple of years ago for Holy Week. He made a wonderful contribution in that short time and made a great impression on those he encountered.

### **5th BECKENHAM SOUTH**

We are delighted to welcome members of 5th Beckenham to church today for their church parade. Their presence here this weekend is particularly poignant as we learnt this week of the death of John Potter who for over 50 years had been a key part of the group. 'Potter' touched the hearts and minds of thousands of children across the decades.

1936 - 2024

John Potter RIP

Gone Home

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 4 Feb</b> 6.00 pm <b>VIGIL</b> 9.30 am <b>FAMILY MASS</b> 11.00 am 5.30 pm	<b>Fifth Sunday</b> Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP  Patricia Ross RIP Church Parade Ints of Sr Micheline For the people of our parish
<b>Monday 5 Feb</b> 10.00 am	<b>St Agatha, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b> The intentions of Margaret
<b>Tuesday 6 Feb</b>  10.00 am	<b>Saints Paul Miki &amp; Companions, Martyrs</b> The intentions of Anne
<b>Wed 7 Feb</b> 10.00 am 8.00 pm Hall	<b>Feria</b> Fiona O'Neill & Family Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 8 Feb</b> 10.00 am 8.00 pm Claver	<b>Feria (St Jerome Emiliani)</b> Patrick Larmer RIP Adoration
<b>Friday 9 Feb</b> 9.00 am St Marys  10.00 am	<b>Feria</b> Yr 3 Mass Denis Wymer RIP Bernie Maher RIP Adoration & Benediction
<b>Saturday 10 Feb</b> 10.00 am 6.00 pm	<b>St Scholastica, Virgin</b> Helen White RIP Antonio Panetta & Family RIP
<b>Sunday 11 Feb</b> 9.30 am <b>FAMILY MASS</b> 11.00 am 5.30 pm	<b>Sixth Sunday</b> For the people  Eddie Griffin RIP (4th anniv) Sally Tomlinson RIP

*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 unless there is a funeral.*

## REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.30 MASS

We are happy to have restarted refreshments after the 9.30 Family Mass on Sundays. For it to continue each week we really need more help. People to join the rota to serve the drinks are always needed, but we also need a rota of people to spend a few minutes before 9.30 to put out some tables and chairs. Please email the office if you can help.

**We pray for those who have died:** Deacon Anthony Clarke, Teresa Edwards, baby Charlotte Flannery, John O'Hagan, Michael Ekong Sr, John Potter, Geraldine Muir, Mavis Kelly.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** David Clifton Young, Aileen Dunning, Michael Greaves, Mary Weeks, Richard Armstrong, Lionel Fannin, Amon D'Souza, Anne Guinle, Cyril Fleming, Jeanette Whiting, Clive Parfitt, Eamonn Murphy, Odette Shaw, Joanna & Dennis Duggan, Margaret Mary Milan, Berenice Goodwill

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

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 28.01.24</b>	
Plate Collection	1170.71
Contactless	238.00
Bank Standing Order	786.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1242.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3436.93</b>

## LAW SURGERY

**Monday 5 February 6.00pm in the HALL**  
Please come promptly at 6.00pm as the solicitor will leave when the last person has been seen.

This Monday Meditation will be in the  
**Lady Chapel** from  
5.30 - 6.20 pm.

## DIARY

### February

Sat 3 Walking Group See front page  
Tues 20 Requiem of Ita Smith at noon  
Wed 28 Requiem of John O'Hagan

### March

Fri 1 World Day of Prayer 3.30 in church

### September

Sat 28 Day for Catechists in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.

Please see brochures in the porch for forthcoming pilgrimages

The CTS stand is now on the wall by the gate to the balcony. Please keep an eye on it as we will shortly be receiving items for Lent.

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

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Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 28 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 for the  
Catholic Association of  
Racial Justice



### 9.30 FAMILY MASS



Since the Family Mass congregation joined the church congregation last November, we have been happy to share with everyone many of the elements which help the children to participate actively at Mass. In addition, we are looking forward to being able to meet again for tea and coffee after Mass in the hall.

Here are some reminders of how children, families and everyone can contribute to our celebration of Mass:

#### **Children are invited to:**

Arrive early and be ready to take one of the special 'jobs' during the Mass: *carrying the cross, taking up the prayer books or candles, taking up the bread and wine and foodbank donations at the offertory.*

Walk in procession to the altar at the beginning of Mass.

Use a coloured Order of Mass card and join in the prayers of the Mass.

Walk to the first step in front of the altar to pray the **Our Father**

#### **Families are invited to:**

Arrive early and welcome others to Mass!

Read at Mass with their children. *Ask one of the Family Mass Team about this.*

#### **Everyone is invited to:**

Write a prayer intention and add it to our prayer books before Mass. The children bring these to the altar as we begin our Bidding Prayers; they also place a votive candle near the prayer books to represent each Bidding Prayer.

Bring a small donation of food\* or some toiletries for the Living Well foodbank. Take these to the altar in the offertory procession or ask one of the children to take your donation up for you.

Come across to the hall for refreshments after Mass - get to know each other better - welcome new parishioners and visitors – let the children have some playtime...

*\*Please note that the Living Well Foodbank can only accept **non-perishable** items.*

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION Sunday 9 June at the 5.30 pm Mass

Registration for the 2024 St Edmund's Confirmation Course is open to candidates in **Year 9** and above.  
The course starts on 3 March.

For more information, to sign up and to pay your subscription please use this ChurchSuite link  
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/nn42ohqm>

**Applications close on  
Sunday 28 January.**

### THANK YOU!

Caroline and I were very moved by last Saturday's lovely Farewell Mass, and touched by the generosity of your many gifts - thank you so much.

I miss you very much and there are many special memories. Beckenham and West Wickham parishes have always been linked (indeed they were a single parish until 1948); as I said on Saturday you may still see me at St Mary's (for which West Wickham is a feeder parish) and in the PRUH.

Many thanks and God bless

Father Ashley

### RACIAL JUSTICE SECOND COLLECTION

Today's second collection is for the Catholic Association of Racial Justice. All the money donated is used to support the work of the Catholic Church in promoting racial justice in our schools, parishes and in wider society.



### ST EDMUND'S WALKING GROUP

Saturday 3 February

This is the feast of St Blaise and Robert Richards is planning to lead a walk to the St Blaise's Well on Saturday 3 February after 10.00 am Mass. Please join us if you can. The walk will start in Bromley (leaving the Churchill Theatre at 11.30 am) where we will be joined by Father Ashley's parishioners, and will continue walking to the Well at the Civic Centre. As the Civic Centre is moving to Bromley South, this may be our last opportunity to visit the Well.

Mavis Alagar (07904 812350)



### World Day of Prayer 2024

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated

annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March.

Our service for this year's World Day of Prayer will take place at St Edmund's at 3.30pm on Friday 1st March.

The service this year has been prepared (many months before October 7th 2023), by the women of Palestine.

Please put the date in your diary and come along. As we are the hosts, it would be lovely to have a good representation from St Edmund's parishioners.

There will be light refreshments in the Hall after the service. Everyone is most welcome.

### The Light of Christ

#### Catholic Charismatic Prayer Meeting

Please join us in the hall on Wednesday 31 January for:

7.45pm Praise and Worship  
8.00pm Holy Mass  
Celebrant Fr John Olaniran  
Followed by Fellowship  
10.00pm Evening concludes

We received this letter last week and thought we should share it.



**Living Well**  
Bromley

Dear all,

My name is Ray Shergill, and I am thrilled to be a part of the pastoral team for Living Well. Our goal is to share love, and care, and be a listening ear for LW clients, ensuring that they receive the best possible pastoral care.

Our team will also focus on establishing a strong foundation for this ministry that can carry on for many years to come. We have developed a three-phase model for this ministry, which is still a work in progress, and we will provide further details when we meet.

We would like to know if you are interested in volunteering on any of the days when LW is active, which are Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday.

You are not required to volunteer on all three days or every week. It will depend on the number of volunteers we can get.

We would be looking to implement phase 1 as soon as we get a sufficient amount of volunteers to help.

Please do email me at:

[curate@htsj-penge.church](mailto:curate@htsj-penge.church)

Or text 07438 927491

### BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

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>

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 28 Jan</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday</b>
6.00 pm	For the people
<b>VIGIL</b>	
9.30 am	God's blessing & guidance for Rafal
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	Presentation of St Stephen's Guild Medals
11.00 am	Eithne Beecher RIP (1st anniv)
5.30 pm	Janet Maureen Brown RIP & deceased family members
<b>Monday 29 Jan</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Dec'd members of the Stephens family
	No Adoration today - church maintenance
<b>Tuesday 30 Jan</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Welfare of Raphael Fleming
<b>Wed 31 Jan</b>	<b>St John Bosco, Priest</b>
10.00 am	Patricia Ross RIP
8.00 pm Hall	Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 1 Feb</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Dec'd members of the O'Mahony & Holland families
<b>Friday 2 Feb</b>	<b>The Presentation of The Lord, Candlemas &amp; Blessing of throats</b>
9.00 am St Marys	Yr 5 Mass
10.00 am	Fr Harry Doyle RIP
	First Friday Adoration & Benediction
<b>Saturday 3 Feb</b>	<b>St Laurence of Canterbury, Bishop</b>
10.00 am	Thomas Keane Snr RIP
6.00 pm	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
<b>Sunday 4 Jan</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday</b>
9.30 am	Patricia Ross RIP
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>	Church Parade
11.00 am	Ints of Sr Micheline
5.30 pm	For the people of our parish

*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 unless there is a funeral.*

## REFRESHMENTS AFTER 9.30 MASS

We are happy to have restarted refreshments after the 9.30 Family Mass on Sundays.

For it to continue each week we really need more help. People to join the rota to serve the drinks are always needed, but we also need a rota of people to spend a few minutes before 9.30 to put out some tables and chairs.

Please email the office if you can help.

**We pray for those who have died:** Deacon Anthony Clarke, Teresa Edwards, baby Charlotte Flannery, John O'Hagan, Michael Ekong.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Daniel Massey, Jason Du Haney, Richard Lee, Brian Russell, Jim McNamara, Michael Akpenyi, Catherine Teresa Jones, Victor Parascandolo, Frank Dyer, James Doherty, Josephine Wesson, Patricia Edwards, Derek Ransley, Dolly Lock, Patricia Jenkins, Mary Li, Gaynor Mullane, Mary Weeks, Richard Armstrong, Margaret 'Kate' Morley.

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

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 21.01.24</b>	
Plate Collection	1268.00
Contactless	189.50
Bank Standing Order	1031.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1018.92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3507.42</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

Sat 27 Contemplative Saturday 11-12 in Hall  
Sun 28 Racial Justice Sunday 10am at St Georges Cathedral & Amigo Hall

### February

Sat 3 Walking Group 11.30 am from Churchill Theatre  
Tues 20 Requiem of Ita Smith at noon

### March

Fri 1 World Day of Prayer 3.30 in church

### September

Sat 28 Day for Catechists in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.

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



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

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.
--------	---

## 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**

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Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 14 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  
Catholic Children's Society

## COME AND THANK FR ASHLEY FOR 27 YEARS

A reminder to you all of the farewell Mass to Fr Ashley on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January. This will be at 6pm followed by a reception in the parish hall. I hope as many of you can attend as possible to show your appreciation to Fr Ashley for his commitment and dedication to this parish over the last 27 years. Please continue to pray for his ministry at St Mark's, West Wickham, and indeed for the parishioners of that parish.

Fr Damian, who has been with us since the beginning of December leaves at the end of this month to a more permanent appointment elsewhere in the Diocese. I am currently looking for a third priest to serve here at St Edmund's but in the meantime we must 'cut our coat according to our cloth' and sadly stick with reduced Masses until we can welcome another priest.

On behalf of my fellow priests, I would like to thank you for your generous Christmas offerings. May God continue to bless you and sustain you throughout 2024.

Fr Steve



### 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/nn42ohqm>

Applications close on 28 January.  
The course starts on 3 March 2024.

### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2024

[www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer)

There will be a quiet time of reflection between 2-4pm on Monday 22 January at St Edmund's. Please also look at the poster at the back of church for events taking place in other Beckenham churches.

### CRIB OFFERINGS 2023

This Christmas our crib offerings were for the Catholic Children's Society which provides emergency grants for children and families in our Archdiocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. This weekend we have a second collection for the Catholic Children's society to boost the donations made at the crib.

### 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>

### VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN (20s & 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life  
Dates: 16-18 February 2024

Location: Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

**Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.**

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection & input, a chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

## MASSES

<b>Sunday 14 Jan</b>	<b>Second Sunday</b>
6.00 pm VIGIL	Antonio and Maria Antonia RIP
9.30 am	Monica Grima RIP
11.00 am	Dec'd members of the Brosnan family
5.30 pm	John Leonard RIP
<b>Monday 15 Jan</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Intentions of all SVP members and their families
<b>Tuesday 16 Jan</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	May and Sharon O'Reilly RIP
<b>Wed 17 Jan</b>	<b>St Anthony, Abbot</b>
10.00 am	Forgotten Holy Souls in Purgatory
8.00 pm Hall	Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 18 Jan</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Alfonso and Mariuccia Nesti RIP
<b>Friday 19 Jan</b>	<b>Feria (St Wulstan, Bishop)</b>
10.00 am	Helen White RIP
	Adoration & Benediction
<b>Saturday 20 Jan</b>	<b>Feria (St Fabian, Pope &amp; Martyr)</b>
10.00 am	Margaret White RIP
6.00 pm	Ivy Savage RIP
	<b>Farewell Mass for Fr Ashley</b>
<b>Sunday 21 Jan</b>	<b>Third Sunday</b>
9.30 am	Intentions of Maureen Pinkett
11.00 am	Veronica Lambert RIP
5.30 pm	Josie Golden RIP

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

### Collection for Fr Ashley

Cheques and cash gifts can be put through the Office door, clearly marked for Fr Ashley's collection, or an envelope can be put into the collection basket.

You can also use this link which will take you to the 'donate' page on the website: please select 'Fr Ashley's gift' from the drop down menu.

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

### LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

Mass this week will be celebrated by Fr Regis Rubaya, parish priest of Our Lady and St Philip Neri, Sydenham.

After Mass there will be informal prayer consisting of praise and worship hymns, spontaneous scripture sharing and intercessory prayer.

Refreshments at 9.30pm

All Welcome

Enquiries to Tom 07982 999319

**We pray for those who have died:** Rita Costello, Tony Nicholson, Melvin Deakin

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Leo Carroll, Nora Kidd, Lucy Denne, Sharon Oates, James O'Reilly, William Webster, Peggy Brown, Dythe Ashford, Tanya Clarke, Terence McGee, James O'Reilly, Baby William Paul 'Wotsit' Pemberton, Maureen Finch, Linda Turp, Geoffrey Sisley, Samuel Sana, Emily Edwards

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

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 07.01.24	
Plate Collection	1151.23
Contactless	195.00
Bank Standing Order	2247.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	2053.29
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5646.52</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

Sat 20	Reception for Fr Ashley in hall after 6 Mass
Mon 22	Quiet time of reflection as part of Octave of Christian Unity - 2 - 4.00pm
Sat 27	Contemplative Saturday 11-12
Fri 26	Funeral Service for Mel Deakin - noon

### SAVE THE DATE

#### September

Sat 28	Day for Catechists in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.
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Tony Nicholson's funeral will be on Tuesday 16 January at 2pm at Vinters Crematorium, Bearsted Road, Maidstone ME14 5LG - all those who remember Tony will be very welcome.

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

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ildigwe - 07404 383 130 - [damianildigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianildigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 7 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 Next Weekend  
Catholic Children's Society

## A TIME TO REFLECT

Happy New Year! January is a time both to look back and to look forward, to reflect on what went well in 2023 and what didn't, and to anticipate the potential of a new year and the good things that it will bring. Many of us make resolutions for the new year; for instance, I have set out to read the Bible in a year - by listening to Fr Mike Schmitz's podcast. This moment is an opportunity to renew our relationship with our Father, to be closer to Him, to offer the best of ourselves to God who is with us. This is a new chapter for our parish as we say thank you and goodbye to Fr Ashley and pray for his ministry in West Wickham. This community is only as strong as you: your commitment makes everything possible. We thank you for the gifts of time, talent and money that you give to St Edmund's. At the same time, we pray that your generosity will increase so that we can all continue to grow together as disciples of Christ.

The clergy team pray that your lives will be truly blessed in this new year and that you will feel the presence of God beside you.

Deacon Ray

### 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/nn42ohqm>

**Applications close on 28 January.**

The course starts on 3 March 2024.

### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2024

[www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer)

There will be a quiet time of reflection between 2-4pm on Monday 22 January at St Edmund's. Please also look at the poster at the back of church for other events taking place in other Beckenham churches.

### LAW SURGERY

**Monday 8 January 6.00pm**

The next Law Surgery will be held in the Presbytery. Please come promptly at 6.00pm as the solicitor will leave when the last person has been seen. The door will be opened by a volunteer parishioner and your privacy is respected at all times

### CRIB OFFERINGS 2023

This Christmas our crib offerings are for the Catholic Children's Society. This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Archdiocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. Every penny donated to the crib will be given out via these grants. Donations can be placed in the wall safe marked CRIB in the narthex and we will have a second collection for the Catholic Children's society next weekend.

### Young Adults 20-30 Easter Pilgrimage

**The Camino Santiago de Compostela, Spain**

1st-7th April 2024. Approximate cost £500. All

info here: [The Camino Santiago de Compostela](https://www.camino.org.uk/). Interested? Please complete the 'Expression of Interest Form', the British Province of Carmelites will then send you further information and next steps info.

### Bromley Deanery Young Adults 18-35

**Reflection Week at Taizé, France**

25<sup>th</sup> August to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. Approximate costs £275\* including return coach and accommodation for the week. This is a Bromley Deanery Trip - please register your interest via [this link](#). More info will be sent in January following your registration.

\*cost will vary dependent on accommodation choice (dorms or tent)

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for the many cards and gifts so generously left at the presbytery for all of the clergy team.

God bless you all

Fr Steve



## MASSES

**Sunday 7 Jan The Epiphany of the Lord**  
 6.00 pm VIGIL Howard Long RIP  
 9.30 am FAMILY MASS Eamon Walsh RIP (anniv)  
 11.00 am Dec'd members of the  
 Filgate Family  
 5.30 pm Josef Wallner RIP (34th anniv)

**Monday 8 Jan The Baptism of The Lord**  
 10.00 am Colin Dowling RIP

End of the Season of Christmas

**Tuesday 9 Jan Feria**  
 10.00 am Harendrakumar Manibhal Patel RIP  
 11.45 am Requiem of Peter Carr

**Wed 10 Jan Feria**  
 10.00 am Eileen Monica O'Sullivan RIP  
 11.45 am Requiem of Veronica Lambert  
 8.00 pm Hall Charismatic Mass

**Thursday 11 Jan Feria**  
 10.00 am Wellbeing of Gretta O'Reilly

**Friday 12 Jan Feria**  
 10.00 am Ellen Keane RIP  
**Adoration & Benediction**

**Saturday 13 Jan Feria (St Hilary, Bishop & Doctor)**  
 10.00 am For the ints of Fr Steve  
 6.00 pm Antonio and Maria Antonia RIP

**Sunday 14 Jan Second Sunday**  
 9.30 am Monica Grima RIP  
 11.00 pm Dec'd members of the  
 Brosnan family  
 5.30 pm John Leonard RIP

## FR ASHLEY

There will be a special Mass for Fr Ashley to celebrate, and thank him, for his 27 years of service at St Edmunds and this will be on Saturday 20 January at 6pm followed by a reception in the hall to which everyone is invited.

There is also a collection for Fr Ashley. Cheques and cash gifts can be put through the Office door, clearly marked for Fr Ashley's collection, or an envelope can be put into the collection basket.

You can also use this link which will take you to the 'donate' page on the website: please select 'Fr Ashley's gift' from the drop down menu.

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

Tony Nicholson's funeral will be on Tuesday 16 January at 2pm at Vinters Crematorium, Bearsted Road, Maidstone ME14 5LG - all those who remember Tony will be very welcome.

**We pray for those who have died:** Rita Costello, Veronica Lambert, Tony Nicholson, Melvin Deakin, Peter Carr, Nelson Otomewo and Agnes Kelly

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Lindsay Pollard, Armando Campos, Sheila Morgan, Patricia Griffin, Fr Patrick Byrne, Sheilah Renwood, Alex Tinto, James Wallis, Susan Pace, Anna Belfourd, Muriel Goffart, Teague McGinley, Fabrizio Lanzetti, Frank Penston, John Goodwill, Sr Laserian Fleming, Michael Fitzpatrick, Harry McGuigan, Jean Harrigan, Carol Williams, Kathleen Bryon, Agnes Burns

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

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.

## DIARY

### January

Mon 8 Law Surgery in Presbytery at 6.00  
 Tues 9 Requiem of Peter Carr - 11.45  
 Wed 10 Requiem of Veronica Lambert -11.45  
 Sat 20 Reception for Fr Ashley in hall after 6 Mass  
 Mon 22 Quiet time of reflection as part of  
 Octave of Christian Unity - 2 - 4.00pm  
 Fri 26 Funeral Service for Mel Deakin - noon

### SAVE THE DATE

#### September

Sat 28 Day for Catechists in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.



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

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 or - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 24 December YR B

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver  
020 8313 3915

[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

Your gifts this week are for the  
priests of our parish.

## Happy Christmas from the clergy team at St Edmund's

*May I, on behalf of all the clergy team wish the parishioners of St Edmund's a happy and blessed Christmas and a peaceful new year. Thank you to everyone who has had a part in preparing our church and our services for Christmas. I am grateful to you all.*

Fr Steve

This newsletter covers the next two weeks. Any contributions for the issue of the 7 January should be with the Parish Office by noon on Wednesday 3rd.

The Office will be closed between Christmas and the New Year and re-open on 2 January.

A very happy Christmas to all from Rosemary and Barbara.

### CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS TO OUR PRIESTS

The offerings from all Christmas Masses are your personal gift to our priests and are separate from any standing orders or regular giving you may have already set up. Gift Aid can be claimed on these Christmas offerings but is retained by the parish itself (the priests do not benefit from this element). As the Christmas collection is always so generous we urge our Gift Aid donors to ensure their offering is given in an envelope showing their Gift Aid number or their name and address.

Christmas Offerings can also be made online through our donatelink on the website:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate>

Please check that 'Christmas Offering for Priests' is selected from the dropdown menu and continue by following the on-screen prompts.

### READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Let us join together after 10.00 am Mass on Saturday 30 December for Adoration and prayer in thanksgiving for our ministry this year.

Mavis

### LAW SURGERY

**Monday 8 January**

The next Law Surgery will be in the Presbytery from 6.00 pm.

Please come promptly at 6.00 as the solicitor will leave when the last person has been seen.

The door will be opened by a volunteer parishioner and your privacy is respected at all times



### A MESSAGE FROM LIVING WELL

'Thank you so much for your incredible donations of food and money! We are so very grateful to you and the congregation of St Edmund's'.

*There is a lovely thank you letter from Living Well on the porch notice board.*

### CRIB OFFERINGS 2023

This Christmas our crib offerings are for the Catholic Children's Society. This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Archdiocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. Every penny donated to the crib will be given out via these grants. Donations can be placed in the wall safe marked CRIB in the narthex.

We will have a second collection for the Catholic Children's society on 14 January.

Tony Nicholson, for many years a parishioner at St Edmund's, died on 19 December. He was the husband of Mary (née Conmy), and father to John, Adam and Luke, all of whom attended St Mary's.

May he rest in peace.



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



### Masses for Christmas Week

<b>Sunday 24</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>
6.00 pm <b>VIGIL</b>	Paddy Sheehan RIP & John Sheehan RIP (1st anniv)
9.30 am	Henry & Eileen Ghent RIP
11.00 am	For the people
	<b>Christmas Vigil Masses</b>
4.00 pm	For the people
	<b><i>This Mass is for families with toddlers and school age children.</i></b>
6.00 pm	David Stephens RIP & Paul Stephens RIP
	The Folk Choir will be providing music at this Mass
11.30 pm	Carols & Readings
12.00 am	Midnight Mass
	Maurice Tydings RIP
	Enid & Tony Duggan & Margaret & Gerald Baker
	In thanksgiving-Ekong & Edet families
<b>Mon 25 Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>
8.00 am	Bill, Nora & Margaret Spillane RIP
9.30 am	Emmanuel Nwosu & family - in thanksgiving and for wellbeing
11.00 am	Sr Mary Ghent OSM RIP and Patrick & Agnes Chambers RIP
	<b>No evening Mass</b>
<b>Tue 26 Dec</b>	<b>St Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr</b>
10.00 am	For the wellbeing of Emmanuel Nwosu & family
<b>Wed 27 Dec</b>	<b>St John, Apostle &amp; Evangelist</b>
10.00 am	Janet Maureen Browne RIP & dec'd family members
<b>Thu 28 Dec</b>	<b>The Holy Innocents</b>
10.00 am	Andrew Bready
<b>Fri 29 Dec</b>	<b>St Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop &amp; Martyr</b>
10.00 am	Iolene Durham RIP (5th anniv)
<b>Sat 30 Dec</b>	<b>Sixth day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</b>
10.00 am	For the ints of Fr Steve
<b>Sun 31 Dec</b>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</b>
9.30 am	Margaret Lafferty RIP
11.00 pm	Manuel Alvarado RIP & Rosario Galindo RIP
<b>Mon 1 Jan</b>	<b>Mary, the Holy Mother of God</b>
10.00 am	Daniel James Rumbol (5th anniv)
<b>Tues 2 Jan</b>	<b>Saints Basil the Great &amp; Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops</b>
10.00 am	Roslyn Fleming RIP
<b>Wed 3 Jan</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Fr Barry Hallett RIP
<b>Thu 4 Jan</b>	<b>The Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese</b>
10.00 am	Colin Dowling RIP
<b>Fri 5 Jan</b>	<b>Feria First Friday</b>
9.00 am St Mary's	Start of term Mass
10.00 am	Geoffrey & Frances Sisley RIP & dec'd relatives
	<b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>Sat 6 Jan</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Ints of Flynn & Ruddy Families
6.00 pm <b>VIGIL</b>	Howard Long RIP
<b>Sun 7 Jan</b>	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>
9.30 am <small>FAMILY MASS</small>	Eamon Walsh RIP (anniv)
11.00 am	Dec'd members of the Filgate Family
5.30 pm	Josef Wallner RIP (34th anniv)

**We pray for those who have died:** Rita Costello, Helen White, Veronica Lambert, John Leonard, Evelyn Keeley, Melvin Deakin, Peter Carr.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Ellen Frances Whelan, John Keogh, Cicely Welsh, John Flood, Sybil Brocklehurst, Leo Tindemans, Ann Lynch, Joan Guiseppi, Agnes Fahy, Elvire Foster, Felix De Souza, Alan Clarke, Keith Garraway, Marion Skelly, Canon Michael Reynell, William O'Neill, Ralph Lilly, Janusz Kopczynski, Iolene Durham, Ted Northwood, Alycia Stannard, Larry Brady, Dorothy Pask, Dirce O'Donnell, Salome Cabili, Betty Norman, Joseph Gibney, Evelyn Dias, Richard Graves, Anthony Richins, Lloyd Carpenter, Brian Miller, Patrick Flaherty, Joan Dempsey, Paula Vella, Walter Airey, June Chill, Terrance Forrest, John Kelsall

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

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.

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 10.12.23</b>	
Plate Collection	1031.60
Contactless	194.00
Bank Standing Order	1013.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	938.03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3176.63</b>

### DIARY

#### January

Mon 8	Law Surgery in Presbytery at 6.00
Tues 9	Requiem of Peter Carr - 11.45
Wed 10	Requiem of Veronica Lambert - 11.45
Mon 22	Quiet time of reflection as part of Octave of Christian Unity - 2 to 4.00
Fri 26	Funeral Service for Mel Deakin - noon

#### SAVE THE DATE

28 September 2024 Day for Catechists – in the Cathedral and Amigo Hall.



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Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - 07404 383 130 or - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 17 December

YR B

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

**THERE IS NO SECOND  
COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND**

## Christ our Light

The Lord Jesus declared, "I am the light of the world, he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (Jn.8.12). The service of the light on Holy Saturday well portrays Christ as the Light of the world. In some scriptural accounts, God is pictured in the burning bush, the pillar of clouds, as the rising sun and the light that endures. This Light that is God is shown as welcoming, guiding, unraveling, and enlivening (Rev.22.5). These days of the Christmas lights - we recall the birth of a baby in the Holy Family, the baby Jesus - the gift that is God, the Light of the world. The night of the Lord's birth was unique because it was a silent night, a holy night – when all was calm and all was bright. "The Word became silent in the manger and on the Cross. They were moments of great and powerful silence" (Pope Francis). More so, it was the night of a burst of light in the world and in the lives of men and women. The Nativity is God touching base with us – "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn.1.14). The coming of God the Son in time and in humanity; dwelling spiritually in faith and charity in our soul.

These days are days of disturbance in the Holy Land – the region of the Lord's birth, growth, and ministry. There is a daily reminder of the sorrows and anguish of the victims of war, the displacement and death of children, women, and men. About this same time – there are solidarity marches and more apprehension in the Diaspora. It's simply timely to turn to **JESUS**, the *Prince of Peace*, for a peaceful settlement and the *Light of the World*, to chase away these pockets of darkness. The Nativity of Jesus is to give glory to the Father and pray that peace may reign on earth. The gift of peace is realized when bitterness is forgotten, discords are resolved and Christ - the light is allowed in. The power of the Incarnation of Jesus is meant to dispel the darkness of men's heart and world – just as darkness disappears when the light comes in. The Christmas trees, the Christmas lights,

and Christmas cribs are pointers to the significance of our eternal salvation – the little baby in the manger, the light of the world. Jesus is the light of the world - the light that never conforms nor goes out, the unconquerable Sun. The light that invites, illuminates, and liberates.

The People of God are to radiate this light by making it visible, penetrating, and prevailing in the world (Mt.5.14). Our good deeds are amplified when the light of Christ shines in our hearts and in our world. The light of Christ is never self generated but only reflected by men - "the Christian must be a luminous person who carries the light, a light that is not his own, but a gift of God, a gift of Jesus. We carry this forward" (Pope Francis). May Christ the Lord - save us through his birth! We wish you all a happy Christmas.

Fr John Olaniran



### St Mary's Primary School Reception September 2004

All Supplementary Information Forms need to be with Fr Steve for signing **before Christmas.**

Please drop them off at the Parish Office.



### **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

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

Registration for the 2024

St Edmunds Confirmation Course  
is now open to candidates in

**Year 9** and above.

For more information, to sign up and to pay  
your subscription please go to the  
Churchsuite link on the website:

[https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/  
nn42ohgm](https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/nn42ohgm)



The application window will be  
closed on 28 January.

The course starts on  
3 March 2024.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY IN CHURCH**

With fewer Masses being celebrated in the  
church it is likely that each one will have a  
higher attendance than we have been used  
to post Covid. If there is an emergency it is  
well to be prepared.

There are notices in the porch showing all  
the emergency exits but parishioners  
should be aware that the bar on all doors  
leading to the outside just needs to be  
pushed firmly and they will open.

Please be careful not to block the exits and  
please park pushchairs, walkers and  
trolleys away from doors.

If there is an emergency please listen to  
the welcomer at your Mass and follow  
their instructions.

### **BROMLEY DEANERY RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

You are invited to an Advent Celebration of  
Reconciliation to be held from 4.00 pm on

**Saturday 16th December**

at St Edmunds.

Visiting priests will be available to hear  
individual confessions and to  
give absolution

All are welcome

*Jesus said: When two or three meet in my  
name I shall be there with them*

### **PARISH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE**

Thank you to all who attended our  
Parish Advent Carol Service last Saturday  
and to anyone who joined in online.

Special thanks to all the singers, musicians  
and readers who participated.

The collection came to £511.35 in aid of  
St. Christopher's Hospice.

It is not too late if you wish to donate to this  
worthy cause.

The JustGiving page will be open until  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2023:

[www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-  
1699010107900?utm\\_term=NWyNwYb5w](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w)

### **ADVENT MASSES**

**SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER**

**6.00 pm VIGIL Saturday 23rd**

**9.30 am**

**11.00 am**

**CHRISTMAS MASSES  
SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER**

**4.00 pm**

*This is a special Mass intended for the  
young children of our parish and  
their parents.*

**6.00 pm**

**11.30 pm**

**Carols and readings before  
Midnight Mass**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

**8.00 am**

**9.30 am**

**11.00 am**

On **Saturday 30th December** a member of  
the St Francis Catholic Walking Group will  
lead a walk from Ravensbourne Station to  
Lewisham Station, passing through  
Beckenham Place Park, Cator Park, Bell  
Green, Catford and the Waterlink Way.  
The meeting point is Ravensbourne Station  
at 10.17 am, awaiting arrival of train from  
Central London. The distance is approxi-  
mately 9 miles but there are several drop out  
points along the walk. The lunch stop is  
O'Neill's in Beckenham.

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

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

Thank you.

### SVP CHRISTMAS LUNCH

What a fantastic SVP Christmas lunch we all enjoyed in the church hall last Monday.

We welcomed 77 of our parishioners and friends to a delicious three course traditional Christmas lunch cooked that morning.

A quartet of cellists played for the first half of the lunch and then a choir of 12 Mini Vinnie school children from St. Mary's joined us and entertained us with a beautiful selection of carols and also presented each one of our guests with a personalised hand-made Christmas card.

Thanks to the children, all our volunteers and supporters who make this special annual lunch possible

Fiona Ross



### BLUE CHRISTMAS

**Christ Church, Beckenham, by Lidl**  
**Wednesday 20th December at 2.00 pm**  
in the Main Hall

Christ Church is holding a gentle, informal service for anyone missing a loved one at Christmas. All are welcome to attend this service which will be very informal, with tea, cake and a listening ear.

### LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

The celebrant for Mass this Wednesday will be Fr Stephen Balugon who is currently a student in Rome and in England for a short while.

We will not be meeting on 27th December or 3rd January.

### NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION??

Have you ever started the year resolving to read through the whole bible - or resolving to increase your knowledge and understanding of the bible? I've tried many times and failed!

This year I discovered a plan that worked!! Not only will I have read (with 18 days to go) all 73 books of the Catholic bible but I have found the journey a joy and a revelation and it has helped me to relate God's word to my everyday life. What's the secret? The Bible in a Year podcast with Fr Mike Schmitz. Each daily episode is 20-25 minutes long and has 2 or 3 short scripture readings, a prayer and a reflection. The podcast is free on various platforms including Spotify, Hallow and Ascension and has around 750,000 daily listeners!! You can start at any time and go at your own pace - why not give it a try.

I plan to start a group in the New Year so that fellow Bible in a Year listeners can meet together and encourage one another.

Annie Williamson

## MASSSES BEGINNING 10 DECEMBER YR B

**Please remember there are no weekday evening Masses and there is no longer an 8.00 am Mass on Sunday morning.**

### Sunday 17 Dec Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday

9.30 am Mick Westgarth RIP (1st anniv)  
11.00 am For the people  
5.30 pm Maureen & Bridie Howard RIP

**Monday 18 Dec Feria**  
10.00 am A private intention

**Tuesday 19 Dec Feria**  
10.00 am Alice Castle RIP and the wellbeing of the Castle Family.

**Wed 20 Dec Feria**  
9.00 am St Mary's End of Term Mass  
10.00 am Joan Everett RIP  
8.00 pm Hall Charismatic Mass

**Thursday 21 Dec Feria**  
10.00 am John Friend-Pereira RIP  
8.00 pm Claver Adoration

**Friday 22 Dec Feria**  
10.00 am The FitzGerald Family  
Adoration & Benediction

**Saturday 23 Dec Feria**  
10.00 am Maria Paolo Collu RIP  
6.00 pm **VIGIL** Paddy Sheehan RIP & John Sheehan RIP (1st anniv)

**Sunday 24 Dec Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
9.30 am Henry & Eileen Ghent RIP  
11.00 am Bill, Norah & Margaret Spillane

### Christmas Vigil Mass

4.00 pm For the people of the parish  
*This Mass is especially for our families with young children. You may prefer to attend a later Mass if you are not accompanying children.*

6.00 pm David Stephens RIP & Paul Stephens RIP  
7.30 pm In thanksgiving –Ekong & Edet families  
11.30 Carols & Readings before Mass  
midnight Maurice Tydings RIP  
Enid & Tony Duggan RIP & Margaret & Gerald Baker RIP

**Monday 25 Dec Christmas Day**  
8.00 am Bill, Nora & Margaret Spillane RIP  
9.30 am Emmanuel Nwosu & family - in thanksgiving and for wellbeing  
11.00 am Sr Mary ghent OSM RIP and Patrick & Agnes Chambers RIP  
**No evening Mass**

**Tuesday 26 Dec** For the wellbeing of Emmanuel Nwosu & family

**We pray for those who have died:** Rita Costello, Helen White, Gwen, Veronica Lambert, John Leonard, Evelyn Keeley, Melvin Deakin.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur this week:** Evelyn Deegan, Charles Paes. Angela Laws, Stella Ling, Terry Smith, Kitirna Sana, Eileen Sullivan, Antoinette Davies, Joseph Da Cruz,. Ann Craig, Fr Vincent Griffin, Carmel Connell, Orazio Rossi, Fr David Maher, Margaret Murphy, Aldo Signorelli, Merle Whittle, Tessa Gould, Glen Le Fleur, Joh Sheehan, Joseph Fennessy, Glenys Warren, Gabriela Krakowska, Wally Nisbet.

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.

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 10.12.23	
Plate Collection	855.52
Contactless	214.00
Bank Standing Order	881.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1110.78
<b>TOTAL</b>	3061.30

## DIARY

### December

Sat 16 Deanery Reconciliation Service  
4.00

### January

Wed 10 Requiem of Veronica Lambert -  
11.45  
Mon 22 Quiet time of reflection as part of  
Octave of Christian Unity -  
2 to 4.00

Rejoice!  
Gaudete  
Sunday





## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 10 December

YR B

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

**NO SECOND  
COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND**

## Family Mass at St Edmund's

Why is it important to have a dedicated 'Family Mass'? The answer is simple: children are the future of the Church. For that reason we need to give children a positive experience of Mass, welcoming them and showing them with their families how they can all play an active part in the celebration of Mass, by teaching them - explicitly and by example - what to do in church, including the gestures we use and how quiet we try to be, especially during the Eucharistic Prayer.

For the last two and a half years Family Mass has been held in St Edmund's Hall in parallel with 9.30 Mass in the church. It was re-launched in May 2021, when we were still under Covid-19 restrictions. From the many challenges we faced, a new and close congregation was formed, the fastest-growing of all in our parish. Family Mass has been a joyful experience and something we want to sustain.

When the Family Mass congregation last met in the hall on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October, we had no idea that change was in the air: change that meant Family Mass would need to move into the church.

We therefore now find ourselves in the process of integrating elements of our Family Mass into the established 9.30 Mass:

Children and families welcoming everyone to Mass.

Children leading the entry procession.

Children and/or their parents reading regularly, as the rotas merge.

Writing prayers or prayer intentions to add to our prayer books which are taken to the priest or deacon during the bidding prayers.

Making each bidding prayer our own, by singing a response.

Families taking the bread and wine to the altar.

Bringing small items of food or toiletries to give to the Living Well foodbank which the children take up in the offertory procession.

Singing the 'Echo' Our Father.

***We would like to invite everyone to join us in...***

Welcoming everyone to Mass, especially all families and those new to the Parish.

Preparing for Mass at home by writing a prayer or special intention on a Post-It note to add to our prayer books when you arrive.

Bringing small donations for the foodbank each week. The children will be pleased to take them to the altar on your behalf.

***To families with young children...***

Please come and sit in the benches nearest to the altar so that the children can see what is going on without having their view blocked by adults; it will also be easier to involve children during Mass, e.g. during the homily.

Please do not worry if your child makes a noise sometimes; you are all welcome and no-one is going to glare at you!

Please feel free to go into the Lady Chapel if you feel that your child is becoming very unsettled; from there you will still be able to hear and participate.

Please use the area at the back of the church labelled *Buggy Park* for your buggies if they are not needed during Mass.

Please encourage your child to develop their understanding of the Mass and their ability to engage, by guiding them through an age-appropriate missal; a range of resources to support this is available in the church shop.

Share other ideas with me (Ann Higgs) or one of the Family Mass Team – Laura, Rachel, Anna, Daniel, Diana, Natasha - about how we can develop this Mass further.

Ann Higgs





### ST EDMUND'S CHRISTMAS FAIR

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Fair on Saturday: to those who helped set up and run stalls, contributed items to sell, baked cakes, cleared up, and to Santa for dropping in to visit.

Together with proceeds from the Money Mountain we raised a magnificent £3242.07

Congratulations to Christine Parker for winning the money mountain.



### 300 CLUB CHRISTMAS DRAW

Congratulation to our Christmas Draw winners

Helen Emenike - £250

Melanie Beechinor Collins - £100  
and Don Mullane who won this beautiful hamper



### BROMLEY DEANERY RECONCILIATION SERVICE

You are invited to an Advent Celebration of Reconciliation to be held from 4.00 pm on Saturday 16th December at St Edmunds.

Visiting priests will be available to hear individual confessions and to give absolution

All are welcome

*Jesus said: When two or three meet in my name I shall be there with them*

### BLUE CHRISTMAS

**Christ Church, Beckenham, by Lidl**

Wednesday 20th December at 2.00 pm  
in the Main Hall

Christ Church is holding a gentle, informal service for anyone missing a loved one at Christmas. All are welcome to attend this service which will be very informal, with tea, cake and a listening ear.

### THE LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

Our celebrant for Mass at 8.00 pm this Wednesday will be Fr Celestine Ekwueme parish priest of St Matthew's, West Norwood. You are welcome to come for Mass only. Enquiries to Tom on 07982 999319

If you might be able to offer a home to a refugee please join an online information session hosted by Caritas Southwark.

**Wednesday 13 December 7.30 - 8.30 pm**

Email Caritas and they will forward the link to you.

[caritassouthwark@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:caritassouthwark@rcaos.org.uk)

This coming week is a very busy one for the church with two school concerts taking place. To ensure safety for all there will be times when the doors are closed and there is no admittance.

### WALKING GROUP

Coffee, mulled wine and mince pies at Margaret's house this Saturday 9 December at 11.00 am for members of the Walking Group.

69 Kenwood Drive BR3 6QZ

Tel: 07880 793 175

Looking forward to seeing you all.



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

### **PARISH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE**

**Saturday 9 December at 7.15 pm**

in the church, and online at  
[www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Come and enjoy carols and readings from the four Choirs in our parish.

A programme is available on the website for online viewers.

There will be a collection after the service for St Christopher's Hospice

You can also donate online: [www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w)

[utm\\_term=NWyNwYb5w](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w) or you can post a donation through the Office door marked St. Christopher's Hospice

We do hope you are able to join us in the church and then for mince pies and mulled wine afterwards in the Church Hall!

Thank you for your generosity towards Living Well last weekend. Your donations were taken to them on Monday.

In addition the collection raised over £740.



Anything that was left unsold after the Christmas Fair was taken down to their charity shop on Penge High Street where it will be able to raise even more funds for Living Well.

To donate to the Crowdfunder Appeal:  
<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/winter-crisis-appeal>

Thank you

### **FR ASHLEY**

We would like to take a collection for Fr Ashley in recognition of his 27 years service at St Edmund's.

This link will take you to the donate page on the website where you should choose the option for Fr Ashley's gift:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

Cheques and cash gifts can be put through the Office door, clearly marked for Fr Ashley, or an envelope can be put into the collection basket.

As we journey through Advent and the start of the new church year there are many resources online to help you prepare yourself for the coming of Christ and our new Catechesis, Formation and Evangelisation team has taken a look at them and recommends the following:

'Ascension' app - 'Rejoice' 5 minute daily audio reflections

Southwark Spirituality Commission daily reflections ([southwarkdsc.org.uk](http://southwarkdsc.org.uk))

CAFOD online advent calendar ([cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)) 'Hallow' app - Pray25 with C.S.Lewis

'Pray as you go' app - 'The Cry From the Manger' advent retreat

Please take a look at them and find one that helps you.

### **READERS AT MIDNIGHT MASS**

We need readers for the service of readings and carols immediately before Midnight Mass, and also for the Mass itself. If you will be at this service and would like to read, please contact Rosemary at [r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk)

Please don't leave it for later - get in touch now.

### **CHRISTMAS MASSES**

#### **SUNDAY MASSES**

**6.00 pm VIGIL Saturday 23rd**

**9.30 am**

**11.00 am**

#### **CHRISTMAS MASSES**

**4.00 pm**

*This is a special Mass intended for the young children of our parish and their parents.*

**6.00 pm**

**11.30 pm**

**Carols and readings before Midnight Mass**

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

**8.00 am**

**9.30 am**

**11.00 am**

**No evening Mass**

## MASSES BEGINNING 10 DECEMBER YR B

**Please remember there are no weekday evening Masses and there is no longer an 8.00 am Mass on Sunday morning.**

**Sunday 10 Dec Second Sunday of Advent**  
6.00 pm **VIGIL** Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP  
9.30 am Ann Moys RIP  
Rite of Aceptance  
11.00 am Giaco & Chona (wedding anniv)  
5.30 pm For the people  
Reception & Confirmation of Leon Carberry  
Celebrant Canon Victor Darlington

**Monday 11 Dec Feria (St Damasus 1, Pope)**  
10.00 am Joe Doyle RIP (2nd anniv)  
No Adoration today  
11.30 am Funeral service for Richard Solly

**Tuesday 12 Dec Feria (Our Lady of Guadalupe)**  
10.00 am Berthe Reynaud & Jean-Paul Schoens  
**Church closed from mid-day**  
Bishop Challoner School Advent Carol Service

**Wed 13 Dec St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr**  
10.00 am For the intentions of the friends & relatives of Anne Dougan  
No Adoration today  
**Church closed from 11.30 am**  
8.00 pm Hall Charismatic Mass

**Thursday 14 Dec St John of the Cross**  
10.00 am Monica Grima RIP  
No Adoration today  
**Church closed from 11.00 am**  
St Mary's School Advent Carol Service  
8.00 pm Claver Adoration

**Friday 15 Dec Feria**  
10.00 am Spiro & Alba RIP  
Adoration & Benediction

**Saturday 16 Dec Feria**  
10.00 am Canon Jack RIP  
4.00 pm Advent Reconciliation Service  
6.00 pm **VIGIL** Bridget Barry RIP

**Sunday 17 Dec Third Sunday of Advent**  
**Gaudete Sunday**  
9.30 am Mick Westgarth RIP (1st anniv)  
11.00 am For the people  
5.30 pm Maureen & Bridie Howard RIP

*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 9.30 am and after the  
10.00 am Mass there is Adoration.*



**We pray for those who have died:**  
Richard Solly, Eithne Leahy, Rita Costello,  
Helen White, Veronica Lambert.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur this week:** Lucas Campos, Elizabeth Lynch, Sharon Wigner, William Ross, Thomas Lee, Mary Sullivan, Spencer Hoyles, Chris McBurney, Bridie Neagle, Pamela Flood, Teresa Basquill, Mick Westgarth, John Ransford, Canon Jack Madden, Carmel Watt.

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

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.

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 3.12.23	
Plate Collection	1010.96
Contactless	217.31
Bank Standing Order	1885.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	2750.68
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5863.95</b>

## DIARY

### December

Sat 9 Advent Carol Service at 7.15  
followed by refreshments in Hall  
Mon 11 Funeral service for Richard Solly  
11.30  
Sat 16 Deanery Reconciliation Service  
4.00

### ATTENTION TO ALL DIANE'S PILGRIMS

Medjugorge, Holy Land, Walsingham, Assisi,  
San Giovanni Rotondo, Lourdes, Fatima,  
Divine Mercy Poland.....

Lets share some Christmas cheer - you are  
cordially invited to a bring and share on  
17 December at 1.00 pm at St Edmunds Hall.  
RSVP: Diane Brelu 07951 194036

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr Damian Ilodigwe - [damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:damianilodigwe@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 3 December

YR B

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver  
020 8313 3915

[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

**Second collection for  
Living Well**

## COME, LORD JESUS, COME!

"Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come." These are the sobering words of Jesus in the Gospel for this first Sunday of Advent. Essentially Jesus is saying, 'As you do not know when I will return, be steadfast in your vigilance.'

The first two Sundays of Advent concentrate on the second coming of our Lord and the last two, the first coming, the Incarnation. So, in a sense, we are looking forward with faith and looking back in a spirit of thanksgiving.

Being watchful for the Day of the Lord is all about being ready, and we prepare ourselves by nourishing our souls with the Mass, the scriptures, the sacraments, our prayers and our selfless good deeds.

However, although we wait and watch for this momentous return, it doesn't mean Jesus is absent from our everyday lives; he comes to us in many ways, through people, nature, prayers, dreams and so many of the events and experiences we have in our lifetime.

Have you ever thought of yourself as a contemplative? Henri Nouwen, a Dutch Catholic priest, writer and theologian (1932-1996) believed we are called to be contemplatives, see-ers who see the coming of God in our everyday world. It's a constant action going on around us, between us and within us. But he warns us to be aware of the obstacles and blindfolds that would prevent us from recognising and benefitting from his extraordinary presence. Can you think what they might be?

Perhaps during this first part of Advent we can focus on eradicating anything that would prevent us from experiencing his loving presence.

Here is a prayer that can be a plea to our Lord for the here and now and for when he finally comes at the end of time.

*"Oh! Yes, Lord Jesus, come and reign! Let my body be your Temple, my heart be your throne, my will be your devoted servant; let me be yours forever, living only of you and for you."*

St Peter Julian Eymard (1811-1868)

## WELCOME TO FATHER DAMIAN

I am delighted to welcome Fr Damian Ilodigwe who is joining us at St Edmund's for two months until I am back on my feet. Please give him your customary warm welcome.

## THANK YOU TO THE SVP

Monday lunchtime will see our SVP team hosting about seventy five people in what has become a much anticipated and enjoyable annual event.

Many thanks to the SVP for once again organising this Christmas lunch. It's always a great success and is a wonderful opportunity for people to catch up with old friends and make new ones in a relaxed atmosphere of festive cheer.

Fr Steve



FIRST SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*



### CONGRATULATIONS

Deacon Ray Williamson who has been studying for his MA in Catholic Social Teaching has just been awarded a Distinction.  
Congratulations Deacon Ray

### Christmas Fair

**This Saturday 2 December  
11 am to 3.30 pm**

If you are reading an emailed copy of this newsletter, PLEASE come to the fair on Saturday.

Meet friends and fellow parishioners, buy Christmas gifts, enjoy some lovely refreshments and have some fun.

### LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

The celebrant for our Mass on Wednesday 6 December will be Fr. John from St Edmund's. Mass will be followed by Lectio Divina.

The evening will commence with praise and worship at 7.40 pm for those who can join us then.

All welcome

Enquiries Tom 07982 999319

### LAW SURGERY

This Monday is the final surgery of the year. If you wish to see the lawyer please come to the Presbytery front door at 6.00 pm.

The Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver wish to thank all parishioners of St. Edmunds for your generous donation towards the sale of our Mission Calendar 2024.

Your generosity amounted to £1103.31. We are very grateful for your support and may God reward you all.

### READERS AT MIDNIGHT MASS

We need readers for the service of readings and carols immediately before Midnight Mass, and also for the Mass itself. If you will be at this service and would like to read, please contact Rosemary at [r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk)

Please don't leave it for later - get in touch now.



Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you.

### SHOEBOX APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who filled shoeboxes this year, and for the many donations sent to us and made online.

The boxes were collected by Blythwood volunteers and are now on their way to The Ukraine where they are bound to bring great joy and smiles. You are so wonderfully generous every year with this appeal – heartfelt thanks to you all.

Susie and Lucienne

### WALKING GROUP

You are warmly invited to coffee, mulled wine and mince pies at Margaret's house on Saturday 9 December at 11.00 am

69 Kenwood Drive BR3 6QZ

Tel: 07880 793175

Looking forward to seeing you all.



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

## PARISH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

**Saturday 9 December at 7.15 pm**

in the church, and online at

[www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Come and enjoy carols and readings from the four Choirs in our parish.

A programme will be on the website from 6 December for online viewers.

There will be a collection after the service for St Christopher's Hospice

You can also donate online: [www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w)

[utm\\_term=NWyNwYb5w](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w) or you can post a donation through the Office door marked St. Christopher's Hospice

We do hope you are able to join us in the church and then for mince pies and mulled wine afterwards in the Church Hall!

There are flyers in the porch detailing Living Well's Christmas Appeal which this year asks you to fill a bag with specified items to make up a food parcel. Please take one home with you and see how you can help.



We are having our own collection for Living Well this weekend so please bring what you can and leave it in the trolleys in the narthex.

Our second collection this weekend will also be for them.

Follow this link to see a short video explaining Living Well's work, and showing how low their stock of food has become.

<https://www.livingwell.life/p/about>

To donate to the Crowdfunder Appeal:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/winter-crisis-appeal>

## FR ASHLEY

We would like to take a collection for Fr Ashley in recognition of his 27 years service at St Edmund's.

This link will take you to the donate page on the website where you should choose the option for Fr Ashley's gift:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

Cheques and cash gifts can be put through the Office door, clearly marked for Fr Ashley, or an envelope can be put into the collection basket.

This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent and the start of the new church year.

There are many resources online to help you prepare yourself for the coming of Christ and our new Catechesis, Formation and Evangelisation team has taken a look at them and recommends the following:

'Ascension' app - 'Rejoice' 5 minute daily audio reflections

Southwark Spirituality Commission daily reflections ([southwarkdsc.org.uk](http://southwarkdsc.org.uk))

CAFOD online advent calendar ([cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)) 'Hallow' app - Pray25 with C.S.Lewis

'Pray as you go' app - 'The Cry From the Manger' advent retreat

Please take a look at them and find one that helps you.

**Caritas Southwark** has produced an Advent calendar which can help us all to focus on what Advent means. There are a few copies in the porch. It is a calendar devised to help us all use Advent as a time to think about those who need extra support this Christmas. Using it you, or a group of friends can build up a food parcel that you might want to hand to Living Well. Please take a flyer home and see if you could collect the suggested items day by day.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

### SUNDAY MASSES

**6.00 pm VIGIL Saturday 23rd**

**9.30 am**

**11.00 am**

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

**4.00 pm**

*This is a special Mass intended for the young children of our parish and their parents.*

**6.00 pm**

**11.30 pm**

**Carols and readings before  
Midnight Mass**

## CHRISTMAS DAY

**8.00 am**

**9.30 am**

**11.00 am**

*No evening Mass*

## MASSES BEGINNING 3 DECEMBER YR B

Please remember there are no weekday evening Masses and there is no longer an 8.00 am Mass on Sunday morning.

<b>Sunday 3 Dec</b>	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>
6.00 pm <b>VIGIL</b>	Giuseppe Scrima RIP
9.30	For the people
	<b>FAMILY MASS</b>
11.00 am	Anthony Green RIP
5.30 pm	Josie Croft RIP
<b>Monday 4 Dec</b>	<b>Feria (St John Damascene)</b>
10.00 am	All persecuted born & unborn children
<b>Tuesday 5 Dec</b>	<b>Feria (St John Almond)</b>
10.00 am	Dec'd benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
<b>Wed 6 Dec</b>	<b>Feria (St Nicholas, Bishop)</b>
10.00 am	Mary Morrin RIP (anniv)
11.45 am	Requiem for Patricia Ross
8.00 pm Hall	Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 7 Dec</b>	<b>St Ambrose</b>
10.00 am	Intentions of the Hodgson Family
8.00 pm Claver	Adoration
<b>Friday 8 Dec</b>	<b>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>
10.00 am	Pierre & Jeanne Champetier RIP
	<b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>Saturday 9 Dec</b>	<b>Feria (St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin)</b>
10.00 am	James & Anne Dougan RIP
6.00 pm <b>VIGIL</b>	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
<b>7.15 pm</b>	<b>Advent Carol Service</b>
<b>Sunday 10 Dec</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>
9.30 am	Ann Moys RIP
	Rite of Acceptance
11.00 am	Giaco & Chona (wedding anniv)
5.30 pm	For the people
	Reception & Confirmation of Leon Carberry
	Celebrant Canon Victor Darlington

*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 9.30 am and after the 10.00 am Mass there is Adoration.*



## We pray for those who have died:

Joan Everett, Richard Everett, Patricia Ross, Richard Solly, Eithne Leahy, Roslyn Fleming, Rita Costello, Helen White.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur this week:** Jeanne Ingram, Margaret Cantwell, Maria Etheridge, Angela Deeny, Bella Walter, Helen Shipsey, Rachel Elias, Leonard Cook, Pearse Kilcullen, Mim Jennings, Mary Beck, Margaret O'Neill.

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

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.

OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 26.11.23	
Plate Collection	1174.83
Contactless	180.00
Bank Standing Order	769.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1170.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3293.92</b>

## DIARY

### December

Sat 2	Christmas Fair
Mon 4	Christmas Lunch hosted by SVP
Mon 4	Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00
Wed 6	Requiem of Patricia Ross 11.45
Sat 9	Advent Carol Service at 7.15 followed by refreshments in Hall
Mon 11	Funeral service for Richard Solly 11.30
Sat 16	Deanery Reconciliation Service 4.00



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr. Ashley Beck - 07769 214 903 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 26 November

YR A

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

Second Collection  
Catholic Youth Services

## CHANGES

It seems an age since I last wrote the parish newsletter's front page and I do so now at a time of flux and adjustment. Since my accident on 25th October when I damaged the tendons in my right leg, and the subsequent operation less than a week later, I have been confined to the house, using crutches and wearing a cricket pad on my leg. I will be like this until Christmas. Fr John has been away; he returned to Nigeria for two weeks to attend his mother's funeral. He is now back with us, and he tells me that the funeral went very well. Our absence has meant that Fr Ashley has celebrated the bulk of Masses for which I am very grateful.

Many of you will be aware that Fr Ray Brennan, parish priest of St Mark's, West Wickham has been seriously ill for the last two years and has been on our prayer list for the sick which is read out during Mass. He has now retired, and the archbishop has asked Fr Ashley to take on responsibility for St Mark's as parochial administrator. This will come into effect from the first Sunday of Advent (3rd December). It means of course that during my convalescence we will be down to one priest, namely Fr John, but with careful forward planning I hope to ensure we have priest cover throughout Advent and the Christmas Season.

Due to our current situation I have decided the Sunday Mass times from the first Sunday of Advent will be as follows:

6.00 pm vigil

9.30 am

11.00 am

5.30 pm

I apologise to those who regularly attend the 8.00 am Mass and I hope you will be able to find a suitable alternative here at St Edmund's. For those who attended the 9.30 Family Mass in the Hall, this Mass will now be celebrated in the church and will still be aimed at pre-school children and those at primary school.

We will continue to have 10.00 am Mass on weekdays and Saturdays. In the last three

weeks there has not been a 6.00 pm Mass and this will continue. A few parishioners have queried this but perhaps I could remind them that this Mass was introduced during the height of the pandemic allowing those anxious about coming to a Sunday Mass the option to fulfil their Sunday obligation by attending a weekday Mass. It was never intended that it should be permanent.

If I could now move onto the Mass schedule for Sunday 24th and Monday 25th December. It is as follows:

### Sunday 24th - Sunday Mass times

9.30 am

11.00 am.

### Christmas Eve

4.00 pm Family Mass. This is for parents with young and primary school children.

6.00 pm Mass With our folk Choir

### Christmas Day

Midnight Mass (carols/readings from 11.30pm)

8.00 am

9.30 am

11.00 am

I would have liked to discuss these changes with parishioners before implementing them, but we were not given the time to do this and had to make decisions quickly. We can consider how it is working in the new year.

I would like to express my thanks for your understanding regarding these changes and I hope they will not cause too much inconvenience. I would also like to thank the clergy team and the presbytery staff for giving me such marvellous support during my convalescence. Last but by no means least, thank you for all your get-well cards and food gifts.

God bless,

Fr Steve



After writing this week's front page I learnt that we have been given the services of a priest who is in-between parishes. Fr Damian Ilodigwe will be joining us on December 1 until the end of January. This will take a burden off Fr John and allow me to ease myself back into work.

The Archbishop's request for Fr Ashley to move to St Mark's and his subsequent departure left us no time to arrange a thank you celebration for him. Rest assured that this will be organised for early next year.

We also would like to take a collection for Fr Ashley in recognition of his 27 years service at St Edmund's.

The following link will take you to the donate page on ChurchSuite where you should choose the option for Fr Ashley's gift:

<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

Cheques and cash gifts can be put through the Office door, clearly marked for Fr Ashley, or the envelope can be put into the collection basket.

Fr Steve

**Christmas Fair**  
**Saturday 2 December**  
**11.00 am – 3.30 pm**

**Only a week to go and we still need more donations.**

**Donations:** Trolleys will be at the back of the church to collect donations, or you can bring them to the Office during the week. We particularly need:

bottles  
toiletries  
bottles of mulled wine  
good quality bric-a-brac  
raffle prizes  
home-made cakes  
preserves and sweets and chocolates

**READERS AT MIDNIGHT MASS**

We need readers for the service of readings and carols immediately before Midnight Mass, and also for the Mass itself. If you will be at this service and would like to read, please would you contact Rosemary at [r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk)

Please don't leave it for later -  
get in touch now.

**Money Mountain Tickets - one week to go**

You can buy your Money Mountain tickets using this QR code, or after Sunday Masses or from the Parish Office. Tickets are £1 each and the winner receives half the money raised. The other half will go towards a church project. The draw will take place at 3.00 pm at the Christmas Fair.



**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**

**Open Morning**

**Wednesday 29 November**

This is your final opportunity to book your place: please contact

Mrs Tracey - School Admissions Officer  
by email at: [admin@stmaryscp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryscp.co.uk)

**Claver Sisters Mission Calendar 2024**

The sisters will be selling their calendars after all Masses this weekend,  
25/26 November.

**WALKING GROUP**

You are warmly invited to coffee, mulled wine and mince pies at Margaret's house on Saturday 9 December at 11.00 am

69 Kenwood Drive BR3 6QZ

Tel: 07880 793175

Looking forward to seeing you all.



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

St Mary's PTA has a few spaces left on a wreath making session led for them by Blossoms & Threads florists.

Places cost £45 which includes all you need to make the wreath, and a glass of bubbly.

Date is Tuesday 28 November at 7.30 pm so get in touch with Donna now on 07769 942 990 to reserve your place



There are flyers in the porch detailing Living Well's Christmas Appeal which this year asks you to fill a bag with particular items which will make up a food parcel. Please take one home with you and see how you can help.

We will be having our own collection for Living Well next weekend so please bring what you can and leave it in the trolleys. The second collection that weekend will also be for them.

This link takes you to a short video explaining the work they do, and showing how low their stock of food regularly is.

<https://www.livingwell.life/p/about>

To donate to the Crowdfunder Appeal:  
<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/winter-crisis-appeal>

Thank you

>



Caritas Southwark has produced an Advent calendar which could help us all to focus on what Advent means. There are a few copies in the porch and is a calendar devised to help us all use Advent as a time to think about those who need extra support this Christmas. Using it you, or a group of friends can build up a food parcel that you might want to hand to Living Well. Please take a flyer home and see if you could collect the suggested items day by day.

## LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

Our celebrant for Mass this week is Fr. Regis Rubaya parish priest at Our Lady and St Philip Neri Sydenham. Mass starts at 8.00 pm with praise and worship beforehand starting at 7.40 pm.

Following Mass there will be a reflection on the importance of Praise and Worship which will be led by Tom Caluori our worship leader.

9.30pm refreshments.

Come for all or part of the evening. Visitors welcome.

Enquiries to Tom on 07982 999 329

## PARISH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

**Saturday, 9 December at 7.15 pm**

in the church, and online at  
[www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Why not come and enjoy carols and readings from the four Choirs in our parish. A programme will be available on the web-site from 6 December for online viewers.

There will be a collection after the service for St Christopher's Hospice

You can also donate online: [www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w)

[utm\\_term=NWyNwYb5w](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w) or you can post a donation through the Office door marked St. Christopher's Hospice

We do hope you are able to join us in the church and then for mince pies and mulled wine afterwards in the Church Hall!



Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](http://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support

aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you.

## MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 26 NOVEMBER YR A

### Sunday 26 Nov

**Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe**  
Crescenzo Panetta RIP

6.00 pm Church  
**VIGIL**

8.00 am Church  
9.30 am Church

For the Holy Souls  
In thanksgiving and for the  
birthdays of Clare, Malia,  
Mason & Milan Nwosu &  
Margit  
Giovanni Campanaro RIP  
Elizabeth Adiekpornya

### Monday 27 Nov

**Feria**

10.00 am Church

Janet Maureen Browne RIP,  
& dec'd family members

### Tuesday 28 Nov

**Feria**

10.00 am Church  
12.30 pm Church

Kathleen Walsh RIP  
Requiem for Colin Dowling

### Wednesday 29 Nov

**Feria (Saints Cuthbert  
Mayne & Companions,  
Martyrs)**

10.00 am Church  
8.00 pm Hall

Mary Morrin RIP  
Charismatic Mass

### Thursday 30 Nov

**St Andrew, Apostle**

10.00 am Church  
8.00 pm Claver

Private intention  
Adoration

### Friday 1 Dec

**Feria (Saints Edmund  
Campion, Ralph Sherwin &  
Alexander Briant, Priests &  
Martyrs)**

10.00 am Church  
**Adoration & Benediction**

Mary Brennan RIP

12.30 pm Church

Requiem for Joan Everett

### Saturday 2 Dec

**Feria**

10.00 am Church

John Walsh RIP

6.00 pm Church  
**VIGIL**

Giuseppe Scrima RIP

### Sunday 3 Dec

**First Sunday of Advent**

9.30 am Church  
11.00 am Church  
5.30 pm Church

For the people  
Anthony Green RIP  
Josie Croft RIP

*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 9.30 am. and after the  
10.00 am Mass there is Adoration.*



## We pray for those who have died:

Joan Everett, Richard Everett, Gordon Davey, Colin Dowling, Patricia Ross, Richard Solly.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur this week:** Pauline Tolhurst, Sally O'Shea, Epiphany Fernandes, Louise Hitchcock, Giovanni Campanaro, Roisin Acquah, Henry Alfred Jones, Ernest Galea, Eileen Macey, Ivy Bollard, Siobhan Smith, Antony Leonard, Mary Porter, Barbara Helen Poltera.

**We pray for all in our parish suffering from ill health, we pray too for their families and for their carers.**

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.

## OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 19.11.23

Plate Collection	1190.49
Contactless	417.50
Bank Standing Order	923.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	935.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3465.99</b>

## DIARY

November

Tues 28 Requiem of Colin Dowling 12.30

December

Fri 1 Requiem of Joan Everett 12.30

Sat 2 Christmas Fair

Mon 4 Christmas Lunch hosted by SVP

Mon 4 Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00

Wed 6 Requiem of Patricia Ross 11.45

Sat 9 Advent Carol Service at 7.15  
followed by refreshments in Hall

Mon 11 Funeral service for Richard Solly  
11.30

Sat 16 Deanery Reconciliation Service  
4.00



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr. Ashley Beck - 07769 214 903 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Ray Williamson - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 19 November

YR A

Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver  
020 8313 3915

[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

The second collection is for  
the SVP

## Time to Live Simply

"And God blessed them, and he said, "Increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and the flying creatures of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

Genesis 1:28

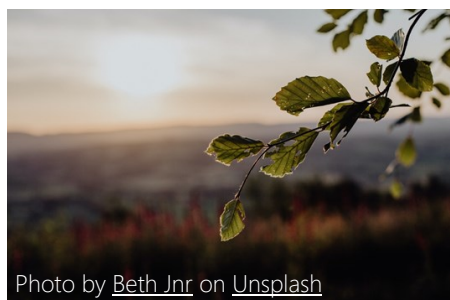


Photo by [Beth Jnr](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Just over a month ago Pope Francis published *Laudate Deum*, an apostolic exhortation, or more simply a call to action, to confront the threat of the climate crisis and

to take a moral stand now. In 2015 when Pope Francis published *Laudato Si' (or Praise Be)* it perhaps felt like there was still time to deal with the looming crisis; now as the Holy Father writes it is clear that we have already thrown away many chances to save creation from the damage that we have wrought. Time is running out, but there is still hope.

I believe that there is no better time for our parish to take a stand and to show our care for our common home. CAFOD responded rapidly to the message of *Laudato Si'* by establishing the LiveSimply award, which is an opportunity for Catholic communities to answer Pope Francis' call to care for our common home and stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world.

The bishops of England and Wales have encouraged all parishes and schools to work towards the award as a way of "protecting this world which God has entrusted to us".

In order to gain the LiveSimply award parishes need to show that they have been living:

- Simply
- Sustainably with creation
- In solidarity with people living in poverty

Any worthwhile action is not going to be easy and although the clergy team is backing this initiative, we cannot do this great work without the practical support of you, the parishioners of St Edmunds. This is an open invitation to get in touch and tell us if you would like to help St Edmund's in its journey towards living as a more sustainable parish. We are blessed with a diverse parish community with connections around the world, and no doubt there are many families who have already been impacted by climate change.

As Pope Francis has said, "We will find it hard to feel and show any real concern for those in need, unless we are able to cultivate a certain simplicity of life, resisting the feverish demands of a consumer society, which

leave us impoverished and unsatisfied, anxious to have it all now." (Gaudete et Exultate, para. 108, 2018)

From the youngest to the oldest, each person's different strengths and interests can contribute to making our action plan a success.

### Some Parish Action Plan Ideas

#### Living Simply

##### Small Steps

- Challenge yourself to a parish unplugged day– without phone, TV or radio.
- Make time for silence in your day and in Mass.
- Upcycle furniture and donate to those in need
- Have a meat free day every week

##### Giant Strides

- Collect pledges from the whole parish to live sustainably and in solidarity with God's creation
- Challenge yourself and others to buy no new clothes for 12 months, discovering new outfits from your existing wardrobe
- Walk or cycle everywhere, to benefit mind, body and soul
- Make time to pray for God's creation, the people and the planet

#### Living in Solidarity

##### Small Steps

- Join in CAFOD campaigns to make sure the voices of our sisters and brothers are heard,
- Spend time in prayer on Family Fast Day, whilst eating more simply

##### Giant Strides

- Support CARITAS organisations in our parish
- Switch to an ethical bank (at home and in the parish)
- Set time aside as a parish to reflect on *Laudato Si'* and *Laudate Deum*

#### Living Sustainably

##### Small Steps

- Make our parish meetings and events planet-friendly – reduce paper use, use Fairtrade tea and coffee, use eco cleaning products
- Reduce energy usage = turning off computers and photocopiers, using LED bulbs (and turning them off when not needed), sharing lifts and promoting public transport, encourage recycling and composting

##### Giant Strides

- Conduct a parish energy audit to uncover ways of reducing our Carbon footprint
- Create a wildlife garden or community vegetable garden in the parish grounds complete with insect hotels, bat boxes and bird houses.
- Start a gardening club, hold a seed, sapling or harvest swap.

We look forward to hearing from you and working together to Live Simply.

Deacon Ray



Our Church Shop has some lovely Advent and Christmas stock. It is open after most Sunday Masses.

This Sunday the Advent and Christmas stock will be displayed in the old library so please take a look at the calendars and candles and the beautiful nativity sets.

**Christmas Fair**  
**Saturday 2 December**  
**11.00 am – 3.30 pm**

Only two weeks to go and we still have very few donations.

Please support your Christmas Fair. Enjoy all the usual attractions and some delicious food.

Entry is £1 for adults - children are free.

**Donations:** Trolleys will be at the back of the church to collect donations, or bring them to the Office during the week. We need:

bottles  
toiletries  
bottles of mulled wine  
good quality bric-a-brac  
raffle prizes  
home-made cakes  
preserves  
sweets and chocolates



**ST.VINCENT DE PAUL BECKENHAM  
SAINSBURY CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS  
FOR OUR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED**

Any donations can be paid to:

Beckenham Conference

Sort Code 60-60-04

Account number 46076190

Payment reference: Gift cards 2023

Cheques or cash can be left with the  
Parish Office

Light of Christ Charismatic Prayer Meeting.

Wednesday 22 November

7.45 pm Praise & Worship

8.00 pm Mass

Celebrant Fr Uduak Abara

9.00 pm Prayer Ministry

9.30 pm Fellowship

Evening concludes at 10.00 pm

Enquiries to Tom on 07982 999 318

If you wish to book a Mass intention for a specific date, please contact the Office in good time. We have no Masses without an intention for the rest of the year.

**Money Mountain Tickets**

You can buy your Money Mountain tickets using this QR code, or after Sunday Masses or from the Parish Office. Tickets are £1 each and the winner receives half the money raised. The other half will go towards a church project. The draw will take place at 3.00 pm at the Christmas Fair. If you are able to help sell tickets please contact Sue Owen at [sueowenwolf@gmail.com](mailto:sueowenwolf@gmail.com)



**St Mary's Catholic  
Primary School  
Open Morning**

For parents of children due to start  
Reception in September 2024.

**Wednesday 29 November**

Is the final open morning.

To book your place please contact  
Mrs Tracey - School Admissions Officer by  
email at: [admin@stmaryscp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryscp.co.uk)

**A SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS**

On Christmas Day last year, BBC Radio 4 broadcast a programme on 'Christmas Recycled' which showed how we could make Christmas more sustainable and less wasteful.

Please use this link to hear it: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001ghwd>

**Claver Sisters Mission Calendar 2024**

The sisters will be selling their calendars after all Masses next weekend, 25/26 November.

Don't forget to bring some cash so you can support their missionary work and keep track of what you will be doing next year.

### CATECHISTS

A date for next year's diary.  
Deanery Catechists Day on  
Saturday 10 February

### Christ the King Youth Day SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 12 - 6.00 PM

**ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL, BR1 2PR**  
Bromley Deanery Youth Ministry Team invites those between 7 and 15 to join them for this day. All the usual fun, song, prayer and liturgy, with new games, your favourite pizza and tuck shop. £5 entry, more info and registration form [here](#). Please register early for planning purposes and we'll see you there!

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS

Father Steve's recent talk about Adoration and the lack of parishioners staying after Mass for this, really made me think that those of us who have these roles within our church could enhance them by coming to adoration on the last Saturday of the month ie 25th November after the 10 am Mass. We don't have to stay for the whole hour - just as long as our time allows. Adoration is so important and plays an important part in bringing us closer to Jesus. We can pray or let Jesus speak to us. Let us do this together on the 25th November.

Mavis Alagar

### 300 CLUB

#### October

No 43 Sean Lacey £100  
No 132 Von Westgarth £50  
No 241 Diane Alagar £25

#### November

No 32 Sheila Lake £100  
No 71 Mary Lambeth £50  
No 99 Breda Murphy £25

*The next draw will be the Christmas one.  
If you have not paid your subs, your  
number will not be included.*



### St Mary's Christmas Fair

Everyone is invited to drop in to the school's Christmas Fair on  
Saturday 25 November from  
11-3.00 pm.  
Lots of lovely stalls, selling great gifts, toys, food and treats, and a rather special visitor will be making an appearance.

### ATTENTION TO ALL DIANE'S PILGRIMS

Medjugorje, Holy Land, Walsingham, Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo, Lourdes, Fatima, Divine Mercy Poland.....

Lets share some Christmas cheer - you are cordially invited to a bring and share on 17 December at 1.00 pm at St Edmunds Hall.  
RSVP: Diane Brelu 07951 194036

### PARISH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

**Saturday, 9 December at 7.15 pm**  
in the church, and online at  
[www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Why not come and enjoy carols and readings from the four Choirs in our parish. A programme will be available on the website from 6 December for online viewers.

There will be a collection after the service for St Christopher's Hospice

You can also donate  
online: [www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w)

[utm\\_term=NWyNwYb5w](http://www.justgiving.com/page/cathy-denne-1699010107900?utm_term=NWyNwYb5w) or you can post a donation through the Office door marked St. Christopher's Hospice

We do hope you are able to join us in the church and then for mince pies and mulled wine afterwards in the Church Hall!



Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](http://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you.

## MASSSES WEEK BEGINNING 19 NOVEMBER YR A

<b>Sunday 19 Nov</b>	<b>Thirty-third Sunday World Day of the Poor</b>
6.00 pm Church	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>	
8.00 am Church	Bernie Yianni RIP
9.30 am Church	Raymond & Christiane Duval RIP
	<b>NO FAMILY MASS</b>
11.00 am Church	Esseline Nunes d'Agrella RIP (1st anniv)
<b>LATIN</b>	
5.30 pm Church	Ciaran Kelly RIP
<b>Monday 20 Nov</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am Church	Nancy & Steven Dennis RIP
<b>Tuesday 21 Nov</b>	<b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
	<b>THERE IS NO MASS TODAY</b>
<b>Wednesday 22 Nov</b>	<b>Saint Cecilia</b>
10.00 am Church	Bridie Mulvoy RIP (50th anniv)
8.00 pm Hall	Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 23 Nov</b>	<b>Feria (St Clement)</b>
10.00 am Church	Dec'd members of Lennon Family
8.00 pm Claver	Adoration
<b>Friday 24 Nov</b>	<b>Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, &amp; Companions, Martyrs</b>
10.00 am Church	Eugene Gilkes RIP
<b>Saturday 25 Nov</b>	<b>Feria (St Catherine of Alexandria)</b>
10.00 am Church	Gretta Colonnese & Ron Renton RIP
6.00 pm Church	Crescenzo Panetta RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>	
<b>Sunday 26 Nov</b>	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</b>
8.00 am Church	For the Holy Souls
9.30 am Church	In thanksgiving and for the birthdays of Clare, Malia, Mason & Milan Nwosu & Margit
	<b>NO FAMILY MASS</b>
11.00 am Church	Giovanni Campanaro RIP
5.30 pm Church	Elizabeth Adiekpornya



**We pray for those who have died:** Joan Everett, Richard Everett, Gordon Davey, Colin Dowling, Patricia Ross, Richard Solly.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur this week:** Michael Carney, Peggy Northwood, Agnes Hazer, Eileen Rogers, Violet Pasiniewicz, Leonard Walker, Dino Toschi, Ellen McCarthy, Sheila Hartley, Siobhan O'Reilly, Ann Margaret Moys, Andrew McNally, Aurora Matella, Penelope Wood, Maureen Bentley, Crescenzo Panetta, Gretta Colonnese, John Doyle.

**We pray for all in our parish suffering from ill health, we pray too for their families and for their carers.**

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.

### OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 12.11.23

Plate Collection	1126.50
Contactless	216.39
Bank Standing Order	650.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1233.73
<b>TOTAL</b>	3226.62

### DIARY

November  
Tues 28 Requiem of Colin Dowling 12.30

**December**  
Fri 1 Requiem of Joan Everett 12.30  
Sat 2 Christmas Fair  
Mon 4 Christmas Lunch hosted by SVP  
Mon 4 Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00  
Wed 6 Requiem of Patricia Ross 11.45  
Sat 9 Advent Carol Service at 7.15  
followed by refreshments in Hall  
Mon 11 Requiem of Richard Solly 11.30  
Sat 16 Deanery Reconciliation Service 4.00



## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr. Ashley Beck - 07769 214 903 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Seán Murphy - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Sunday 12 November YR A

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

The second Collection is for  
the Archbishop's Appeal

## REMEMBERING OUR WAR DEAD

Ever since the inauguration of the Service of Remembrance in Whitehall on Armistice Day, 1920, both the ceremony and the Cenotaph have been the focus not only of national mourning but also of controversy. At the outset, many on the Left denounced the whole thing as a hypocritical sham, allowing capitalist governments to shed crocodile tears over the cannon fodder they had sent to die in a war aimed at maintaining international capitalism. In 1933, a prospective labour candidate seized a wreath decorated with a swastika that had been placed on the Cenotaph by the agent of the Nazi government in Germany, and he told a passing bus driver to hurl it into the Thames. In 1973 two war widows interrupted the two minutes silence at the Cenotaph by demanding justice for war widows living in penury. More recently the Cenotaph has been spray-painted by anti-capitalists; a marcher for Black Lives Matter has tried to set fire to a union flag on the Cenotaph to draw attention to the link between the military and colonialism; and Extinction Rebellion have laid a wreath proclaiming that 'Climate Change Means War'.

It is not surprising that monuments and ceremonies commemorating the war dead rouse strong feelings. But over and above the opportunity they offer for making overtly political points, others have different questions to ask: should we be having such commemorations at all, or, if so, should we be doing it in this way, dominated as it is by military uniforms – does it not add up to a glorification of war and pander to outdated nationalistic and xenophobic feelings? And why commemorate only those killed or wounded on active service: what about the civilian casualties, for example? What about the millions who died in the flu epidemic that was spread, first and foremost, along the travel routes taken by soldiers and sailors travelling to and from the front?

I believe that such questions miss the point. When war broke out in 1914, and again in 1939, the overwhelming majority of people in this country supported the government. To this I would add that, well before 1939, it was an accepted maxim that 'The bomber will always get through'. In short, people in this country were aware that if German aeroplanes could cross over our shores, aerial bombardment of our cities was a certainty. In the event, civilian deaths in this country from enemy action during the second

world war, excluding members of the Merchant Navy, were less than one in a thousand of the population. By contrast, in both world wars, the death rate among those on active service was 12 to 13 per cent and in the merchant navy the figure was even higher. This, to my mind, put things into a very different perspective. The risk of dying as a civilian, though real, was still very small, even in London and the major cities. But those joining up, whether voluntarily or through conscription, had a one in eight chance of not coming back. That, to my mind, is courage on a noble scale.

People do not usually go to war lightly, and I think that it is insulting to those who did so, and especially so from 1939, to suggest that they were afflicted by narrow-minded nationalism or by the 'my-country-right-or-wrong' version of patriotism peddled by some on the Right. Identifying with one's country is, above all, about identifying with the culture and values one grew up with: these are what define who and what we are as individuals and as a society. Most of us would be horrified at the thought of having our self-identity as a people swept away by authoritarian regimes from overseas, and I can well understand why men and women in their hundreds and thousands have been prepared to go to war to defend us. The Armed Services do our fighting for us, our dirty work, if you like, and during the two world wars (and in other subsequent wars, even if for other reasons) men and women have been prepared to sign up and to face a one in eight chance of being killed. Those who died did so as servicemen and women, in uniform. Surely it is supremely fitting that we should honour them above all through tribute paid to them, on our behalf, by other men and women in uniform who are prepared to risk all, too.

Deacon Sean

### EVENING MASS

Following Fr Steve's accident and with the planned absences of Fr John and then Fr Ashley there will not be a weekday evening Mass in our church for the foreseeable future. There is a Light of Christ Mass at 8.00 pm every Wednesday in the Hall to which parishioners are warmly invited.

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



**Christmas Fair**  
**Saturday 2 December**  
**11.00 am – 3.30 pm**

Please support your Christmas Fair. Enjoy all the usual attractions and some lovely food.

Browse the stalls and try your luck on the bottle and gift tombolas.

Father Christmas will visit the fair and there will be children's crafting stalls and games.

Entry is £1 for adults - children are free.

**Donations:** We welcome donations of bottles, toiletries, mulled wine, mince pies, good quality bric-a-brac, raffle prizes, home-made cakes, preserves etc. (Cakes to be delivered to the hall between 5 – 7.00 pm, 1 December or between 9 – 10.30 am on the 2nd.) Other items can be dropped off at the Parish Office, weekdays from 9 - 1.30 pm.

**Volunteers:** We welcome anyone who would like to help at the fair. We need help with manning stalls, in the kitchen, setting up and cleaning up. It's fun and a great way to meet other parishioners. Offers of help to: [sueowenwolf@gmail.com](mailto:sueowenwolf@gmail.com)

**Money Mountain Tickets**

Money Mountain tickets are on sale on-line at <https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/events/l2iu42xe>, after Sunday Mass or from the Parish Office. Tickets are £1 each and the winner wins half the money raised. The other half will go towards a church project. The draw will take place at 3.00 pm at the Christmas Fair. If you are able to help sell tickets please contact Sue Owen at [sueowenwolf@gmail.com](mailto:sueowenwolf@gmail.com)

**What shall we do with the Money we raise?**

We would like to allocate the money raised at this fair and by the Money Mountain to a specific project. What would you think about improving the acoustics and sound system in the Hall or maybe refurbishing the church loo? We would love to hear your ideas so please email your suggestions to Sue or jot them down and post them through the office door.

**ST.VINCENT DE PAUL BECKENHAM  
SAINSBURY CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS  
FOR OUR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED**

As the cost-of-living crisis continues, more and more people are finding it harder to make ends meet, with Christmas bringing additional financial pressure for families.

As in previous years, SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsburys gift card to some of those families in particular need. We hope to donate about £3000 via gift cards and would be very grateful to receive any financial support from our parish community to help us to respond to as many of the requests as possible. If you would like to donate, please make a payment to the SVP account:

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Beckenham Conference  
Sort Code 60-60-04  
Account number 46076190  
Payment reference: Gift cards 2023  
Cheques or cash can be left with the Parish Office

Please visit this link to see a short film by Ian Knowles, at one time a priest of this parish, about the icon he painted in 2010 on the Israeli separation wall between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, that has become a place of pilgrimage for people to pray for a true and enduring peace for all the people who live there:

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/48443>

Light of Christ Charismatic Prayer Meeting.  
Wednesday 15 November  
7.45 pm Praise & Worship  
8.00 pm Mass  
Celebrant Fr Celestine Ekwueme  
Followed by informal prayer meeting.

Evening concludes at 10.00 pm



Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers."

## Archbishop's Appeal

### Second Collection 13 November

The Archbishop's Appeal is a Diocesan second collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2023. Every gift is welcome

Donate Online:

[rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal](https://rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal)  
or Scan QR Code below

Telephone weekdays 9 am – 5 pm:

**020 7960 2504**

Cash / Cheque – please use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes at the back of church.



There are some paper copies (mauve sheets) in the porch which have Archbishop John's *Reflections in Light of the Synod on Synodality*.

His nine page summary is on the Parish website and there are a few copies in the porch.

As the 6.00 pm weekday Mass will not be celebrated for the foreseeable future we have had to move the intentions booked for these Masses.

Fr Steve is celebrating daily Mass in his rooms and has decided that he will cover these intentions.

Please be assured that whilst any Mass intention asked for may not be on the day you requested, all intentions will be prayed for.

We are often asked to 'double up' intentions but this is not allowed and Fr Steve has decided that this is the sensible way to ensure people have their intentions fulfilled

Our poppy curtain is now on the gate to the left of the sanctuary. Thank you to everyone who made such beautiful poppies - we hope you can spot yours! Many thanks to Margretta for her hard work in organising this wonderful tribute.

Our Church Shop has some lovely advent and Christmas stock. It is open after all Sunday Masses so please take a look.

Next Sunday the shop will be set up in the Hall so please go across then and take a good look at what is there, whilst having a cup of coffee and a biscuit or two.

### Council of Christians and Jews

South East London Branch

Sunday 12 November

10:15 am – 11:15 am

Remembrance Sunday Service and Ceremony of Remembrance around St Stephen's War Memorial  
St Stephen's Church, College Road,  
SE21 7HN

Attendees are asked to pre-register with CCJ SE London, by contacting the Hon Sec, Stephen Weil on 07764 475209 or [stephenweil6@gmail.com](mailto:stephenweil6@gmail.com).

### St Mary's Christmas Fair

Everyone is invited to drop in to the school's Christmas Fair on Saturday 25 November from 11-3.00 pm.

Lots of lovely stalls, selling great gifts, toys, food and treats.....and a rather special visitor will be making an appearance.



### ATTENTION TO ALL DIANE'S PILGRIME

Medjugorje, Holy Land, Walsingham, Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo, Lourdes, Fatima, Divine Mercy Poland.....

Lets share some Christmas cheer - you are cordially invited to a bring and share on 17 December at 1.00 pm at St Edmunds Hall.  
RSVP: Diane Brelu 0795 119 4036

# **MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 12 NOVEMBER YR A**

<b>Sunday 12 Nov</b>	<b>Thirty second Sunday</b>
	<b>Remembrance Day</b>
6.00 pm Church	The souls in purgatory
<b>VIGIL</b>	
8.00 am Church	Henry & Eileen Ghent RIP
9.30 am Church	Dec'd members of Mockler Family
	<b>NO FAMILY MASS</b>
11.00 am Church	Julia Eke-Oparaji RIP
	<i>Requiem Mass for the War Dead.</i>
	<i>Please be in your place at 10.55</i>
5.30 pm Church	John O'Sullivan RIP
<b>Monday 13 Nov</b>	<b>Feria (St Frances Xavier Cabrini, Religious)</b>
10.00 am Church	Dec'd members of the Beckenham CWL
6.00 pm Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday 14 Nov</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am Church	Monica Grima RIP
6.00 pm Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
<b>Wednesday 15 Nov</b>	<b>Feria (St Albert the Great)</b>
10.00 am Church	Dec'd family & friends of Romola Cominetti RIP
6.00 pm Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
8.00 pm Hall	Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 16 Nov</b>	<b>St Edmund of Abingdon</b>
	<b>Our Parish Feast Day</b>
10.00 am Church	Edmund Mayungbe RIP
6.00 pm Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
8.00 pm Claver	Adoration
<b>Friday 17 Nov</b>	<b>St Hilda, Religious</b>
9.00 am St Mary's	St Mary's Yr 1
10.00 am Church	Clive Somers RIP
6.00 pm Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
<b>Saturday 18 Nov</b>	<b>Feria (The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saint Peter &amp; St Paul.</b>
10.00 am Church	Mary Olaniran RIP
<b>Sunday 19 Nov</b>	<b>Thirty-third Sunday</b>
6.00 pm Church	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>	
8.00 am Church	Bernie Yianni RIP
9.30 am Church	Raymond & Christiane Duval RIP
	<b>NO FAMILY MASS</b>
11.00 am Church	Esseline Nunes d'Agrella RIP (1st anniv)
5.30 pm Church	Ciaran Kelly RIP



**We pray for those who have died:**  
Joan Everett, Colin Dowling, Patricia Ross.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur during this week:**  
James Hussey, Michael Sullivan, Sylvester (Cyril) Cunningham, Frank Bond, Elsie Callaghan, Brian Cardell, Margaret Feagan, John O'Sullivan, Rosi Baruffi, Robert Reed, Edmund Mayungbe, Angelina Akpan, John Newcombe, Charlie Doyle, Andrew Doran, Brian Ryan, Patricia Gilbert, Thomas Widdowson, Tina Laughney.

**We pray for all in our parishesuffering from ill health, we pray too for their families and for their carers.**

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.

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 5.11.23</b>	
Plate Collection	1105.78
Contactless	519.00
Bank Standing Order	1957.10
Church Suite Regular Giving	1996.38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5578.26</b>

## **DIARY**

November  
Tues 28 Requiem of Colin Dowling 12.30

## **December**

Fri 1 Requiem of Joan Everett  
Sat 2 Christmas Fair  
Mon 4 Christmas Lunch hosted by SVP  
Mon 4 Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00  
Sat 9 Advent Carol Service at 7.15  
followed by refreshments in Hall  
Sat 16 Deanery Reconciliation Service 4.00



## **CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

**Fr. Ashley Beck** - 07769 214 903 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)

**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)

**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

**Sunday 5 November**

**YR A**

**Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver**  
**020 8313 3915**

[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

**Food collection for  
Catholic Workers House**

## **BELIEVING IN PURGATORY**

One of the most chilling reports from the terrible killings in Gaza has been the news that some children (or their parents) have been writing their names on their arms or legs in order that they can be identified if they are killed. It is difficult not to be reminded by this of our practice, here and in Catholic churches all over the world, of writing down the names of our loved ones for whom we want to pray this month. This is a group activity: we ask our fellow Catholics here to pray with us. We are grateful to those who each year put together and maintain our Remembrance tree for this month of the Holy Souls.

I noticed recently that some other Christians keep this time as a Season of Remembrance: this seems to be built around the observance of Remembrance Sunday next weekend. I hope the danger is avoided of getting caught up in the militarism and nationalism which so often mars this country's efforts to remember the victims of war. But there is a significant difference between this and what we do in November. Remembering someone is an act of calling them to mind; it is a good thing to do, but praying for someone's soul is not the same thing. The Catholic Church teaches that when we die most of us need a process of cleansing and purification – the place for this is what we call Purgatory – and we are helped in this process by Masses and prayers offered for us by our loved ones whom we have left behind. This is why we offer Masses for deceased relatives and mark this by sending Mass cards and so on. We know these things are different because in the 16th century the Protestant Reformation in this country deliberately eradicated prayers for the dead, which had been such a big feature of medieval Christianity. Funeral services were no longer intended to pray for the dead person's soul: they simply happened (rather grudgingly at times) to offer comfort to the bereaved. You see the heritage of this even now: so often non-Catholic funerals are only about the dead person in terms of the person's good qualities. There's little or nothing about the need for forgiveness or prayer for the person; worse still, in many funerals God is scarcely present in prayers, and mourners feel unaware of or ill at ease with the Christian Scriptures (what is often more popular is Canon Henry Scott Holland's reflection 'Death is Nothing at All').

In the face of bereavement all of us, not only clergy, need to be sensitive to people's beliefs and backgrounds, and the Church offers support to all who seek it. But at the same time November is a good time to recall what we really believe as Catholics, and how these beliefs are distinctive. They don't mean that we're better than other people; but what we believe is different. This is particularly important when violent death is staring us in the face through the depravity of war. It's ironic that the First World War came to an end in the Month of the Holy Souls (indeed during the war Pope Benedict XV had enhanced the Church's way of praying for the dead because of the slaughter); but unfortunately the State's determination to justify and glorify war whenever possible (it often helps to distract people from deplorable political leadership) takes over, especially in countries like ours where so many people have abandoned religious belief and practice: there is a vacuum to be filled. What this means for us is that our prayer this month for our loved ones in Purgatory needs to be linked to a determination to challenge and work against the glorification of war.

### **ARRANGEMENTS FOR MASSES THIS MONTH**

As you know the week before last Father Steve had a bad fall at Aylesford Priory; he has had surgery and is recovering well but is on sick leave; and Father John goes back to Nigeria this weekend for his mother's funeral. Our prayers are with Fr Steve; and we pray for Mary Olaniran's soul and for Father John and his family. This means that some changes have been made to our programme for this month; also as you know I have responsibilities for teaching on the diaconate formation programme (next weekend), and the teaching of students at Allen Hall Seminary and St Mary's University, which are part of my ministry as a priest. Consequently the separate Family Masses in the hall will not take place for the next three weekends and we have had to cancel the 6pm weekday Masses for the next few weeks; the annual Mass for the Bereaved has also been postponed. We are fortunate to have two deacons in this parish and on some occasions a weekday Mass will be replaced by a Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion led by them. I am also grateful to other priests in the deanery for their support.

**Fr Ashley**





## Christmas Fair Saturday 2 December 11.00 am – 3.30 pm



Please support your Christmas Fair. Enjoy hot dogs, home made soups, mulled wine and mince pies.

Browse the stalls and try your luck on the bottle and gift tombolas.

Father Christmas will visit the fair and there will be children's crafting stalls and games.

Entry is £1 for adults - children are free.

**Donations:** We would welcome donations of bottles, toiletries, mulled wine, mince pies, good quality bric-a-brac, raffle prizes, home-made cakes, preserves etc. (Cakes to be delivered to the hall between 5 – 7.00 pm, 1 December or between 9 – 10.30 am on the 2nd. All other items can be dropped off at the Parish Office, weekdays from 9 - 1.30 pm.

**Volunteers:** We welcome anyone who would like to help at the fair or other parish events. We need help with manning stalls, in the kitchen, setting up and cleaning up. It's fun and a great way to meet other parishioners. If you would like to help please contact Sue Owen at [sueowenwolf@gmail.com](mailto:sueowenwolf@gmail.com)

### Money Mountain Tickets

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### What shall we do with the Money we raise?

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### 9.30 FAMILY MASS

Due to Fr Steve's accident and Fr John's planned absence, we are unable to hold our Family Mass in the hall for the next three Sundays: **5, 12 and 19 November**.

We hope to see all our families at the 9.30 Mass in the church on those Sundays. It would be good to have you all sitting together at the front of the church, near to the altar. Our next Family Mass in the hall will take place in the hall on Sunday 26 November.

Ann

### LAW SURGERY

Monday 6 November at 6.00 pm

Please come to the Presbytery front door at 6.00 pm. People will be seen in order of arrival and the lawyer will leave when the last one waiting has been seen.

### ST.VINCENT DE PAUL BECKENHAM SAINSBURY CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS FOR OUR LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

As the cost-of-living crisis continues, more and more people are finding it harder to make ends meet, with Christmas bringing additional financial pressure for families.

As in previous years, SVP Beckenham has reached out to 10 of our local primary schools to offer a Sainsburys gift card to some of those families in particular need. We hope to donate @£3000 via gift cards and would be very grateful to receive any financial support from our parish community to help us to respond to as many of the requests as possible. If you would like to donate, please make a payment to the SVP account:

St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Beckenham Conference  
Sort Code 60-60-04

Account number 46076190

Payment reference: Gift cards 2023

Cheques or cash can be left with the  
Parish Office

At the back of the church there are copies of the Cafod Christmas catalogue. Please take one home with you and take a look at the thoughtful and life enriching gifts that they are offering.

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

## Archbishop's Appeal

### Second Collection 13 November

The Archbishop's Appeal seeks to invest faith, hope, love, and charity into three key areas of mission and ministry in the Archdiocese of Southwark.

#### Youth and Evangelisation

To strengthen the formation of young people in the faith within our schools and parishes, enhance the faith life of parishioners, support the work of parish catechists, enhance the faith journeys of new Catholics; and for Southwark to become an evangelising and missionary Archdiocese.

#### Our Faith in Action

To show compassionate and active service in the world around us through love for all people: the protection of human dignity, respect for the inter-connectedness of our world and common home, hearing the cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth. Supporting social outreach projects in parishes and schools.

#### Clergy Care and Formation

To care for sick and retired priests in their old age and ill health. Supporting the ongoing formation of our priests and deacons. Providing on-going formation of clergy in active ministry. Supporting the work of the vocations team and formation of seminarians and deacons.

Pooled together, your support can have significant impact in our faith community. A portion of the monies raised will be granted to parishes and Catholic schools to support local projects.

Please support the Archbishop's Appeal next week, every gift is welcome.

- Donate Online:  
[rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal](http://rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal)
- Or Scan QR Code below
- Telephone weekdays 9 am – 5 pm:  
**020 7960 2504**
- Cash / Cheque – please use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes at the back of church.



Sunday is the last day to return your shoeboxes for the Blythswood appeal.

Lucienne and Susie will be outside the church before every Mass for you to put your box in their cars.

Please do not bring shoeboxes to the Office after the deadline as we have no way of getting them to Blythswood.

**Our Remembrance Tree** is on the sanctuary for you to place the name of your family and friends during November.

At the back of the church you will find blank templates - please remember to complete both sides.

If you are unable to get to St Edmunds, then email the Office [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) – marking the subject box 'Holy Souls' and include the names of your friends and family, **or call us on 020 8650 0970** if you are not on email, and we will do what needs to be done.

**Thank you**

Thank you to everyone who completed one of the flyers asking for volunteers to help at Mass. If you still wish to help, the flyers can still be completed and posted in the box at the back of the Church.

Our poppy swathe will be on the gate to the left of the sanctuary from Saturday. Thank you to everyone who made such beautiful poppies - we hope you can spot yours!

### THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 8 November

7.45 Welcome and praise

8.00 pm Mass led by Fr Uduac Abara  
from Beckenham Hill

9.00 Adoration with quiet Praise & Worship  
9.30 Fellowship & refreshments

### A DAY WITH MARY

**St George's Cathedral Saturday 16 December**

### MOTHERS & TODDLERS

Don't forget that every Monday morning in term time, there is a warm welcome for mums, carers, grandparents - in fact anyone who is looking after a baby or toddler.

We meet in the Hall from 10.00 - 11.30 am and admission is £3 per family.

# **MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 5 NOVEMBER YR A**

<b>Sunday 5 Nov</b>		<b>Thirty-first Sunday</b>
6.00 pm	Church	The soul that saved my life
8.00 am	Church	Welfare of Kate Dillon
9.30 am	Church	Rosemary Lee RIP
<b>NO FAMILY MASS</b>		
11.00 am	Church	Fr Tom Creagh-Fuller RIP
5.30 pm	Church	Anna Murgia RIP
<b>Monday 6 Nov</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Church	Peter & Barbara Oke RIP
6.00 pm	Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
<b>Tuesday 7 Nov</b>		<b>The Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St George</b>
10.00 am	Church	<b>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</b>
6.00 pm	Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
<b>Wednesday 8 Nov</b>		<b>Feria (St Willibrord Bishop)</b>
10.00 am	Church	Dr Danny White RIP
6.00 pm	Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
8.00 pm	Hall	Charismatic Mass
<b>Thursday 9 Nov</b>		<b>The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</b>
10.00 am	Church	Richard Everette RIP
6.00 pm	<b>Church</b>	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration
<b>Friday 10 Nov</b>		<b>St Leo the Great, Pope</b>
9.00 am	St Mary's	St Mary's Yr 2
10.00 am	Church	Pierre & Jeanne Champetier RIP
6.00 pm	Church	<b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
<b>Saturday 11 Nov</b>		<b>St Martin of Tours</b>
10.00 am	Church	<b>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</b>
6.00 pm	Church	The souls in purgatory
<b>Sunday 12 Nov</b>		<b>Thirty second Sunday</b>
8.00 am	Church	Henry & Eileen Ghent RIP
9.30 am	Church	Dec'd members of Mockler Family
<b>NO FAMILY MASS</b>		
11.00 am	Church	Julia Eke-oparaji RIP
<i>Requiem Mass for the War Dead.</i>		
<i>Please be in your place at 10.55</i>		
5.30 pm	Church	John O'Sullivan RIP

*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 9.30 am. and after the 10.00 am Mass there is Adoration.*



**We pray for those who have died:**  
Joan Everett, Marisa Wilson, Mary Olaniran, Sr Kate (of the Hand Maids), Colin Dowling.

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur during this week:**  
Brian Cooper, Harry Leamon, Mark Parsons, Fr John Redford, Valentine Potts, Sandra Richards, Jim Byrne, Eileen Hixson, Dorrien Muriel Flood, Megan Grey, Mary Phelan, Cardinal John Heenan, Fr Robin Mountford, Mary Ward, Eddie Finch, John Basquill, Madeline Ellis, Maureen Tyler, John Pedler.

**We pray for all members of our parish, and in particular those suffering from ill health, we pray too for their carers.**

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.

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 29.10.23</b>	
Plate Collection	1161.66
Contactless	94.39
Bank Standing Order	510.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1653.92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3419.97</b>

## **DIARY**

### **November**

Mon 6 Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00  
Thu 9 Mass of Remembrance at Coloma 2.00

### **December**

Fri 1 Requiem of Joan Everett  
Sat 2 Christmas Fair  
Mon 4 Christmas Lunch hosted by SVP  
Mon 4 Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00  
Sat 9 Advent Carol Service at 7.15  
Followed by refreshments in Hall  
Sat 16 Deanery Reconciliation Service 4.00



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr. Ashley Beck** - 07769 214 903 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Ray Williamson** - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)**Sunday 29 OCTOBER YR A****Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver**  
**020 8313 3915**[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)**NEXT WEEK will be a food collection**  
**for the Catholic Workers' House.****MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

As you are aware, during October the World Synod of Bishops has been meeting in Rome – our own archbishop has been among those taking part. This part of it concludes this weekend (it will continue in a year's time); here are extracts from a special message from the synod to all of us (the whole text is on [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) and the porch noticeboard):

'Dear sisters, dear brothers, as the proceedings of the first session of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops draw to a close, we want to thank God with all of you for the beautiful and enriching experience we have lived. We lived this blessed time in profound communion with all of you. We were supported by your prayers, bearing with you your expectations, your questions, as well as your fears. As Pope Francis requested two years ago, a long process of listening and discernment was initiated, open to all the People of God, no one being excluded, to "journey together" under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, missionary disciples engaged in the following of Jesus Christ.

The session in which we have been gathered in Rome since 30 September is an important phase of this process. In many ways it has been an unprecedented experience. For the first time, at Pope Francis' invitation, men and women have been invited, in virtue of their baptism, to sit at the same table to take part, not only in the discussions, but also in the voting process of this Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. Together, in the complementarity of our vocations, our charisms and our ministries, we have listened intensely to the Word of God and the experience of others. Using the conversation in the Spirit method, we have humbly shared the wealth and poverty of our communities from every continent, seeking to discern what the Holy Spirit wants to say to the Church today.

Our assembly took place in the context of a world in crisis, whose wounds and scandalous inequalities resonated painfully in our hearts, infusing our work with a particular gravity, especially since some of us come from countries where war rages. We prayed for the victims of deadly violence, without forgetting all those who have been forced by misery and corruption to take the dangerous road of migration. We assured our solidarity and commitment alongside the women and men all over the world who are working to build justice and peace.....

And now? We hope that the months leading to the second session in October 2024 will allow everyone to concretely participate in the dynamism of missionary communion indicated by the word "synod". This is not about ideology, but about an experience rooted in the apostolic tradition. To progress in its discernment, the Church absolutely needs to listen to everyone, starting with the poorest. This requires a path of conversion on

its part, which is also a path of praise: "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children" (Luke 10:21)! It means listening to those who have been denied the right to speak in society or who feel excluded, even by the Church; listening to people who are victims of racism in all its forms – in particular in some regions to indigenous peoples whose cultures have been scorned. Above all, the Church of our time has the duty to listen, in a spirit of conversion, to those who have been victims of abuse committed by members of the Ecclesial body, and to commit herself concretely and structurally to ensuring that this does not happen again.

The Church also needs to listen to the laity, women and men, all called to holiness by virtue of their baptismal vocation: to the testimony of catechists, who in many situations are the first proclaimers of the Gospel; to the simplicity and vivacity of children, the enthusiasm of youth, to their questions, and their pleas; to the dreams, the wisdom and the memory of elderly people. The Church needs to listen to families, to their educational concerns, to the Christian witness they offer in today's world. She needs to welcome the voice of those who want to be involved in lay ministries and to participate in discernment and decision-making structures.

To progress further in synodal discernment, the Church particularly needs to gather even more the words and experience of the ordained ministers: priests, the primary collaborators of the bishops, whose sacramental ministry is indispensable for the life of the whole body; deacons, who, through their ministry, signify the care of the entire Church for the most vulnerable. She also needs to let herself be questioned by the prophetic voice of consecrated life, the watchful sentinel of the Spirit's call. She also needs to be attentive to all those who do not share her faith but are seeking the truth, and in whom the Spirit, who "offers everyone the possibility of being associated with this paschal mystery", is also present and operative. "The world in which we live, and which we are called to love and serve, even with its contradictions, demands that the Church strengthen cooperation in all areas of her mission. It is precisely this path of *synodality* which God expects of the Church of the third millennium" (*Pope Francis, October 17, 2015*).

We do not need to be afraid to respond to this call. Mary, Mother of the Church, the first on the journey, accompanies our pilgrimage. In joy and in sorrow, she shows us her Son and invites us to trust. And He, Jesus, is our only hope!

**Fr Ashley Beck**



### FR STEVE

Fr Steve had a very nasty fall when he was visiting Aylesford Priory on Wednesday. He has badly damaged the tendons in one leg and will require surgery to repair it. He is very grateful to those who are remembering him in their prayers.

We do not know when he will be able to resume celebrating Mass in the church, and this, combined with Fr John's planned absence to officiate at his mother's requiem in Nigeria will mean that some Masses will not be able to be celebrated. Please read the newsletter or take a look at our Facebook page to be kept up to date.

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

I recently attended a Diocesan Formation Day at Bishop Thomas Grant School in Streatham. A few of our parishioners were also present. As Fr Steve wrote in last week's newsletter, from the outset there was a sense of togetherness. Fr Steve gave a 45 minute talk on the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which we have daily in our church, but which is very poorly attended. Sparing even a few minutes in church praying before the Blessed Sacrament or in the stillness allowing our Lord to speak to you can bring peace and joy - it does not have to be the whole hour - in the words of Pope Benedict XVI *"Adoration is essentially an embrace with Jesus in which I say to him - 'I am yours and I ask you to please stay with me always'".* So, let us all pray in adoration together on **Saturday, 28th October, after the 10.00am Mass** and continue to do this after Mass on the last Saturday of each month.

**Mavis Alagar**

### OUR REMEMBRANCE TREE

will be on the sanctuary for you to hang the names of family and friends that you wish to remember particularly during November. You will find templates by the Remembrance Book for you to complete and then place on the tree.

Please remember to **use both sides of them.**

If you are unable to come to the church, please contact the Parish Office by email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk), mark the subject box *Holy Souls* and include the names of your friends and family.

If you don't use email please give the Office a call on 020 8650 0970. We will be happy to do what is needed for you.

**Ways you can SERVE** We need your help whilst you are at Mass: the **offertory procession, taking the collection, reading the word of God, altar serving - both young people and adults, joining one of our choirs, being part of the welcoming team.**

Your assistance will make a big difference to our Parish. To offer your help please complete the flyer which you will find on your pew this weekend, and we will be in touch with you.

The Marriage and Family Life South East Team has devised some courses which could be of real help to parishioners. They are online and there is no charge for any of them.

### PASSING ON THE FAITH AS GRANDPARENTS

What practical steps can we take and what sort of conversations can we have which will help anchor our grandchildren's faith?

Four online sessions starting on **Wednesday November 8**, 7:30 pm – 9.00 pm.

Email Lisette on [mlse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mlse@rcaos.org.uk)

### PASSING ON THE FAITH FOR PARENTS

How do we start? How do we continue? What works well for children at different stages?

Four online sessions starting on **Thursday November 9**, 8.00 pm – 9:30 pm.

### ST EDMUNDS CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

**How to get them back to us.....**

**Until 5 November** – Bring filled shoeboxes to 20 Reddons Road, BR3 1LZ.

**4 and 5 November** – We will be on the church forecourt before all weekend masses to collect your shoeboxes.

If you wish you can make an online donation to the appeal this year at:

<https://blythswood.org/donate-to-shoe-box-appeal/>

Any questions, call Susie or Lucienne – 07956 574789 / 07884 184534.

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

### COLLECTION FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES IN LONDON

Next weekend we have a collection of items for asylum seekers and refugees living at the London Catholic Worker community in north London. They are most in need of: tinned tomatoes, nuts, raisins, cheese, tuna, chilli sauce, rice, couscous, pulses, olive oil, cooking oil, vinegar, mayo, spices, sugar, sunflower seeds, low-fat spread, fruit juice, herbal teabags, hot chocolate, instant coffee, cereals, jam, marmalade, honey, peanut butter, chocolate spread, stock cubes, toilet paper, shampoo, liquid soap, deodorant, shaving products, body lotion, cleaning products, incense sticks, and tea-lights.

**Please NO tinned soup, tinned spaghetti, baked beans or pork.**

We haven't had a collection for the London Catholic Worker community for a long time. The community relies entirely on donations to feed the many men it shelters so please give with your usual generosity.

### MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 11 November at 10.00 am

Our annual Mass that we hope gives comfort and support to those who have been bereaved is nearly upon us.

If you wish to light a candle at this Mass to remember a loved friend or family member, please either post their name through the office door or email the Office.

### St Mary's Catholic Primary School Open Mornings

For parents of children due to start Reception in September 2024.

**Thursday 2 November**

**Wednesday 29 November**

Email [admin@stmaryscp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryscp.co.uk)



Living Well says thank you for the cutlery you have donated. They are now well stocked.

**Catholic diaries for 2024 are  
now on sale in the  
Church Shop**

### CAFOD APPEALS



Thank you for your generous donations to Cafod's recent appeals. £1493.29 was donated in the Harvest Fast Day collections taken at Mass, and we know that some of you will have donated online.

The Soirée Musicale on October 21 raised £442.18 for Cafod's Moroccan earthquake appeal.

Thank you to the team of volunteers who organised this evening, to those who participated in it and to the members of the CWL for arranging the refreshments.

### DAY OF RECONCILIATION AND INNER HEALING

St George's Cathedral

10.00 am to 5.00 pm on **Sat 4 November**

'Return to me with all your heart' is the theme for this day. Featuring a range of activities to help you connect with God and experience inner healing: praise and worship, talks, testimonies, confession, prayer ministry, eucharistic healing and Mass.

To find out more and to register (it's free), go to: [bit.ly/SouthwarkHealing2](http://bit.ly/SouthwarkHealing2)

### FAREWELL TO ST EDMUND'S AND BECKENHAM

After 42 years as members of St Edmund's parish we have now left Beckenham to move to Canterbury. We will miss the parish and being part of parish life here for so many years. We thank God for all the friends we made here and for the service and devotion from the priests, deacons, Claver Sisters and all who have helped to make St Edmund's the successful parish that it is and dedicated to serving God in so many different ways. We pray that God will bless you all and that St Edmund's will continue to flourish. A Mass will be offered for you all.

Sheila and Chris Murphy

### THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

We will be joining the 7.30 pm Mass in the church on Wednesday on the

Feast of All Saints.

After Mass we will cross over to the Hall for prayer and praise followed by Lectio Divina.

For more information call Tom on  
07982 999319

# **MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 29 OCTOBER YR A**

<b>Sunday 29 Oct</b>		<b>Thirtieth Sunday</b>
6.00 pm	Church	For the people of the parish
8.00 am	Church	For the intentions of St Edmund's parishioners.
9.30 am	Church	In thanksgiving to the parishioners of St Edmund's from the Geoghegan Family.
9.30 am	Hall	Private intention
11.00 am	Church	<b>FAMILY MASS</b> Grace Okezie - in thanksgiving for blessings & healing and for conversion.
5.30 pm	Church	Archie McCaughan RIP

<b>Monday 30 Oct</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Church	Theresa Lobo RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Doreen Jansen RIP

<b>Tuesday 31 Oct</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Church	Mary Murphy RIP
7.30 pm	Church	For the people
<b>VIGIL OF ALL SAINTS</b>		

<b>Wednesday 1 Nov</b>		<b>All Saints HOLYDAY</b>
7.30 am	Church	Ray House RIP
8.45 am	Bishop Challenor	
9.00 am	St Mary's	
10.00 am	Church	Anthony Griffin RIP (31st anniv)
12.00 pm	Church	Caroline Anaele, Mary & John Edet, dec'd Ekong & Edet family members
7.30 pm	Church	Enid & Tony Duggan RIP & Margaret & Gerald Baker RIP

<b>Thursday 2 Nov</b>		<b>All Souls</b>
10.00 am	Church	Bustard & Baker families RIP
12.00 pm	Church	For Elizabeth Adiekpornya
6.00 pm	Church	Dec'd Claver Sisters
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration

<b>Friday 3 Nov</b>		<b>Feria (St Martin de Porres)</b>
9.00 am	St Mary's	Welfare of Donald Clarke & Margaret Williams
10.00 am	Church	Stan Ziolek RIP
<b>First Friday Devotion - Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>		
6.00 pm	Church	Alice O'Neill RIP

<b>Saturday 4 Nov</b>		<b>St Charles Borromeo</b>
10.00 am	Church	All persecuted born & unborn children
6.00 pm	Church	In thanksgiving to the soul that saved my life

<b>Sunday 5 Nov</b>		<b>Thirty-first Sunday</b>
8.00 am	Church	Welfare of Kate Dillon
9.30 am	Church	Rosemary Lee RIP
9.30 am	Hall	For the people
11.00 am	Church	Fr Tom Creagh-Fuller RIP
5.30 pm	Church	Anna Murgia RIP

*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 9.30 am, and after the 10.00 am Mass there is Adoration.*

**We pray for those who have died:**  
Joan Everett, Bernie Yianni, Marisa Wilson, Mary Olaniran, Sr Kate (of the Hand Maids)

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur during this week:**  
Patricia Forsyth, Joan Conrath, David Edwards, Thomas Sheehan, Arthur Watson, Stella Ighodaro, Frank Mattinson, Sadie Keegan, Pauline Estorquia, John McKeon, Michelle Kuhn, Patricia Furlong, Kathleen Roche, Fr Desmond Trant-McCarthy, Fr Martin Breen, Margery May.

**We pray for all members of our parish, and in particular those suffering from ill health, we pray too for their carers.**

**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.

**Contemplative Saturday 4 November**  
In the Hall from 11.00 am to noon

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 22.10.23</b>	
Plate Collection	855.17
Contactless	388.00
Bank Standing Order	967.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	983.71
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3193.88</b>

## **DIARY**

### **November**

Sat 4	Contemplative Saturday in the Hall 11 -12 noon.
Mon 6	Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00
Thu 9	Mass of Remembrance at Coloma 2.00
Sat 11	Mass for the Bereaved 10.00 followed by refreshments in the Hall
Sat 25	After 10.00 am Mass Adoration for half an hour followed by Benediction

### **December**

Fri 1	Requiem of Joan Everett
Sat 2	Christmas Fair
Mon 4	Christmas Lunch hosted by SVP
Mon 4	Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00
Sat 9	Advent Carol Service at 7.15

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr. Ashley Beck** - 07769 214 903 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Ray Williamson** - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)**Sunday 22 OCTOBER YR A****Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver****020 8313 3915**[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

Second collection is for Missio

**ADORATION**

On Saturday 14th I was very privileged to be part of a Diocesan formation day for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors. The event was held in St Stephen's in Welling, of which Canon Edward Perera is parish priest. Parishioners of thirty years or more will remember him as an assistant priest here.

Approximately 120 people had registered for the day but rather surprisingly 192 turned up and we had to delay the start to find extra seating. What a nice problem to have!

From the outset I could sense that people wanted to be there and very quickly there was a sense of togetherness. The topic of the day was prayer; there were presentations on Lectio Divina, Prayer and Adoration, and Peter's Journey of Prayer. My presentation on Adoration was largely inspired by two recent pilgrimages I had made to Medjugorje, one was private and the other a parish pilgrimage.

On both pilgrimages I was impressed by the number of people attending Mass throughout the day at St James, the parish church. The Masses were celebrated in a number of languages. Every morning I would concelebrate at the English Mass. The people were fully focussed and bright with an expectant faith. Everyone was completely engaged in the liturgy.

At Medjugorje, there are always lengthy queues for confession, with many languages being catered for. So often my experience in this country is of a largely poor turnout for confession, but in Medjugorje a priest who offers himself for this sacrament can expect to be there for a very long time!

What amazed me more than anything else were the extraordinary numbers that attended Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. This 'Holy Hour' was held outside the church three times a week in the early evening. All ages were represented. To see families, (some of them with young children and babies), teenagers, young couples, middle aged and elderly all gathered in a spirit of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament was so uplifting. During the hour there were short periods of prayers and scripture readings, interspersed with singing to the gentle accompaniment of violin and guitar. But mostly there was silence, except for the breeze stirring the leaves and birds singing. It was idyllic.

On both occasions as I journeyed home, I felt a

strong desire to encourage more people to come and spend time before our Lord on the altar.

Successive popes and many saints have stressed the importance of Adoration and encouraged the faithful to come to it so they can receive our Lord's love and in turn love him more fully. Why are many of us so indifferent, so slow to respond to the invitation? We spend time with people we love; family and friends. Why can't we spend a small amount of time with Jesus Christ? Perhaps for some of us He is not important enough.

If you are uncertain about Adoration there is a beautiful story from St John Vianney, the Cure D'Ars, about a man who he would often see in church sitting before the Blessed Sacrament. One day he asked him what he was praying, and the man replied, "*He looks at me and I look at him.*" Sometimes we over complicate prayer and perhaps what we need is a simpler approach.

On Saturday a second group of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors will assemble at Bishop Thomas Grant School in Streatham to engage in this presentation on prayer. Again, as part of the programme, I will try to encourage people to come and be with our Lord as often as they can. I hope that our own parishioners who attended these gatherings will help lead the way.

"Adoration is essentially an embrace with Jesus in which I say to him – "I am yours, and I ask you, please stay with me always". Pope Benedict XVI

**Fr Steve**



## Ways you can SERVE

We need help with things that happen whilst you are in church: the **offertory procession, taking the collection, reading the word of God, altar serving - both young people and adults, joining one of our choirs, being part of the welcome team.**

Your assistance will make a big difference to our Parish. To offer your help please complete the flyer which you will find on your pew next week, and we will be in touch with you.

The Marriage and Family Life South East Team has devised some courses which could be of real help to parishioners. They are all online and there is no charge for any of them.

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What practical steps can we take and what sort of conversations can we have which will help anchor our grandchildren's faith?

Four online sessions starting on Wednesday November 8, 7:30 pm – 9.00 pm.

Email Lisette on [mfise@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mfise@rcaos.org.uk)

### PASSING ON THE FAITH FOR PARENTS

How do we start? How do we continue? What works well for children at different stages?

Four online sessions starting on Thursday November 9, 8.00 pm – 9:30 pm.

Email Lisette on [mfise@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mfise@rcaos.org.uk)

### GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

Growing in Faith Together - this new online course has been developed in collaboration with the Southwark Marriage and Family Life team, the Diocesan Agency for Evangelisation and Sycamore, a programme about the Catholic faith by Fr Stephen Wang. It consists of four one hour sessions via Zoom and is a wonderful opportunity for married couples to enrich their friendship and love, and engaged couples who have **completed their marriage preparation course** and want to continue exploring their faith together.

The course runs on Tuesday evenings from 8.00 pm - 9.00 pm beginning October 24.

To register click on the link:

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/together>

At the conclusion of his usual Wednesday morning audience, Pope Francis announced a day of prayer and fasting for an end to the Israel-Hamas war. This is to be observed on Friday 27 October. On that day there will be a vigil in St Peter's Square at 5.00 pm (UK time) and the Holy Father hopes that the faithful around the world will join him in prayer at that time.

Is any one else able to make some poppies for us? We have received some beautiful ones but are happy to have more. We just need them back by the end of the month.

## ST EDMUNDS CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2023

Shoebox leaflets are available at the back of the church or can be downloaded from:

<https://blythswood.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Shoe-Box-Appeal-Checklist-2022.pdf>

**Until 5 November** – Please bring filled shoeboxes to 20 Reddons Road, BR3 1LZ. We are also happy to collect your box if you can't get to us.

**4 and 5 November**– We will be on the church forecourt before all weekend masses to collect your shoeboxes.

If you would prefer to make a donation to the appeal this year rather than fill a box, you can do this too at:

<https://blythswood.org/donate-to-shoe-box-appeal/>

Any questions, call Susie or Lucienne – 07956 574789 / 07884 184534.

## St Mary's Catholic Primary School Open Mornings

For parents of children due to start Reception in September 2024.

**Thursday 2 November**

**Wednesday 29 November.**

If you would like to attend either of these open mornings, please contact Mrs Tracey - School Admissions Officer by email at: [admin@stmaryscp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryscp.co.uk)

If anyone has a Missio box at home, give it a rattle! If it has any coins in it, please bring it to the Office so it can be emptied. The coins don't do any good in the box, but they can do wonders once Missio has them.

Donations can also be made by cheque, payable to Missio and sent to Missio, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU or by **bank transfer**:  
Account Name: Missio, Sort Code: 16-00-16 Account Number: 10824230



### THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

You are invited to join them on Wednesday 25 October in the Hall.

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Regis Rubaya

Followed by Adoration & Prayer Ministry

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

For more information contact

Tom 07982 999 319



Coloma Convent Girls' School

Mass of Remembrance.

2.00 pm on Thursday 9 November

If you would like to attend, please

RSVP to:

[liturgy@coloma.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:liturgy@coloma.croydon.sch.uk)

by 2 November, indicating the name of your loved one so that they can be remembered at this Mass.

### MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 11 November at 10.00 am

Our annual Mass that we hope gives comfort and support to those who have been bereaved is nearly upon us.

If you wish to light a candle at this Mass to remember a loved friend or family member, please post their name through the office door.

### DAY OF RECONCILIATION AND INNER HEALING

St George's Cathedral

10.00 am to 5.00 pm on Sat 4 November

'Return to me with all your heart' is the theme for this day. Featuring a range of activities to help you connect with God and experience inner healing: praise and worship, talks, testimonies, confession, prayer ministry, eucharistic healing service and Mass.

### PROMOTING RACIAL AND CULTURAL INCLUSION IN OUR PARISHES, SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark

9.30 am to 4.00 pm - Saturday 28 October

Please look at the poster in the porch and if you can, register to attend the day in person, or on Zoom.

For more information please email:

[racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk).



### CUTLERY NEEDED

Living Well is running short of cutlery, particularly forks. If you have any at home that you no longer use and would be happy to donate to Living Well, please bring it to church and put them in the storage box on the table in the porch.

Many thanks to you all.



Parishioners of St Edmunds on a walk around the area of St George's Cathedral as it celebrates its 175th anniversary.

# **MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 22 OCTOBER YR A**

<b>Sunday 22 Oct</b>		<b>Twenty-ninth Sunday</b>
		<b>World Mission Day</b>
6.00 pm	Church	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>		
8.00 am	Church	Tanya Kadambari (b'day)
9.30 am	Church	Ints of Jan & Tim Banfield on their Ruby wedding anniv For the people
9.30 am	Hall	
<b>FAMILY MASS</b>		
11.00 am	Church	Fr Giampaolo Manca RIP
5.30 pm	Church	Ints of Jan & Tim Banfield
<b>Monday 23 Oct</b>		<b>Feria (St John of Capistrano)</b>
10.00 am	Church	Theresia Halpin RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Rosemary Elmer RIP
<b>Tuesday 24 Oct</b>		<b>Feria (St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop)</b>
10.00 am	Church	Owen Kehoe RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Alan Djasrabe RIP & Mayagar Djasrabe RIP
<b>Wednesday 25 Oct</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Church	Berthe Reynaud & Jean-Paul Schoens
2.00 pm		Funeral service for Pedro Ibanez
6.00 pm	Church	Dec'd Brothers of Beckenham Catenians
8.00 pm	Hall	Light of Christ Mass
<b>Thursday 26 Oct</b>		<b>Feria (Saints Chad &amp; Cedd, Bishops)</b>
10.00 am	Church	Rita & Eric Hankin RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Dominic Geoghegan RIP
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration
<b>Friday 27 Oct</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Church	Janet Maureen Browne RIP & dec'd family members
6.00 pm	Church	Doreen Jansen RIP
<b>Saturday 28 Oct</b>		<b>Saints Simon &amp; Jude</b>
10.00 am	Church	Mary Murphy RIP
6.00 pm	Church	For the people of the parish
<b>Sunday 29 Oct</b>		<b>Thirtieth Sunday</b>
8.00 am	Church	For the intentions of St Edmund's parishioners.
9.30 am	Church	In thanksgiving to the parishioners of St Edmund's from the Geoghegan Family.
9.30 am	Hall	Private intention
11.00 am	Church	Grace Okezie - in thanksgiving for blessings & healing and for conversion.
5.30 pm	Church	Archie McCaughan RIP

*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 9.30 am. and after the 10.00 am Mass there is Adoration.*

**We pray for those who have died:**  
Pedro Ibanez, Joan Everett, Bernie Yianni, Marisa Wilson, Mary Olaniran, Sr Kate (of the Hand Maids)

**Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur during this week:**  
Poppy Howie, Eileen Gallen, Patricia Hitchcock, Mary Holleran, Riccardo Ling, Monica Jones, Rosemary Elmer, Theresia Halpin, Brian Knowles, Frieda Pereira-Rego, France Fleming, Constance Baker, Ann Berry, Tony Kinch, Margaret Deeks, Louis Bonello, Pamela Kean, Marguerite Hankin, Denise Ricketts, Lucy Denne, Bernard Grey, Clive Rumsey, Edith Leonard.

**We pray for all members of our parish, and in particular those suffering from ill health, we pray too for their carers.**

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.

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 15.10.23</b>	
Plate Collection	1016.90
Contactless	329.45
Bank Standing Order	870.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	987.17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3203.52</b>

## **DIARY**

### **October**

Sat 21 Musical Soiree in Church at 7.15  
Wed 25 Funeral service for Pedro Ibanez at 2.00

### **November**

Mon 6 Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00  
Sat 11 Mass for the Bereaved 10.00 followed by refreshments in the Hall

### **December**

Fri 1 Requiem of Joan Everett  
Sat 2 Christmas Fair  
Mon 4 Christmas Lunch hosted by SVP  
Mon 4 Law Surgery in Presbytery 6.00  
Sat 9 Advent Carol Service at 7.15



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr. Ashley Beck** - 07769 214 903 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Ray Williamson** - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)**Sunday 15 OCTOBER YR A****Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver****020 8313 3915**[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)Appeal and collection for the Society  
of African Missions**The Soothing Oil**

The reflection this week is on the anointing of the sick – a sacrament not often celebrated like the other sacraments. Some time ago, a priest shared this experience with us. A parishioner of his had sent for him, before going in for a surgery, to come and pray for him. The priest decided to give the man the anointing of the sick as well. On getting to the hospital and informing the man – the man declined and insisted on a simple prayer before going in for the surgery. Like the people of old, his belief was that the sacrament is given to those who are about to die. Some people have also expressed a similar understanding - so I'm inviting all to have another look at the understanding of this sacrament.

The ministry of the Word and the Sacraments in the Church are vital in the Pastoral care of the faithful. The use of the Oil and the appropriate prayer constitute the form and matter of the Sacrament of the Sick. This sacrament is otherwise called Extreme Unction – where the oil of soothing is put to use. The import is to free the sick from discomfort and pain - to grant them healing and wholeness in body, mind, and soul (James 5.14-15). This Oil is normally blessed by the Bishop at the Chrism Mass on the Wednesday of Holy Week and the priest is the minister of this sacrament. Hence, the anointing of the sick can come up during the Mass, in homes and hospitals. The sacrament of the sick is administered to the aged, those in danger of death by sickness or accident, and those going in for a surgery - this sacrament can be repeated. And the Church encourages that the families and friends should be present when the sacrament is being administered.

The pastoral care of the Church for her members is from the womb to the tomb.

For instance, there are special blessings for pregnant mothers and mothers who have just given birth. In a same way, is the pastoral care for the aged and the dying. Suffering, illness and pain are realities of life, as well as our sharing in the passion of Christ (Col.1.24). One may draw a link between the Oil of the sick and the Balm of Gilead in the Old Testament. The Balm of Gilead was considered rare, valuable, and medicinal (Jer.46.11). The people of old saw it as the sinners' cure and a means to salvation (Jer.8.22) – “the effects of the sacrament of the Anointing of the sick are to comfort and strengthen the soul, to remit sin, and even to restore health, when God sees it to be expedient” (A Catechism of Christian Doctrine – no.303).

The celebration of the Sacrament of Anointing is to be accompanied by the sacrament of Penance (if the sick person can consciously do so) and the reception of Holy Communion. There is the laying on of hands by the priest on the sick person before the use of the oil on the forehead and the hands. In this way, the sick person is visited with the love, compassion, and healing of Christ. “The Church does not want us to wait for the final moments before receiving it. We should receive this sacrament when we first start to show signs of being in danger of death through sickness or old age” (Vat. II - Sacrosanctum Concilium,73).

Fr. John Olaniran.a

Please pray for the soul of Mary Olaniran,  
the mother of Fr John, who died on  
Tuesday 10 October.

Please keep her, Fr John and  
all his family in your prayers.





### BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The diocese requires all parents wishing to baptise their first child to attend a Baptism Preparation Session.

**There is one this Sunday 15 October in the Hall after the Family Mass.**

Baptisms can be booked after this session.

No need to register.



### St Mary's Catholic Primary School Open Mornings

Open mornings for parents of children due to start Reception in September 2024.

There are two opportunities for you to visit the school:

**Thursday 2 November**  
**Wednesday 29 November.**

If you would like to attend either of these open mornings, please contact Mrs Tracey - School Admissions Officer by email at [admin@stmaryscp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryscp.co.uk)

If you attend weekday Mass and park your walker or shopping trolley in the porch, please do not leave any items of value in them.

### CHURCH YEW TREES

The yew trees at the front of the church have been given a trim but our tree surgeon has advised us to wait until the spring to give them a full reshape. This is the best time for the work to be done and should force the trees into greening up from the centre.

### SOCIETY OF AFRICAN MISSIONS

We are delighted to welcome to all our Masses today Fr Rozairo Arputham of the Society of African Missions (SMA). Fr Rozairo will be appealing for donations to assist the work that his order carries out in Africa.

### SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Parents applying to a Catholic secondary school for a place for their child next year (2024), need documentation signed by a priest. Forms should be sent or delivered to Fr Ashley at the Presbytery, accompanied by a stamped self addressed envelope. Please post your envelope through the letter box.

*The Parish Office & the other clergy do not deal with this!*

Fr Ashley

Is any one else able to make some poppies for us? We have received some lovely crocheted ones, but if this is not your talent why not make them out of felt or fabric?

We just need them back by the end of the month.



### THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

You are invited to join them on Wednesday 18 October in the Hall.

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Uduak Abara

Followed by informal Prayer meeting

10.00 pm Evening concludes.

### MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 11 November at 10.00 am

It is only a month until our annual Mass that we hope gives comfort and support to those who have been bereaved.

If you wish to light a candle at the Mass to remember your loved friend or family member, please post their name through the office door.

A female Canadian teacher who is working in a school in Penge is looking for accommodation. If anyone has a room to offer, could they email the Office and leave their details.

If anyone has a Missio box at home, give it a rattle! If it has any coins in it, please bring it to the Office so it can be emptied. The coins don't do any good in the red boxes, but they can do wonders once Missio has them.

Donations can also be made by cheque, payable to Missio and sent to Missio, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU or by **bank transfer**:  
Account Name: Missio, Sort Code: 16-00-16 Account Number: 10824230



## A SOIREE MUSICALE FOR CAFOD

Saturday 21 October  
7.15 pm

An evening of organ music, hymns and scripture readings, followed by cheese and wine in the Church Hall.

Free Entry  
Donations in aid of



Moroccan Earthquake appeal

## ST EDMUNDS CHRISTMAS SHOE-BOX APPEAL 2023



We're collecting shoeboxes for the Blythwood Shoebox appeal again this year. The charity has let us know that all the boxes we collect will be going to Ukraine.

There is more information about the 2023 shoebox appeal and videos of last year's boxes being distributed on Blythwood's website <https://blythwood.org/shoeboxappeal/>

**Shoebox leaflets are available at the back of church from this weekend.**

Leaflets can also be downloaded here: <https://blythwood.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Shoe-Box-Appeal-Checklist-2022.pdf>

Please share information about this with family, friends and social media groups!

**It's easy to choose gifts for people who have so little. Shampoo, a pair of socks, a notepad, a small toy, a bag of sweets – things we take for granted will seem like luxuries to people living in poverty.**

**By filling a shoebox with simple things you can bring hope this Christmas.**

**From now until 5th November** – Please bring filled shoeboxes to 20 Reddons Road, BR3 1LZ. We are also happy to collect your box if you can't get to us.

**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November** – we will have our car boot open on the church forecourt before all weekend masses for shoebox collections.

If you would prefer to make a donation to the appeal this year rather than fill a box, you can do this too at <https://blythwood.org/donate-to-shoe-box-appeal/>

Any questions, please call Susie or Lucienne –  
07956 574789 / 07884 184534.

Bromley Prayer Events. We are invited to prayer events being put on by Transform Bromley Borough and Christians Against Poverty on Tuesday 17 October, 7.30 pm, at St Paul's Crofton and on Thursday 19 Oct, 7.30 pm, at Bromley Town Church.

## PROMOTING RACIAL & CULTURAL INCLUSION IN OUR PARISHES, SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES

: This seminar will take place at the Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark, from 9:30 am to 4.00 pm on Saturday 28 October.

To register for the seminar use the link:  
<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/1G3Dvs124W>.

Registration is free. For more information, please write to:  
[racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk)



Coloma Convent Girls' School is holding a Mass of Remembrance at 2.00 pm on Thursday 9 November, to remember all deceased Coloma students, staff & family members. Families of those who have died are warmly invited to attend this Mass which will take place at the school. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to:

[liturgy@coloma.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:liturgy@coloma.croydon.sch.uk)

by 2 November, indicating the name of your loved one so that they can be remembered at this Mass.

## DAY OF RECONCILIATION AND INNER HEALING

St George's Cathedral

10.00 am to 5.00 pm on Sat 4 November  
'Return to me with all your heart' is the theme for this day. Featuring a range of activities to help you connect with God and experience inner healing: praise and worship, talks, testimonies, Sacrament of Reconciliation, prayer ministry, eucharistic healing service and Mass.

There are a few leaflets in the porch with the walking programme put together by EnBro (Environment Bromley). There is an interesting range of walks to try, and what better way to support the Pope's message of celebrating and caring for our planet.

# **MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 15 OCTOBER YR A**

## **Sunday 15 Oct**

6.00 pm Church  
8.00 am Church  
9.30 am Church  
9.30 am Hall  
11.00 am Church

## **Twenty-eighth Sunday**

Intentions of the Lake family  
Mike & Audrey Mamacos RIP  
Ints of Philomena Lennon  
For the people  
Ok & Ike Okezie, Mary &  
Stephen Anyim, Jenny Ibe &  
children RIP  
Edward Piatek RIP

## **Monday 16 Oct**

10.00 am Church  
6.00 pm Church

## **Feria (St Hedwig)**

In thanksgiving to St Joseph  
Maureen Walsh & her son  
Stephen RIP

## **Tuesday 17 Oct**

10.00 am Church  
6.00 pm Church

## **Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr**

For the intentions of Clara  
Mayungbe on her birthday  
For the benefactors &  
promoters of the Claver  
Sisters

## **Wednesday 18 Oct**

10.00 am Church  
6.00 pm Church  
8.00 pm Hall

## **Saint Luke, Evangelist**

Thomas Bruder RIP  
In thanksgiving to the Sacred  
Heart  
Light of Christ Mass

## **Thursday 19 Oct**

10.00 am Church  
6.00 pm Church  
8.00 pm Claver

## **Feria (Sts John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues, Priests & Companions, Martyrs)**

Nancy & Steven Dennis RIP  
LeeAnna Cabilin RIP  
Adoration

## **Friday 20 Oct**

10.00 am Church  
6.00 pm Church

## **Feria**

Anne Walsh RIP  
Baby Camilla Zorilla RIP &  
Paolo Zorilla Campos (b'day)

## **Saturday 21 Oct**

10.00 am Church  
6.00 pm Church

## **Feria (St Margaret Clitherow, Martyr)**

Manuel Pampin Mosquera  
RIP (1st anniv)  
Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta  
RIP

Followed by Musical Soiree for Cafod

## **Sunday 22 Oct**

8.00 am Church  
9.30 am Church  
9.30 am Hall  
11.00 am Church  
5.30 pm Church

## **Twenty-ninth Sunday**

### **World Mission Day**

Tanya Kadambari (b'day)  
Ints of Jan & Tim Banfield on  
their Ruby wedding anniv  
For the people  
Fr Giampaolo Manca RIP  
Ints of Jan & Tim Banfield

*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 9.30 am. and after the 10.00 am Mass  
there is Adoration.*

## **We pray for those who have died:**

Margaret Younger, Pedro Ibanez, Joan  
Everett, Bernie Yianni, Marisa Wilson, Mary  
Olaniran.

## **Please pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur during this week:**

Patrick Cummins, Istvan Mod, Beatrice  
Erskine, Fr Paul Weir, Billy Cannon, Eileen  
McGrath, Betty Banfield, Paula Marbach,  
Christopher Gunapala, Dave Webb, Jacyntha  
Dutton, Ilie Florian, Christina Pamment,  
Patricia McGrory, Roy Anggiansah, Peter  
Cole, Eugene Gilkes,

**We pray for all members of our parish,  
and in particular those suffering from ill  
health, we pray too for their carers.**

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.

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 08.10.23</b>	
Plate Collection	1172.94
Contactless	283.00
Bank Standing Order	2136.99
Church Suite Regular Giving	1632.79
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5224.73</b>

## **DIARY**

### **October**

Sun 15 Baptism Preparation in Hall at  
10.45  
Sat 21 Musical Soiree in Church at 7.15  
Wed 25 Requiem for Pedro Ibanez at 2.00

### **November**

Sat 11 Mass for the Bereaved 10.00

### **December**

Sat 2 Christmas Fair  
Mon 4 Christmas Lunch hosted by SVP  
Sat 9 Advent Carol Service at 7.15

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

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Phone: 020 8650 0970

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk) Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr. Ashley Beck** - 07769 214 903 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Ray Williamson** - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)**Sunday 8 OCTOBER YR A****Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver****020 8313 3915**[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)**Cafod envelopes returned****The joy of God is my strength**

A few days ago I was able to talk with one of the most inspiring men I have ever met. His name is Fr Philip Addo and I was delivering some medical supplies to him. The journey to visit him was a bumpy one for much of the way, for he lives in a rural community in Ghana (where I am writing this) that can be reached only along a terrible road: the community is way out in the bush because it is a former leper colony, and lepers used to be shunned. The place is called Ahotokurom, which means 'Healing Town', and while leprosy is now curable, there are still people living there with the physical consequences of the disease along with people suffering from other major disabilities. Fr Philip is in this second category: 24 years ago he was crippled in a car accident on his way to celebrate the ordination of a fellow seminarian who was a year ahead of him.

Even before I met Fr Philip for the first time a few days ago, I already knew something of his story because, some years ago, the charity that supports my work in Ghana, the Nankesido Education and Welfare Trust, had provided an electric wheelchair for him following his accident, and, in addition to that - for it's a small world - the daughter of some parishioners, Trudy Kilcullen, knows Ahotokurom well, having for many years supported the work of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph who then ran the community. It was at Trudy's request that I was taking the medical supplies to him.

Fr Philip's story is one of extraordinary courage and faith. The car accident that changed his life had paralysed him from the neck down, and left him in traction, unable for some time to breathe unassisted. It was clear from the casual indifference he received from doctors and nurses alike that, as far as they were concerned, he was a write-off - they told his family as much - and, his main interest to them was as a teaching aid to medical students. For two months he suffered often excruciating pain and his body began to stink from putrefying bed sores. But he never gave up. Such was the state of him that two bishops who came to visit him were reduced to tears and speechlessness. He told them, as he told all his visitors, that he hoped in the Lord because, 'The joy of God is my strength' (Nehemiah 8: 10b). Only then were the bishops able to find words for him.

One night, while still paralysed, he had a vision of himself lying in a coffin, surrounded by mourners. That same night the local Catholic Charismatic

Renewal group came to visit him. He told them of the vision and asked them to pray for him. Here is what happened next, in his own words: 'Lo and behold, that night my whole system began to shiver. Eventually, I fell from my bed. How could a 'motionless' body fall from a bed?' The ward assistant wanted to inject him, but he refused, and his body became so uncontrollable that the injection was impossible to administer. Soon after, by now certain that the treatment he was receiving was making things worse, he was discharged into the care of the Daughters of Mary and Joseph at Ahotokurom. With their wonderful and heroic support, and that of many other good people, his recovery began. He was then able to receive treatment in London, things improved further and, to his great joy, his Archbishop was soon able to ordain him. Although he is confined to a wheelchair, and is in continuing need of medical attention, he can now function more normally and serves the community of Ahotokurom whose fellow residents have disabilities to compare with his. He serves in other parishes too, and people come from far and wide to see him for counselling and encouragement.

When I met Fr Philip to hand over the medical supplies, I was struck, as Trudy had said I would be, by the joy that emanated from him, and the calm, and by the deep, deep love he has for God. 'Do you know what is the greatest miracle in my life?' he asked me, 'it is my ordination.' All through his ordeal (and I have only given a brief outline of it here) he never wavered in his certainty that God would see him through it all, and the crowning joy for him was that, despite all the odds, God made it possible for him to fulfil his boyhood call to his vocation as a priest. Those words of Nehemiah Fr Philip always held on to, 'The joy of God is my strength' were first uttered when Jerusalem and its Temple were being rebuilt after their destruction by the Babylonians: for Nehemiah, things were already on the up for the inhabitants of Jerusalem: the green shoots of recovery were there to be seen: no wonder Nehemiah could speak of joy. For the young seminarian, Philip Addo, lying paralysed, week after week, in constant pain, written off and despaired of by all but a few, there were no such hopeful signs to encourage him, except his unshakable faith in God.

Deacon Seán



## BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The diocese requires all parents wishing to baptise their first child to attend a Baptism Preparation Session.

The next one is on **Sunday 15 October** in the Hall after the Family Mass.

Baptisms can be booked after this session.

No need to register.

## LAUDATE DEUM

As you know the World Synod of Bishops opened in Rome last Wednesday. Among those taking part is our own Archbishop John Wilson. At the same time the Holy Father published what is really a 'follow up' to his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'* which was about the care of creation; at the time we spent a lot of time reflecting on it in this parish and in our school. The new letter can be found

here: ["Laudate Deum": Apostolic Exhortation to all people of good will on the climate crisis \(4 October 2023\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#)

On our various outlets and at Mass we will be reflecting on the synod taking place for the rest of this month. Please pray for the Holy Father, our archbishop, and others who are in Rome.

This lovely email was received in the Office on Tuesday.

Thank you so much for the very generous Harvest donations that we received yesterday, we are so grateful for the support! Please pass on our sincere thanks to all at St Edmund of Canterbury and to Mick for delivering a very full car load.

We have more and more people registering with us each week. The donated items will be packed into food bags today by a team of amazing volunteers to go out to our guests at our foodbank this afternoon and at the end of the week.

Thank you so much once again for continuing to support Living Well and for helping us to help those most in need in our community.

Best wishes

Emily Domaingue  
Administrator  
Living Well Bromley



After all Sunday Masses the Catenians will be handing out leaflets about the rosary which they hope will be a useful tool for parents to encourage their children to pray. There is more information about the Catenians on their board in the porch.

We have received the first crocheted poppies for our planned memorial for Remembrance Sunday.

There is plenty of time for others to be made in whatever fabric or manner you wish, in red and black up to 10 cm in diameter. Please put your completed poppies in the box in the porch no later than 31 October.

There are some templates at the back of church but please feel free to design your own.



## SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Parents applying to a Catholic secondary school for a place for their child next year (2024), need documentation signed by a priest. Forms should be sent or delivered to Fr Ashley at the Presbytery, accompanied by a stamped self addressed envelope. Please post your envelope through the letter box.

*The Parish Office & the other clergy do not deal with this!*

Fr Ashley

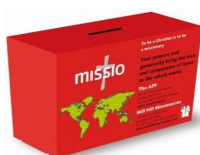
## LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

**Wednesday 11 October at 8.00 pm**

Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Boniface at 8.00pm followed by Lectio Divina and fellowship.

For more information call Tom on 07982 999319

If anyone has a Missio box at home, please give it a rattle! If it has any coins in it, please bring it to the Office so it can be emptied. The coins don't do any good in the red boxes, but they can do wonders once Missio has them.



Please remember to return your Cafod envelopes for the second collection this weekend.

If you prefer to make a donation online go to <http://www.cafod.org.uk/>

If you are a UK taxpayer and you gift aid your donation, it will be worth 25% more to Cafod at no extra cost to you.

## A SOIREE MUSICALE FOR CAFOD

Saturday 21 October  
7.15 pm

An evening of organ music, hymns and scripture readings, followed by cheese and wine in the Church Hall.

Free Entry  
Donations in aid of



Moroccan Earthquake appeal

## DIOCESAN AGENCY FOR EVANGELISATION & CATECHESIS

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

Tuesdays at 8.00 pm on Zoom

Four hour-long sessions beginning **24 Oct.**

For married couples (or engaged couples who have completed their marriage preparation), who wish to enrich their friendship and love.

Registration is open at  
[aec.rcaos.org.uk/together](http://aec.rcaos.org.uk/together)

## ST EDMUNDS CHRISTMAS SHOE-BOX APPEAL 2023



We're collecting shoeboxes for the Blythswood Shoebox appeal again this year. The charity has let us know that all the boxes we collect will be going to Ukraine.

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**By filling a shoebox with simple things you can bring hope this Christmas.**

**From now until 5th November** – Please bring filled shoeboxes to 20 Reddons Road, BR3 1LZ. We are also happy to collect your box if you can't get to us.

**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November** – we will have our car boot open on the church forecourt before all weekend masses for shoebox collections.

If you would prefer to make a donation to the appeal this year rather than fill a box, you can do this too at <https://blythswood.org/donate-to-shoe-box-appeal/>

Any questions, please call Susie or Lucienne –  
07956 574789 / 07884 184534.

## PROMOTING RACIAL & CULTURAL INCLUSION IN OUR PARISHES, SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES

This seminar is at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark, from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm on **Saturday 28 October**. All are welcome to join this archdiocesan initiative chaired by Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the Southeast.

For more information and to register, please use this link: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/commission-forpromoting-racial-and-cultural-inclusion/what-we-do/>. Registration is FREE.

## Webinar with Raymond Friel OBE on Catholic Social Teaching 17 October 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

The Catholic Union is delighted to be hosting a webinar with the author on his new book about Catholic Social Teaching. Raymond is the Chief Executive of CSAN (Caritas Social Action Network) and has a wealth of experience in the education sector.

He will talk about his new book, *Catholic Social Teaching: An introduction for schools, parishes and charities* which comes out later this year, with the opportunity for those taking part to ask questions.

The talk will be held on Zoom, giving people across the country the opportunity to take part.

The event is free to attend, but people need to register in advance on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk) to receive the joining instructions.

## CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY INTERNSHIPS

Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Retreat Centre) is looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their internship programme. The scheme lasts for one or two years and gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the Lake District. For more information contact [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

# **MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 8 OCTOBER YR A**

## **Sunday 8 Oct                      Twenty-seventh Sunday** **Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families**

6.00 pm	Church	In thanksgiving for the support of the parish from the Lake family
8.00 am	Church	For the people
9.30 am	Church	Dominic Geoghegan RIP
9.30 am	Hall	Jimmy Walsh RIP
11.00 am	Church	In thanksgiving to St Clare
5.30 pm	Church	Ciaran Kelly RIP

## **Monday 9 Oct                      St John Henry Newman, Priest**

10.00 am	Church	For the comfort of the Geoghegan Family
6.00 pm	Church	Joe McLafferty RIP

## **Tuesday 10 Oct                      Feria (St Paulinus of York)**

10.00 am	Church	Ian Scott
6.00 pm	Church	In thanksgiving to St Martin

## **Wednesday 11 Oct                      Feria (St John XXIII, Pope)**

10.00 am	Church	Bob Buckingham RIP <sup>(1st anniv)</sup>
6.00 pm	Church	In thanksgiving to St Jude
8.00 pm	Hall	Light of Christ Mass

## **Thursday 12 Oct                      Feria (St Wilfrid, Bishop)**

10.00 am	Church	Enedina Frau RIP (1st anniv)
6.00 pm	Church	Violet Cronin RIP
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration

## **Friday 13 Oct                      St Edward the Confessor, King**

9.00 am	St Mary's	St Mary's YR 3
10.00 am	Church	Anna & Tom Knell RIP
		<b>Adoration and Benediction</b>
6.00 pm	Church	Forgotten souls in purgatory

## **Saturday 14 Oct                      Feria (St Callistus I, Pope & Martyr)**

10.00 am	Church	Monica Grima RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Intentions of the Lake family

## **Sunday 15 Oct                      Twenty-eighth Sunday**

8.00 am	Church	Mike & Audrey Mamacos RIP
9.30 am	Church	Ints of Philomena Lennon
9.30 am	Hall	For the people
11.00 am	Church	Ok & Ike Okezie, Mary & Stephen Anyim, Jenny Ibe & children RIP
5.30 pm	Church	Edward Piatek RIP

*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 9.30 am. and after the 10.00 am Mass*

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

**We pray for those who have died:** Margaret Younger, Pedro Ibanez, Teresa Ediohon

**We pray for those whose anniversaries are about this time:** Brian Banks, Robert Simpson, George Cornish, George Campbell, Kitty Sharpe, Maureen Dowling, Albertina Ferrando, Ernest Smith, Kathleen Blackham, Anne Hughes, John Sylvester, William Fitzgerald, Anna Knell, Robert Brown, John Wallis, Peter Fagan Sr, Peter Fagan Jr, Geoffrey Burnham, Frances Wilson, James McGilloway.

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 01.10.23</b>	
Plate Collection	1141.15
Contactless	284.00
Bank Standing Order	573.33
Church Suite Regular Giving	2368.41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4366.89</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.

## **DIARY**

### **October**

Sat 7	Contemplative Saturday 11am - 12 in the Hall
Sun 15	Baptism Preparation in Hall at 10.45
Sat 21	Musical Soiree in Church at 7.15

### **November**

Sat 11	Mass for the Bereaved 10 am
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### **December**

Sat 2	Christmas Fair
Sat 9	Advent Carol Service

## **THE PRISONS WEEK PRAYER**

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison.

Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.

Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care.

Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ, in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day.  
Amen



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk)Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Phone: 020 8650 0970

**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr. Ashley Beck** - 020 8650 4117 or 020 7998 5949 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Ray Williamson** - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)**Sunday 1 OCTOBER YR A****Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver****020 8313 3915**[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)**Donations for Living Well this weekend**

It was a joy to meet so many of you at our recent Parish Open Day and to have the opportunity to tell you about some of Cafod's campaigns.

**Fix the Food System** is a campaign running this year in support of local farmers in countries such as Bangladesh. For generations, small-scale farmers have collected seeds from the plants they grow and shared them with their neighbours. In this way they can grow a great variety of resilient local crops. It also means that if their plants are destroyed by bad weather, which is an increasing occurrence, they can replant from their store of saved seeds.

In recent years, governments across the world, supported by financial institutions such as the World Bank, have adopted seed laws which have the potential to restrict the farmers' abilities to use their own seeds, forcing them to buy commercial seed, which is expensive and often not suitable for the local conditions. The subsequent seeds from these crops are often infertile, meaning that the farmers must buy more seed the following year. Cafod is calling for protection of the fundamental rights of small-scale farmers and has now received signed petitions from over 600 parishes, which will be delivered to the World Bank HQ in London on October 11<sup>th</sup>; many thanks to those of you who signed this at the Open Day. A small Cafod delegation is also due to attend the World Bank meeting in Morocco to speak directly to senior staff about seed policy.

We have seen many devastating effects of climate change on our World this year. Cafod has tried to increase awareness of the need for action on climate change for many years, particularly regarding the disproportionate effect on the poorest communities. Currently there is a petition to try to dissuade

Rishi Sunak from following through his recent u-turn on policies to tackle the climate crisis. Please consider signing this petition, which can be found on Cafod's website [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk).

The Cafod **Livesimply award**, inspired by the teachings of Pope Francis in *Laudate Si'*, is offered to communities and schools who can show that they have been living:

simply

sustainably with creation

in solidarity with people living in poverty

There is more information about this, including resources and ideas, on the Cafod website.

Cafod's main aim is, of course, to reach out with practical help to people in poverty and to provide emergency aid in times of disaster, working with local partners such as Caritas. None of this work would be possible without generous support from communities like St Edmund's. We are particularly grateful to those continuing to support Cafod despite the increasing cost of living.

**Cafod's Harvest Fast Day** is next Friday, 6 October, and this weekend speakers at Masses will be focussing on Cafod's support for medical teams following the floods in Pakistan. Please take an envelope home with you and return it in the second collection next week with a donation, however small. If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider gift-aiding your donation – at no extra cost to you.

