

## CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND OF CANTERBURY

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Sunday 29 March 2026 Yr A

The retiring collection this weekend will be used to purchase the flowers that decorate our church at Easter

### CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Wednesday 1st April there will be stations of the cross for young ones at 10.30 am in the church followed by crafts and snacks in the hall. Do come along especially if your children are around four years old and above.

### BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS

Do come to this wonderful service that has been prepared for us by some of our young Polish parishioners. Each year it becomes more popular and draws families from countries all around the world. It is on Saturday at 9.30 am.

Please see the poster in the porch.

### ALTAR SERVERS REHEARSALS

All those who want to serve at the services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil are asked to attend the relevant practice.

As these services are held only once a year there is a lot that will be unfamiliar, and a training session will help all servers, particularly those assisting for the first time, to be confident in what they are doing. Please gather in the church promptly so the sessions can begin on time.

Maundy Thursday / Good Friday **Thursday at 11.00 am**  
Easter Vigil **Holy Saturday at noon**

The flowers in our church are always beautiful and particularly so at Easter and Christmas. We thank our very small but dedicated team who put so much love into their beautiful creations. This year we thought that we could raise funds towards the Easter flowers by having a retiring collecting at Mass.

Please give with your usual generosity and see the beautiful results at Easter.

### 300 CLUB WINNERS

Congratulations to this month's winners.

Melanie Beechinor-Collins £100

Colleen Swan £50

Brigitte Guerry-Power £25

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Christian Meditation in the hall every Monday from 5.30 - 6.20 except 2nd Mondays.

Quiet Monday in the hall on second Mondays from 5.30 - 6.20 - see flyer in porch (all Churches welcome).

Please arrive promptly and respect the silence.

### COLLECTIONS AT EASTER SERVICES

These will be on the contactless machines or you can use the baskets for cash or envelopes.

#### Maundy Thursday - Collection for Mary's Meals

This is the only collection over the triduum that is decided by the Parish Priest. Fr Steve fully supports this amazing charity and hopes that you will give as generously as ever. Mary's Meals helps school children in the poorest countries in the world have a cooked meal every day.

#### Good Friday - Collection for the Holy Places connected to Our Lord's Passion.

These have always been places of veneration and pilgrimage and this collection goes towards their upkeep and maintenance and also towards maintaining Christian schooling in the area.

#### Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday

All offerings at these Masses are your personal gifts to the priests of the parish.

### THE LIGHT OF CHRIST CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Join us in the parish hall on Wednesday 1 April.

7.45 pm: Praise and Worship

8.00 pm: Holy Mass

Celebrant: Fr Boniface Arapa

Followed by: Lectio Divina

10.00pm: Evening concludes

This week there will be Lectio Divina after Holy Mass with a focus on Easter.

Pope Frances described Lectio Divina like this. "*There is one way of listening to what the Lord wishes to tell us in his word and of letting ourselves be transformed by the Spirit. It is called Lectio Divina. It consists of reading God's word in a moment of prayer and allowing it to enlighten and renew us.*" (Evangeli Gaudium.)

The passage is read three times with a pause for prayer and reflection after each reading.

*Meditatio.* We reflect and ponder on the reading.

*Oratio.* We respond with our heart.

*Contemplatio.* We rest and wait for God to speak to us.

Do come and try it, especially if you have never experienced Lectio Divina before.

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

## MASSES

**Sun 29 March Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**  
6.00 pm **VIGIL** Bernie Hughes RIP  
8.00 am Denise dos Santos Zanardine RIP  
9.30 am Ilean Curry RIP in thanksgiving for her work with the RCIA  
11.00 am Martin Lavelle RIP  
5.30 pm For the people

**Mon 30 March Feria**  
9-9.45 am **Exposition**  
10.00 am Colin Dowling RIP  
11.30 am Requiem for Rose Elgar

**Tues 31 March Feria**  
9-9.45 am **Exposition**  
10.00 am Sr Micheline  
12.00 pm Requiem for Patricia Weal

**Wed 1 April Spy Wednesday**  
**Our priests are at St George's Cathedral so there is no Mass in the church today**  
10.30 Children's Way of the Cross  
After which the church will be locked for floor polishing

**Thurs 2 April Maundy Thursday**  
No morning Mass  
**8.00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
Kerry Skelton RIP  
Anita Jerome RIP  
Fr John Buckley RIP  
Procession to the Altar of Repose and watching until midnight.

**Fri 3 April Good Friday**  
11.00 am Walk of Witness from our church to Beckenham Green  
**3.00 pm The Passion of Our Lord**

**Sat 4 April Holy Saturday**  
9.30 am Blessing of foods  
9.30 - noon Confessions  
The church will be closed after morning confession

**7.30 pm Easter Vigil**  
Delisa & Cresscenzo Panetta RIP  
Des Johnson RIP  
Emmanuel - in thanks to God

**Sun 5 March Easter Day**  
8.00 am Patricia Hanrahan RIP  
9.30 am For the people  
11.00 am Wellbeing of Gretta O'Reilly  
5.30 pm Grace Ete Eseanobi RIP

**The church will be closed at the end of confessions on Holy Saturday so that it can be prepared for the Easter Vigil.**

### MY DAY BY DAY BOOKLETS FOR EASTER

Booklets for daily reading for Eastertide are in a basket at the back of the church. We also have Infant and Junior editions which are designed to encourage children's interest and enjoyment of Easter.

## We pray for all our parishioners

**The recently deceased:** Rose Elgar, Patricia Weal, Bernie Smith, Albie Houghton, Vincent Scully, Martin Lydon, Shirley Leach, Grace Ete Eseanobi, Luznidia Arias.

**Those whose anniversaries are at this time:** Maureen Turner, Austin Waldron, David Stephens, Marise Howells, Mary 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.

**Those in ill health:** Chris Elgar, Peter Anthony Jones, Katherine McLaughlin, Henry Ginn, Margaret Mattison, Elias Tchamba, Paul Hixson, David Back, Beatrice Allegretti, Arlene Sinclair, Margaret Russell, Emma Rodrigues, Christine Parker.

**And all those suffering with long term sickness.**

May the Lord bless them and keep them – Amen.

## DIARY

### March

30 Requiem for Rose Elgar at 11.30am  
31 Requiem for Patricia Weal at noon

### April

1 Children's Stations of the Cross at 10.30am followed by craft in the Hall  
4 Reception in the Hall after the Easter Vigil  
6 Bank Holiday Monday Easter celebratory coffee after morning Mass, in the Hall  
13 Law Surgery in the Hall at 6.00 pm  
14 Requiem for Shirley Leach at 11.30 am

### June

6 Parish fair

## SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

**For Young Adults - Tenebrae**  
**'Spy Wednesday', 1 April at 7.00 pm**

**Tenebrae**, meaning "darkness", is the Church's ancient, candlelit office of Holy Week, in which psalms and readings lead us into the shadow of the Lord's Passion.

At St George's Cathedral the Cathedral Lay Clerks will sing this solemn office in traditional chant and polyphony composed by Victoria.

Confessions will be available, and there will be social time afterwards for young adults aged 18 to 35.

## PARISH FAIR

The date of the parish fair has changed to June 6.

## PILGRIMAGE

There is a poster in the porch advertising a pilgrimage in September visiting sites associated with the very early church in the west country. The pilgrimage supports the work of Aid to the Church in Need.