

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 30 March 2025 Yr C



The second collection
is for Sycamore

CAR PARKING ON SUNDAYS

As I write this on Thursday evening, I have counted 17 emails I have sent today and yesterday dealing with this issue, so please understand that I am doing my best to find out what was agreed in 1979 when the archdiocese sold the land.

Bromley Council has, quite as I expected, claimed they have no record of protected free Sunday parking for parishioners and the onus is on us to prove our case. They have stated that if we cannot prove anything we will have to pay for parking like everyone else.

I have contacted the Council Parking Department and six individual councillors from the Beckenham Town and Kelsey wards. I do not want to be party political, but it is interesting that, whereas the Parking Department and the two opposition councillors have corresponded with me, the four from the party running the council have not even acknowledged my email, or deigned to reply.

A search through parish records and diocesan records has produced nothing relevant. I have therefore obtained documents from the land registry. These are not of the actual sale because, as many of you are aware, the land and the car park no longer belong to Sainsbury's itself. These documents have shown that we have rights of access to inspect, maintain and repair the church, tower and presbytery. **There is, however, no mention of parking rights.** If there had been any type of written statement about parking, unfortunately the Land Registry does not keep those sort of records from before 1986 or so.

There remains a slim chance of Archbishop's House finding something in old paper records, but the main grounds for hope are the advice I have been given - I am lucky that several parishioners with legal knowledge and experience are advising me - concerning the original planning permission in 1979. The permission may have been granted with

guarantees to overcome the church's objections about parking. I have therefore asked the council to send me copies of the original papers from that time. I have also spoken to the manager at Sainsbury's, who is supportive. Finally, I should say that I am not entirely sure *exactly* what land was sold: I am told a house or houses, which were demolished, where the vehicular access to Sainsbury's now is. Certainly a narrow strip of land immediately next to the church and presbytery, essentially the path. Whilst people remember a car park, I am not sure how it was accessed, or even if it belonged to the archdiocese. If it did not, and what was sold was space for access rather than the land where Sainsbury's and the car park now stands, it would not be a surprise that we do not have parking rights as the land was not ours and the only hope would be from the planning permission documents. We will continue to pursue the issue and have discussions to see how we can best respond to the situation as a parish.

In the meantime please let me know if you have any written evidence, or other knowledge from that time that could be helpful, and please be careful next week. The council is apparently repainting yellow lines in Village Way and may be extending the extent of them and adding extra times in the evening when you cannot park.

Fr. Andrew

Our church shop will be open this Sunday after the confirmation commitment mass at 5.30 pm. We will be selling very reasonably priced cards, gifts and mementoes to celebrate your child's confirmation.

The shop is located on the left of the church in the main porch.

We take card and cash payments and any profits are given to the church.

SOUND SYSTEM

Work on the sound system in the church continues.

The contractor continues to work around our morning Mass and any services and funerals that we have, and we will continue to allow him as much time as he needs in the church so the work can be completed before Holy Week.

The church remains open whilst the work is being done and parishioners are welcome to come in at any time

Thank you to those who have already given us some beautiful hand made flowers for our Easter flower swathe. It will be installed for the Easter Vigil and is going to look lovely. We would be happy to receive more flowers over the next week or so, so please, either put them in the box in the porch or bring them to the Office.



Thank you

300 CLUB

Following Isabelle Blake-James appeal at all Masses last Sunday we are pleased that a few parishioners have come forward to buy a ticket for the 300 Club.

There are application forms hanging on a board in the narthex, so please, if you are interested, take one home with you to complete and return to the Office.

SECOND COLLECTION

The Second Collection this weekend will be for **Sycamore**. This is an online video course presented by Father Stephen Wang, and has been introduced to the Parish this year for use by RCIA for their enquirers.

So far the course is going well and feedback from our enquirers is very positive. Sycamore is designed for other parish activities, including Confirmation, Adult Formation, and refresher courses for existing Catholics. We hope in future to extend the use of Sycamore in our parish but understandably we are asked to make a donation to them so this great work can continue both here and abroad.

Sycamore are trying to raise £60,000 this year to help them increase knowledge of Christ, the Catholic Church, and to bring more souls to God. So, on behalf of St Edmund's PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.

Thank you,
Cathy and Mary RCIA

To learn more about Sycamore and what it offers take a look at Fr Stephen talking on:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMCqCesGlxU>

READERS FOR THE EASTER TRIDUUM

Maundy Thursday – April 17 at 8.00 pm
Good Friday – April 18 at 3.00 pm
Easter Vigil - Saturday April 19 at 7.30 pm

We need readers for all these services. If you are able to read at any of them please contact Rosemary on 07956 109 465 or r.ekong@ucl.ac.uk and let her know which service you will be attending.

ALL PARISH GROUPS

Would all parishioners who lead parish groups or activities of any type or size, please get in touch with the Parish Office to confirm your group is still active. If it still meets, could you please let us know when it meets, day/time/location and a contact name with email address and phone number.

If your group is no longer running please contact the Parish Office so records can be updated.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES are now ready for collection from the reading slope. Please take your box as you leave the church.

