

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP Website: www.saintedmunds.net

Parish Office - Phone: 020 8650 0970 - Email: beckenham@rcaos.org.uk

Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk

Fr John Olaniran - 020 8650 7533 - johnolaniran@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Andrew Bishop - andrewbishop@rcaos.org.uk

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

Deacon Ray Williamson - raywilliamson@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding - Yvonne Epale - safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Sunday 9 March 2025

Yr C



Please take a Cafod envelope and return it next week

AN INTERNATIONAL DIACONATE



CNS photo/Pablo Esparza

Last week more than 2,500 permanent deacons gathered in Rome to celebrate the Jubilee of Deacons as part of the Jubilee year of hope which began on Christmas Eve. Over 100 nations were represented as we gathered in Rome on Friday 21st February, and many of us also attended a conference organised by the International Diaconate Centre at the beginning of that week. It was truly inspiring to meet people like Deacon Ivan from Bombay who runs a vibrant youth ministry in the Archdiocese; Deacon Tony, who with his wife Annette, established a parish from scratch in a new town outside Sydney without a parish priest; and Deacon Peter from Rottenburg, who was born deaf mute and lost his sight later in life: he ministers to the deaf blind community, supported by his wife Margaretha, who signs onto his hand at high speed.

We each expressed our love of diaconal ministry and our hopes for the future in a series of talks, and conversations in the spirit. These conversations are at the heart of the synodal path, listening without judgement and speaking truthfully from the heart. There were both similarities and differences in our experiences but we shared a common bond through our ministry of service.

Then on Sunday 23rd we gathered as a diaconal community to celebrate Mass in St Peter's basilica and to celebrate the ordination of 23 men from around the world to the Permanent Diaconate. Sadly Pope Francis was unable to join us but his inspirational homily was read by Monsignor Fisichella.

Pope Francis talked of Deacons as being "sculptors" and "painters" of the merciful face of the Father, displaying selfless service which is an essential dimension of our ministry. He continued to say that Deacons are set apart from society by ordination, only to be re-immersed in it, in order to enable our Church to be ever more open and welcoming. This is the essence of the journey that Pope Francis has set us on, to become a synodal Church, that doesn't 'hide' within its places of worship but goes out into the world.

Forgiveness is one of the characteristics that Pope Francis has called for in the Deacons of the Church. In his homily the Pope explained how Jesus reminds us that "*we need to be able to forgive and to ask forgiveness, to rebuild relationships and even to choose not to withhold our love from those who hurt or betray us*".

In conclusion Pope Francis called for Deacons to be apostles of forgiveness, selfless servants of our brothers and sisters, and builders of communion, where all the popes of God participate in the Church's mission to bring Christ to all and all to Christ. Our mission is clear and daunting, we need more than the current 50,000 permanent deacons worldwide. So, please pray for the Diaconal community and for vocations to the Permanent Diaconate; we have a lot of work to do!

Deacon Ray



Where's Ray?



CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY is on Friday 14 March. Please consider eating a simple meal on that day in solidarity with our impoverished sisters and brothers throughout the world.

Any donations you can make to the CAFOD appeal on the weekend of 15/16 March will help to bring hope to communities suffering hardship in this Jubilee Year, when Pope Francis has called us to be Pilgrims of Hope.

There will be Cafod speakers at all Masses this weekend, and you are asked to take away a Cafod envelope and return it next weekend with your donation.

There is more information on the Cafod noticeboard in the church porch and on the website:
<http://www.cafod.org.uk>

If you enjoy walking, you are also encouraged to take part in Cafod's Big Lent Walk:

[The Big Lent Walk 2025 for Individuals](#)

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 12 March

7.45 pm. Praise and Worship

8.00 pm. Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr David Gummett

Followed by Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament

10.00 pm Evening concludes

ST EDMUND'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Saturday 24 May

After our Jubilee Mass at 6.00 pm we will be having a reception in the Hall.

We need a team(s) to help decorate the Hall, to set it up and to prepare the refreshments. If anyone would like to volunteer please get in touch with Sue at

sueowenwolf@gmail.com

SOUTHWARK SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

Here are some links which you might find helpful in your Lenten journey.

Daily reflections featuring thoughts, Scripture and prayer

<https://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/>

Lenten resources from Catholic Bishops conference and Bible Society

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/lent-and-eastertide-resources/>

Hallow app

Lent Pray40: The Way

Ascension app

Set Free - daily Lenten reflections

Archdiocese of Southwark

Prayers for adoration - daily prayer videos focusing on the Eucharist

<https://www.youtube.com/@RCSouthwark1>

Additionally there is a series of Lent 'Pilgrim' talks on Monday evenings at St Joseph's Church, Bromley (Holy Trinity House). 7.30-8.30 pm on 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st March. Further details contact

www.stjosephsbromley.org

CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK

CSAN is the official network of social action organizations within the Catholic Church in England and Wales, dedicated to addressing poverty, social injustice, and marginalization.

CSAN is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the current economic climate on Catholic families in England and Wales.

Please share your experience by completing the survey, which can be accessed at csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey, where you'll find further information about the survey.

The survey will close on 25th March

We have been informed of the sad news of the death of Sr Mary of the Salesians.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

**PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF
LA SALETTE, ARS AND PARAY-LE MONIAL**

4 – 10 June

Leaflets are on the reading slopes in the narthex.

Further information from Diane Brelu on 0795 119 4036.

There is another opportunity to visit Rome in November. Information at back of church.

**Walk the Augustine Camino for
Mary's Meals**

Monday 1 September – Sunday 8 September
There are flyers about this walk on the reading slopes. It is a week's pilgrimage visiting these four English shrines.

The Friars, Aylesford
St Jude's Shrine, Faversham
St Thomas of Canterbury,
Canterbury
St Augustine's Shrine, Ramsgate

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

This is a one-day marriage-enrichment course aimed at couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to try and make them better. Couples who have attended have been universally enthusiastic.

There is no charge and no group sharing.

Couples have the opportunity individually to explore their relationship and levels of communication, which is the key to relationship.

These BABM days start at 9.30 am and finish by 4.30 pm.

Dates and venues are:

- April 12, West Croydon;
- September 13, Amigo Hall, Southwark

More details – 07983 524 727 or email:
mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

Thank you to all who came to the first meeting on **Called to Bear Fruit**.

The next meeting is Tuesday 11 at 7.30 pm, and then on Tuesday 1 April.

All are welcome to come along.

**CYM BROMLEY DEANERY
LENT YOUTH RETREAT DAY**

St James the Great RC Church
Community Centre, Lakeswood Road
Petts Wood BR5 1BJ

Saturday 5 April 11.00 am - 6.00 pm

This will be led by the new Southwark Mission Team. An enriching day filled with Lenten reflection, craft activities, music and song, prayer, adoration, games, pizza and Youth Mass. For those aged 7-16. Spaces are limited. Register here: [\[bit.ly/4iiufhn\]](http://bit.ly/4iiufhn)
bit.ly/4iiufhn

Places are £20.00 which includes lunch and snacks. Payment details follow registration.

We have received a letter from Stella Maris thanking parishioners for your generous offering of £1004.84 (plus Gift Aid) which will ensure that seafarers in this county and around the world will continue to receive the care and support that they need.

HOPE IN ADORATION

As part of the Jubilee Year, Archbishop John is encouraging people to turn to the Lord Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration and have their hopes "fulfilled by Christ".

The campaign, Hope in Adoration, will share testimonies from parish priests and laity throughout the year on how Eucharistic Adoration has helped them build a closer relationship with the Lord Jesus.

Resources will also be made available for no cost and there is a comprehensive list of times of Eucharistic Adoration in parishes across the Archdiocese.

Find out more about the campaign at rcaos.org.uk/hopeinadoration



If you have a red Missio box would you please bring it to the Parish Office so it can be emptied. Boxes will be left on the reading slope to be collected. If anyone would like to have a red box, please let the Office know.

MASSES

Sunday 9 Mar FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
 6.00 pm VIGIL Valerie Parker RIP and Franka Bruschi RIP
 8 00 am Fr Donald Clements RIP
 9.30 am Enrolment Mass for Confirmation candidates. For the people
 9.30 am HALL FAMILY MASS
 11.00 am Michael Hanrahan RIP
 5.30 pm Dec'd members of the Finnegan Family

Mon 10 March Feria
 10.00 am John Brooks RIP
Tues 11 March Feria
 10.00 am Cecil Barnes RIP
 12.00 pm Requiem of Christopher Carroll

Wed 12 March Feria
 10.00 am Ints of the O'Keefe Family
 No Stations today
 11.15 am Requiem of Keith Kench

Thurs 13 March Feria
 10.00 am Pauline Wood RIP
 8.00 pm CLAVER Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 14 March Feria
 10.00 am Monica Grima RIP
 3.00 pm CLAVER Stations of the Cross
 6.15 pm Stations of the Cross
 7.00 pm Sue O'Donnell RIP

Sat 15 Mar Feria
 10.00 am Anne Reilly RIP
 6.00 pm VIGIL Crescenzo & Delisa Panetta RIP

Sunday 16 Mar SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
 8 00 am Dominic Geoghegan RIP
 9.30 am Eileen Sheehan RIP
 9.30 am HALL For the people
 FAMILY MASS
 11.00 am Dr Michael Ekong RIP
 5.30 pm Dr Alexander Uche RIP

Confessions are every Saturday from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00 - 5.55 pm and usually during Adoration

There is Rosary every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30 am and Adoration after morning Mass from Monday to Saturday, unless otherwise announced.

We pray for all who have died: Keith Kench, Ken Kench, Vincent Bagatta, Barbara Panglose, Graham Murray, Christopher Carroll, Derek Attwell, George Hext, Sr Mary, Linda Travell, Patrick Naughton.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Yemi Olaonipekun, Anthony Walsh, 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.

Your prayers are asked for: Hedwig Harper, Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna Sookram, Anne Flynn, Hans Halpin, Paul M Williams, Norma Powell, Joan Morris, Fitzroy Maxima Saunders, Paul Hixson, Susan McWilliams, Mary-Jo McCarthy, Jacqueline Djasrabe, Christine Parker, Paul, Margaret Brocklehurst, Leyla Pattison, Janice McIntosh, Mark Humphreys, Jessica Ram, Patsy Gray

DIARY

March
 Mon 10 CWL meeting in the Hall at 2.00 pm
 Tue 11 Requiem of Christopher Carroll at 12.00
 Second mtg on Called to Bear Fruit. Hall at 7.30 pm
 Wed 12 Requiem for Keith Kench at 11.15 am
April
 Sat 12 Lenten Reconciliation Service at 4.00 pm
May
 Sat 24 St Edmund's 75th Anniversary Mass at 6.00 pm
June
 Sat 7 Diocesan Jubilee Celebration at Aylesford Priory. **Book your coach tickets now. £20 from the Office**

Meditation every Monday in the Hall from 5.30 - 6.20 pm, except for the first Monday of each month when it is in the Lady Chapel.

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

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

Account name: RCAS Beckenham
 Sort Code: 60 02 12
 Acc No: 14282887
 Link to set up a regular donation through ChurchSuite:
<https://stedmunds.churchsuite.com/donate/>

Our Parish Safeguarding rep is Yvonne Epale who can be reached at safeguardingSC3@safeguardraos.org.uk

OFFERTORY WEEK ENDING 2.3.25	
Plate Collection	898.85
Contactless	418.74
Bank Standing Order	733.33
Church Suite Regular Giving	3177.72
TOTAL	5228.64