Anne Unseld



### LAW SURGERY

Law Surgery starts on **Monday 2 October**. The first person will be seen at 6.00 pm and the lawyer will see people in the order they arrive. Please ring the presbytery doorbell to be admitted, and please arrive promptly.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The diocese requires all parents wishing to baptise their first child to attend a Baptism Preparation Session. The next one is on **Sunday 15 October** in the Hall after the Family Mass. No need to book

### ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS

St Mary's, our parish school is holding three open mornings for parents of children due to start Reception in **September 2024**, at 10.30 am on Wednesday 4 October, Thursday 2 November and Wednesday 29 November. If you would like to attend any of these open mornings, please contact Mrs Tracey - School Admissions Officer by email at: [admin@stmaryscp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryscp.co.uk)

### SECONDARY SCHOOLS

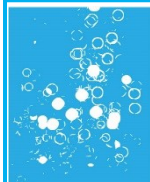
Parents applying to a Catholic secondary school for a place for their child next year (2024), need documentation signed by a priest. Forms should be sent or delivered to Fr Ashley at the Presbytery, accompanied by a stamped self addressed envelope. Please do not ring the door bell to hand over your form. The Parish Office & the other clergy do not deal with this!

Fr Ashley

### NATIONAL MASS COUNT

This count is carried out at every Catholic church in the country, at every Mass that is celebrated on four consecutive Sundays, the second of which is this weekend.

Our stewards will be doing the count and you probably won't even notice they are doing it. Every person in the church, from a new born baby to the priest celebrating the Mass is counted and all the numbers are sent to the diocese and eventually end up in Rome.



Living Well  
Bromley

This weekend we are collecting for **Living Well**. They are very short of stock and are spending a considerable sum of money each week to fill the bags they give out.

They don't have a QR code so please use this link if you wish to donate direct to them:

<https://www.livingwell.life/p/donate>

They are in **desperate** need of the following:

Tinned vegetables  
Tea bags  
Tinned pulses  
Tinned rice pudding  
Custard  
Toilet paper  
Soup  
Long-life non dairy milk  
Shampoo/shower gel/toothpaste/deodorant

### CHURCH PARADE

The scouts have had to cancel their parade this Sunday. We look forward to having them with us in the spring.

We plan to have a swathe of poppies in the church during November, which we hope to be able to keep from year to year and add to over time.

We are inviting you to make knitted, crocheted or fabric poppies, in red or black, up to 10 cm in diameter. There will be a basket in the porch for you to put your completed poppies in no later than 31 October please.

There are some templates at the back of the church but please feel free to do your own design.

A Sunrise Good News Bible was left in the Hall after the Parish Day. It can be collected from the Office.

### LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING Wednesday 4 October at 8.00 pm

Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Boniface at 8.00pm followed by Lectio Divina and fellowship.

For more information call Tom on 07982 999319

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

The SVP opened its first charity shop this week. It is the first one in the diocese and is on St John's Parade, High Street, Sidcup DA14 6ES. There is parking nearby. Any donations of good quality clean clothing, books, bric a brac etc. can be taken to the shop and will be greatly appreciated. There is a gift aid scheme for donors.



## **DIOCESAN AGENCY FOR EVANGELISATION & CATECHESIS**

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

Tuesdays at 8.00 pm on Zoom

Four, hour-long sessions beginning 24 Oct.

For married couples (or engaged couples who have completed their marriage preparation), who wish to enrich their friendship and love.

Registration opens from 1 Oct at  
[aec.rcaos.org.uk/together](http://aec.rcaos.org.uk/together)

## **PROMOTING RACIAL & CULTURAL INCLUSION IN OUR PARISHES, SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES**

This seminar is at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Southwark, from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm on Saturday 28 October. All are welcome to this archdiocesan initiative chaired by Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the South-east.

For more information and to register, please use this link: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/commission-forpromoting-racial-and-cultural-inclusion/what-we-do/>. Registration is FREE.



This lovely picture was taken at St George's Cathedral on July 31 at the Annual Mass for Special Anniversaries when Mavis and Geoff Alagar renewed their marriage vows made 50 years ago and Isabelle and Hugh Blake-James renewed theirs made 25 years ago at a Mass celebrated by Archbishop John.

## **PASTORAL REVIEW**

The World Synod of Bishops, devoted to *Synodality*, opens in Rome this week. Among those taking part from all over the world, bishops and laypeople, is our own Archbishop John Wilson. We have been preparing for this event for two years in discussions and written feedback here in our parish and elsewhere. In the new issue of the *Pastoral Review*, available in the porch, there is an article by our own Emma Carlile about the process here at St Edmund's, together with other reflections. A number of parishioners have written for the journal over the years (including Ann Higgs, Sister Assumpta Geyrich SSPC, Ruth McConkey, Deacon Ray Williamson, Annie Williamson, Liam Allmark and Sofia Abasolo) and I was appointed editor earlier this year following the sad death last year of the previous editor Professor Anthony Towey. While it is good that we take copies for the parish, we are keen to recruit subscribers which would enable you to receive your own copy at home four times a year for only £27. Details of how to do so can be found at [Pastoral Review news about Catholicism and Christianity in The Tablet](#)



By tradition, the Catholic Church dedicates each month of the year to certain devotions. October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary and includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

on October 7.

Each week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday we have the opportunity at 9.30 am to join together to recite the rosary before Mass. During October it would be good to see a real gathering of parishioners joining together for this wonderful prayer.

# **MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 1 OCTOBER YR A**

<b>Sunday 1 Oct</b>	<b>Twenty-sixth Sunday</b>
	<b>Rosary Sunday</b>
6.00 pm Church	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>	
8.00 am Church	Clementina Delotta RIP
9.30 am Church	Eternal rest for Adam (3rd anniv)
9.30 am Hall	For the people
11.00 am Church	John Heneghan RIP
5.30 pm Church	Dominic Geoghegan RIP
<b>Monday 2 Oct</b>	<b>The Holy Guardian Angels</b>
10.00 am Church	Laurie & Olga RIP
6.00 pm Church	In thanksgiving to the Blessed Mother
<b>Tuesday 3 Oct</b>	<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am Church	Ints of Margaret
4.30 pm Church	Reception of body of Doreen Jansen
6.00 pm Church	Pierre & Jeanne Champetier RIP
<b>Wednesday 4 Oct</b>	<b>Saint Francis of Assisi</b>
10.00 am Church	Ints of Ann
	<b>No Adoration</b>
11.00 am Church	Requiem for Doreen Jansen
6.00 pm Church	Caroline Pearson RIP
8.00 pm Hall	Light of Christ Mass
<b>Thursday 5 Oct</b>	<b>Feria (Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin)</b>
10.00 am Church	Dec'd benefactors & promoters of the Claver Sisters
6.00 pm Church	In thanksgiving - Rosemary Ekong
8.00 pm Claver	Adoration
<b>Friday 6 Oct</b>	<b>Feria (St Bruno, Priest)</b>
9.00 am St Mary's	Whole school Mass for the harvest
10.00 am Church	Dec'd members of Ransford & Marbach families
	<b>Adoration and Benediction</b>
6.00 pm Church	All persecuted born & unborn children
<b>Saturday 7 Oct</b>	<b>Our Lady of the Rosary</b>
10.00 am Church	In thanksgiving for graces obtained
	<b>No Adoration</b>
6.00 pm Church	In thanksgiving for the support of the parish from the Lake family
<b>Sunday 8 Oct</b>	<b>Twenty-seventh Sunday</b>
	<b>Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families</b>
8.00 am Church	For the people
9.30 am Church	Dominic Geoghegan RIP
9.30 am Hall	Jimmy Walsh RIP
11.00 am Church	In thanksgiving to St Clare
5.30 pm Church	Ciaran Kelly RIP
<p><i>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 9.30 am. and after the 10.00 am Mass</i></p>	

## **We pray for those who have died:**

Doreen Jansen, Fr Kevin St Aubyn, Richard Everett, Eliane Andam.

**We pray for those whose anniversaries are about this time:** Vaughan Harris, Ellie Dirks, John Heneghan, Veronica Dagger, Timothy Sullivan, Bridget Byrne, Ramon Harvey, Edith Ransford, Terry Dunn, Annie Spearman.

**We pray for all members of our parish, and in particular those suffering from ill health, we pray too for their carers.**

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 24.9.23</b>	
Plate Collection	1291.17
Contactless	193.72
Bank Standing Order	500.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1036.25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3021.14</b>

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

## **DIARY**

### **October**

Sun 1	Collection for Living Well
Mon 2	Law Surgery - Presbytery 6.00 pm
Tues 3	Reception of the body of Doreen Jansen 4.30
Wed 4	Requiem for Doreen Jansen 11.00
Sat 7	Contemplative Saturday 11am - 12 in the Hall
	For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion— <b>book through the Office by Tuesday 2 Oct</b>
Sat 14	Formation Day 10am-4pm St Stephen's Church, Welling
Sat 21	Formation Day 10am-4pm Bishop Thomas Grant School, Streatham



## **BLYTHSWOOD SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

Leaflets are at the back of the church - please take one with you and start to fill a shoebox.

This year ALL shoeboxes will be going to Ukraine. More information in next week's newsletter.



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP

Email: [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk)Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Phone: 020 8650 0970

**Fr. Steve Wymer** - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr. Ashley Beck** - 020 8650 4117 or 020 7998 5949 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)**Fr John Olaniran** - 020 8650 7533 - [johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Seán Murphy** - 07960 958 441 or - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)**Deacon Ray Williamson** - [raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk)**Sunday 24 SEPTEMBER YR A****Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver****020 8313 3915**[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)**The second collection  
is for our local SVP.****Praise Be My Lord***The Appletree* (detail) 1912, by Gustav Klimt

At the turning of the seasons there can be a certain sadness. The beauty of summer gives way to the shorter, darker days of autumn, with the recent rain and winds those 30° temperatures day after day are quickly forgotten. Imagine if the joys of an English summer were gone forever. For instance the smell of freshly mown grass, the verdant leaves on the trees, the sound of the dawn chorus, the taste of fresh strawberries, or the soft touch of a dandelion seed head. We don't need to overtax our imaginations because the climate crisis is starting to rob us of experiences that we once took for granted. The seasons are no longer as predictable as they used to be, torrential rain and flash floods are increasingly common. We need to make the most of the remaining sunny days of the year which might tomorrow become stormy nights. Our climate is changing, we have squandered the great gift of creation and future generations will pay the price. In 2015, after the publication of his encyclical letter *Laudato Si'* (or 'Praise Be' in English), Pope Francis established the Season of Creation, an annual event to act as a reminder of God's great gift to us all. This season runs from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October; we are just 10 days from the end of this season for 2023, which will be marked by a postscript to *Laudato Si'*. We are called to be 'stewards of creation', to tend and care for this Garden of Eden; as the Bible says:

"And God blessed them, and he said, "Increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and the flying creatures of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." Gen. 1:28

This verse is referred to as the cultural mandate, the call to stewardship, and by so many measures we are failing.

To quote Fr Mike Schmitz (narrator of the Bible in a Year podcast) the problem is not so much that we have sinned (or are sinning), but that we want to sin in the first place, that we have turned our gaze away from God. In order to avoid sinning we need to change our hearts, and in order to stop destroying the planet we all need to change our hearts of stone, and rediscover our gratitude for the gift of creation. If we don't then what inheritance do we leave for those who follow?

In 2015, the same year that *Laudato Si'* was published, the Royal Society of Arts commissioned nine original poems on Climate Change. The poem *Inheritance*, by John Agard, struck me particularly for the way it relates our stewardship to the Beatitudes and a stark reminder of our responsibilities.

*Inheritance by John Agard*

If we, the children of the meek,  
should inherit an earth  
whose rainforest lungs  
breathe a tale of waste –  
an earth where the ailing sea  
shudders in its own slick

If we, the children of the meek,  
should inherit an earth  
where the grass goes nostalgic  
at the mere mention of green  
and the sky looks out of its depth  
when reminded of blue

If we, the children of the meek,  
should inherit such an earth,  
then we ask of the future  
one question: Should we dance  
or break into gnashing of teeth  
at the news of our inheritance?

Deacon Ray Williamson

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



### PARISH OPEN DAY

Thanks to all the groups who participated in our Open Day last weekend. It was lovely to see so many new faces asking about the activities on offer and signing up to try new things. Thanks must go to Margaret Kelleher who was handed the task of co-ordinating everyone. She did a wonderful job and kept a smile on her face at all times.

### DOMINIC GEOGHEGAN RIP

Paul, Deirdre, Caragh and Mark would like to thank everyone who has supported them in any way in the weeks since their beloved son and brother, Dominic, died suddenly and unexpectedly.

We have been surrounded with an outpouring of love, kindness, support, practical help and prayers which has helped us through these first weeks.

A Mass will be said for you all in gratitude.

### ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS

St Mary's, our parish school will be holding three open mornings for parents of children due to start Reception in **September 2024**, at 10.30 am on Wednesday 4th October, Thursday 2 November and Wednesday 29 November.

If you would like to attend any of these open mornings, please contact Mrs Tracey - School Admissions Officer by email at: [admin@stmaryscp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmaryscp.co.uk)

### NATIONAL MASS COUNT

This count is carried out at every Catholic church in the country, at every Mass that is celebrated on four consecutive Sundays beginning this weekend.

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### SECONDARY SCHOOLS

If you are applying to a Catholic secondary school for a place for next year (2024) you will need documentation signed by a priest: please send or deliver the forms direct to Fr Ashley. The Parish Office & the other clergy do not deal with this!

Fr Ashley

### LAW SURGERY

We are pleased to announce the restart of our monthly Law Surgery commencing on Monday 2 October at 6.00 pm in the **Presbytery**, and every successive first Monday of the month, 6 November and 4 December until the end of this year.

The format remains the same save for the change of venue from No.11 to the Presbytery until further notice. People will be seen on a first come, first served basis with a waiting room facility in the Presbytery.

The service is provided by a local firm of Solicitors who will endeavour to identify a wide range of legal problems and recommend appropriate future action to those in need of legal advice.

We are so grateful to the team for offering their professional services to our parishioners.

### SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING MEETING

The next meeting to discuss and plan for events in the parish is on Thursday 28 September at 7.00 pm in the Main Hall. All our regular helpers have been contacted but we are happy for anyone with ideas to come along and join the team.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION

The diocese requires all parents wishing to baptise their first child to attend a Baptism Preparation Session.

The next one is on Sunday 15 October in the Hall after the Family Mass.

No need to book

We plan to have a swathe of poppies in the church during November. We hope to be able to keep it from year to year and add to it over time.

We are inviting you to make knitted, crocheted or fabric poppies, in red or black, up to 10 cm in diameter. There will be a basket in the porch for you to put your completed poppies in no later than 31 October please.

There are some templates at the back of the church but please feel free to do your own design.

### MUSIC TEACHER (ONE DAY PER WEEK)

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School. Please see advert in the porch.

### WALKING GROUP

To mark the 175th anniversary of the opening of St. George's in 1848, a walk has been organised for anyone who is interested in the history of the Cathedral and the surrounding area of Southwark Bankside. The walk will start at St George's Cathedral and end at St George the Martyr in Borough High Street. The walk will last about 90 minutes and will meander through the back streets of Bankside where you will learn about Victorian charities, theatres, prisons, riots and hospitals. Charles Dickens spent many hours in these streets gathering materials for his novels including *Pickwick Papers*, *Little Dorrit* and *Barnaby Rudge*. The walk will start at 2.00 pm on Saturday 30 September outside the Cathedral. Come and celebrate the 175th birthday of the building and community of St George's. The History Tour will be led by Jenny Rossiter of the Lambeth Tour Guide Association. The tour is free, but donations are welcome for the nominated charity *The Arch Romero Trust*. If you wish to join this walk, please let me know if you would like to meet in Beckenham or at the Cathedral.

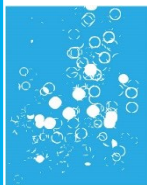
IF YOU WISH TO JOIN PLEASE MEET AT NEW BECKENHAM STATION FOR THE 12.28 TRAIN TO LONDON CHARING CROSS, OR MEET AT CHARING CROSS AT 1.00 PM.

We will then take the Underground to Lambeth North.

Please text Mavis at 07904 812350 or email [alagar@pobroadband.co.uk](mailto:alagar@pobroadband.co.uk)

### 300 CLUB

A huge thank you to all who have responded to the call for more members of the **300 Club**. Since the pulpit appeal by the new organiser Isabelle Blake-James at the beginning of September we have gone from 162 members to 213. This is a great response and now that we are once again a 200 Club, maybe we could push a little harder and reach our goal of once again being a **300 Club**!



Living Well  
Bromley

Next weekend we will be collecting for **Living Well**. They are very short of stock and are spending a considerable amount each week to fill the bags they give out.

They don't have a QR code so please use this link if you wish to donate direct to them:

<https://www.livingwell.life/p/donate>

They are in **desperate** need of the following:

Tinned vegetables

Tea bags

Tinned pulses

Tinned rice pudding

Custard

Toilet paper

Soup

Long-life non dairy milk

Shampoo/shower gel/toothpaste/deodorant

Please bring your donations to church and place your gifts in the trolleys in the porch.

### FORMATION DAY FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS AND LECTORS

Details of the dates and times for these days are on the back page, but I omitted to tell you that you need to register through the Office.

Please send an email with Formation Day as the subject and giving your name and which venue you wish to attend. Please do this by 2 October.

We are fortunate to have a parish Walking Group. This enables people to value and learn more about God's world, which we are celebrating this month in the Season of Creation. One of its members, Michael Elmer, has kindly passed on some information about the yew trees near the church door, which we share with you here.

The yew tree has been linked to sacred sites in this country for centuries. St Gregory the Great told St Augustine not to shun certain places of worship, but to Christianise them, so many churches were built beside ancient yews, hence their association with immortality and the divine. However yews can be dangerous and must be treated with respect - the fleshy berry, known as the aril, contains poisonous seeds, so please don't let children touch the berries. The poisonous properties are now being put to use in anti-cancer drugs. So the yew is a symbol of eternal life, provider of longbows in earlier times and now of life-saving drugs, but be careful!

# **MASSES WEEK BEGINNING 23 SEPTEMBER YR A**

<b>Sunday 24 Sept</b>		<b>Twenty-fifth Sunday</b>
<b>World Day of Prayer for Migrants &amp; Refugees</b>		
6.00 pm	Church	Paul Stephens RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>		
8.00 am	Church	For the people
9.30 am	Church	For Milan on his birthday & the well being of his family
9.30 am	Hall	For migrants & refugees
11.00 am	Church	Maria & Julius Jasiewicz RIP
5.30 pm	Church	Eimear Murphy RIP
<b>Monday 25 Sept</b>		<b>Feria</b>
10.00 am	Church	David Jowitt RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Valerie Colyer RIP (1st anniv)
<b>Tuesday 26 Sept</b>		<b>Feria (Saints Cosmas &amp; Damian, Martyrs)</b>
10.00 am	Church	Tom Knell RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Ints of the Adonai Family
<b>Wednesday 27 Sept</b>		<b>Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest</b>
10.00 am	Church	Janet Maureen Brown RIP & dec'd family members
<b>No Adoration</b>		
11.30 am	Church	Requiem for Jean Bryan
6.00 pm	Church	Berthe Reynaud & Jean Paul Schoens
8.00 pm	Hall	Light of Christ Mass
<b>Thursday 28 Sept</b>		<b>Feria (Saint Wenceslaus)</b>
10.00 am	Church	Paul Hughes RIP
6.00 pm	Church	Patrick & Erika Curtin RIP
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration
<b>Friday 29 Sept</b>		<b>Saints Michael, Gabriel &amp; Raphael, Archangels</b>
9.00 am	St Mary's	Mass for Yr4
10.00 am	Church	Anna & Tom Knell RIP
<b>Adoration and Benediction</b>		
6.00 pm	Church	Ints of Bhakit and her baby.
<b>Saturday 30 Sept</b>		<b>St Jerome, Priest &amp; Doctor of the Church</b>
10.00 am	Church	In thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart
6.00 pm	Church	Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP
<b>VIGIL</b>		
<b>Sunday 1 Oct</b>		<b>Twenty-sixth Sunday</b>
<b>Rosary Sunday</b>		
8.00 am	Church	Clementina Delotta RIP
9.30 am	Church	Eternal rest for Adam (3rd anniv) CHURCH PARADE
9.30 am	Hall	For the people
11.00 am	Church	John Heneghan RIP
5.30 pm	Church	Dominic Geoghegan RIP

*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 9.30 am. and after the 10.00 am Mass Monday to Saturday there is Adoration unless there is a funeral. Friday Adoration concludes with Benediction. If there is a priest available confessions will be heard after the weekday 10.00 am Mass.*

## **We pray for those who have died:**

Jean Bryan, Martin Forrest, Doreen Jansen.

## **We pray for those whose anniversaries are about this time:**

Edward Sullivan, Esther Smith, Ann Margaret Wood, Terence Harte, Thomas Harrigan, Joan Czyrka, Patricia Deeley, Marian Hughes, Pope John Paul I, Nicholas Francis Bassett, Elliot Moore, Tom Knell, Nick Gowing, Maria Jasiewicz, Marie-Louise Hylton, Christopher Tolhurst.

## **We pray for all members of our parish, and in particular those suffering from ill health, we pray too for their carers.**

<b>OFFERTORY - WEEK ENDING 17.09.23</b>	
Plate Collection	1365.74
Contactless	436.54
Bank Standing Order	983.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	507.27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3292.55</b>

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

## **DIARY**

### **September**

- Wed 27 Requiem for Mrs Jean Bryan 11.30
- Thur 28 Social & Fundraising Mtg in Main Hall 7.00 pm
- Sat 30 Diocesan Day for Catechists at Amigo Hall, St Georges Cathedral Please book online asap.  
<https://aecsouthwark.churchsuite.com/events/iu6nxiq8>

### **October**

- Sun 1 Collection for Living Well
- Mon 2 Law Surgery - Presbytery 6.00 pm
- Tues 3 Reception of the body of Doreen Jansen 4.30
- Wed 4 Requiem for Doreen Jansen 11.00
- Sat 7 Contemplative Saturday 11am - 12 in the Hall

For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion—**book through the Office**

- Sat 14 Formation Day 10am-4pm St Stephen's Church, Welling
- Sat 21 Formation Day 10am-4pm Bishop Thomas Grant School, Streatham