Blue boxes are for envelope donors. Pink bundles are for standing order donors to cover special collections.

Each box is marked with the donor's name and Gift Aid number.

Thank you for your continued support.



We are very grateful to the 5th Beckenham South Scouts who have donated £500 to the parish from the proceeds of the firework display they organised at Croydon Rec last year.

Thank you so much

CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT

Tuesday 1 April

7.30 pm in the Hall

This will be the final meeting on Called to Bear Fruit.

Everyone is welcome to attend even if this is the only meeting you can come to.



CARITAS NEWS BULLETIN

Copies of the latest newsletter can be found on the reading slopes.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CLAVER CONVENT

The time of the weekly Adoration at the Claver Convent has been changed to every Thursday at 6.00 pm.



We invite you, dear parishioners to join us to spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

Sr Reena



The collection for Cafod's recent Family Fast Day raised at least £2300.00. This is a wonderful result and does not include the donations that parishioners will have made direct to Cafod's own website

Thank you so much for your generosity.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST PRAYER MEETING

Wednesday 2 April

7.45 pm Praise and Worship

8.00 pm Holy Mass

Celebrant Fr Damian Ilodigwe

Followed by Lectio Divina.

10.00 pm Evening concludes

MUSIC NIGHT FOR DEACON SEAN'S CHARITY

The music night in the hall on 15 March raised some £3,000 for Deacon Seán's Ghana charity. We are very grateful to all those who attended or made cash donations, to local businesses and others who donated items and vouchers for the raffle, and to all those who helped to organise and run the show.

Money goes a very long way in Ghana so £3,000 will help us to fund our many students through secondary schooling, apprenticeships, teacher-training, nursing college and university, as well as support many other charitable activities.

With grateful thanks,

The Trustees, Nankesido Education and Welfare Trust

Any items for the newsletter should be with the Office by noon on Wednesday.

MASSES

Sunday 30 Mar	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
6.00 pm VIGIL	Dec'd brothers of Beckenham Catenians Second Scrutiny Colin Dowling RIP
8 00 am	Jackie Cox RIP
9.30 am	For the people
9.30 am HALL FAMILY MASS	
11.00 am	David Stephens RIP
5.30 pm	Confirmation Commitment Mass For the Confirmandi, their parents and catechists
Mon 31 March	Feria
10.00 am	Tony Duggan RIP
Tues 1 April	Feria
10.00 am	Margaret Murray RIP
Wed 2 April	Feria
10.00 am	In thanksgiving - Charlotte, Michael & Jacqueline Ekong Stations of the Cross and confession
8.00 pm HALL	Light of Christ Mass
Thurs 3 April	Feria
10.00 am	Frankie Thornton RIP
6.00 pm CLAVER	Eucharistic Adoration
Friday 4 April	Feria
9.00	St Mary's Whole School Mass Gerry Lucas RIP
10.00 am	Kathleen Earl RIP (1st anniv)
3.00 pm CLAVER	Stations of the Cross
6.15 pm	Stations of the Cross & confession
7.00 pm	Jubilee Mass Tom Doolan RIP
Sat 5 April	Feria
10.00 am	Mary Mullins RIP
12.00 pm	Jubilee Mass for Healing
6.00 pm VIGIL	Delisa & Crescenzo Panetta RIP
Sunday 6 April	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
8 00 am	For the people
9.30 am FAMILY MASS	Patricia Hanrahan RIP
11.00 am	For Catenian vocations
5.30 pm	Pet Kilcullen RIP The Third Scrutiny

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

Offertory for week ending 23/3/25

Plate Collection	1049.24
Contactless	312.94
Bank Standing Order	847.00
Church Suite Regular Giving	1021.43
Total	3230.61

We pray for all who have died: George Hext, Linda Travell, Martha Mary Gray, Pauline Ann Robinson, Lucy Yong, Tina Valentino, Canon Leo Mooney, Roy Coutinho.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries are at this time: Austin Waldron, David Stephens, Marise Howells, Mary Margaret Fitzgerald, 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, Dr Peter Rodrigues.

Your prayers are asked for: Hedwig Harper, Fr Ray Brennan, Terry Woollard, Wendy Adams, Elizabeth, Rosanna Sookram, 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, Zygmunt Sobelewski, Mark Humphreys, Fr Simplicio D'Souza, James Smith.

DIARY

April

- Tues 1 Final meeting on Called to Bear Fruit in the Hall at 7.30 pm
- Mon 7 Law Surgery in the Committee Room at 6.00 pm
- Sat 12 Lenten Reconciliation Service in the church at 4.00 pm
- Wed 23 Requiem for Tina Valentino at 11.30 am

May

- Sat 24 St Edmund's 75th Anniversary Mass at 6.00 pm

June

- Sat 7 Diocesan Jubilee Celebration at Aylesford Priory. Please book your place in the coach. **Tickets are £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.

Contemplative Saturday on 5 April from 11-12 in the Hall.

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 safeguardingSG3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk