

ST. LAWRENCE OF CANTERBURY R C CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A - 27TH NOVEMBER 2022

(Psalter Week 1)

Entrance Antiphon: ***To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.***

Responsorial Psalm: I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

Communion Antiphon: ***The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.***

If you would like to book a Mass Intention, please use the Mass Intention Envelopes available at the back of the church and put it through the letter box with your contact number. The recommended Stipend by the Archdiocese for a Mass Intention is £10.

The Sacrament of Penance is available on Saturday mornings from 11am until the final confession and before and after Mass on Saturday evening and by prior arrangement.

Divine Mercy Devotion after Mass on Wednesdays.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays 10am to 12noon.

Saturday morning prayer starts at 8:45am followed by the rosary and then Mass.

Parish Prayer Group meet at 2:30pm on Mondays in the Upper room of the Hall.

God of Light and Love fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we may keep watchful in prayer during this Advent Season as we await the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Have a blessed week.

Fr. Paul.

CONFIRMATION APPLICATION FORMS

The Confirmation Programme for children in Year 9 and above will be starting on the 7th January 2023. For an application form please see Fr. Allan after Mass. The deadline for returning the completed application forms is Sunday 11th December.

THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC OR HAVE NEVER RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION?

We will be commencing our RCIA course on **Wednesday 7th December at 7.30pm** at 1 Hamilton Road, DA15 7HB. Should you wish to join the course please complete the form headed RCIA Course that is available at the back of the church and hand it in to the office. I will then be in contact with you in advance of the course starting to answer any queries you may have and let you know more about the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation as an adult. Fr Paul.

THE BIG PICTURE BIBLE COURSE

The Big Picture Bible course led by Fr. Allan commenced last week and takes place on Thursdays at 7pm in the Upper Room of the Hall during term time. Please use the hall entrance door which is on Hamilton Road. All are welcome to attend. If you would like to join the course or have any questions please speak with Fr. Allan.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION AFTER WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed after Mass on Wednesday morning. Please feel free to join in. Devotional prayer such as Divine Mercy can be a very effective form of prayer both for the individual, the group and the wider parish community. Divine Mercy Prayer Leaflets are available at the back of the church.

MARIST WAY

The next meeting of the Marist Way group will be on Saturday 3rd December after the 9:30am Mass in the upper room of the hall. Come along. All are welcome to attend.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

We encourage you to make some space to reflect and pray this advent. Sign up for our free Southwark Diocesan 'daily advent reflections' to aid your prayer.

Every day during advent you will receive an email with a very brief thought for the day based on the daily reading. It is an opportunity to listen to Gods invitation to you this advent. All you have to do is sign up and then set aside a couple of minutes each day to reflect! Sign up via the Commission web site: <http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/> clicking on the Advent Reflection box. Alternatively, if you are viewing this online, you can sign up directly by clicking here: <https://southwarkdsc.us11.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=a3e1dce7f8f666e9d64edd867&id=4f880b3b9c>

SUNDAY MASS READERS - If you would like to volunteer to become a reader at Mass on Saturday evening or Sundays please send an email with your contact details to the parish office at sidcup@rcaos.org.uk or telephone Jill Martin on 07831 201933.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is concerned with all areas of parish activity that enriches the quality of parish life and enables parishioners to live out the life of faith in their everyday lives. We are looking for new members to join and in the first instance are seeking expression of interests, please send an email to sidcup@rcaos.org.uk.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA - CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The Knights will be handing out their 'Keep Christ in Christmas' posters after all the Masses this weekend, there will be a collection basket for your donations.

ADVENT SERVICE

A joint Advent Service of music and readings will take place at Holy Trinity Lamorbey Anglican Church, 1 Hurst Road DA15 9AE starting at 6pm on Sunday 27th November. St. Lawrence's choir will be singing and Fr. Allan will be attending the service. All are welcome.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SIDCUP

Churches together in Sidcup are having two events as below. All are welcome.

1. Civic Carol Service - will take place at St. John's, Church, Sidcup, on Sunday, 11 December, commencing at 4pm.
2. Carol Singing in High Street - Meet outside 'The Gym' on Saturday, 17 December at 10.30am for an hour of carol-singing.

KNITTING SALE - 11TH DECEMBER

There will be a sale of knitted items: hats, scarfs, children's wear, soft toys and some x-mas gifts in the hall on Sunday 11th December after the 8:30am and 10am Masses. Profits from this event will be donated to the Macmillan Cancer Unit at Guy's Hospital.

HANDMADE CANDLES SALE - On Sunday 27th Nov, 4th, 11th & 18th Dec in the hall.

SOCIAL EVENT FOR THE PARISH

A Barn Dance will take place on Saturday 4th February 2023 in the hall from 7:30pm to 10:30pm. This is the first of many social events. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses on the 3rd / 4th December, 10th / 11th December, 7th / 8th January and 14th / 15th January. Profits for this event will be donated to the St. Lawrence's Charitable Fund.

FLAME 2023 - SATURDAY 4TH MARCH AT WEMBLEY ARENA

Flame is the largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales. Join us at Wembley Arena, for an inspiring day of prayer, adoration, catechesis, reflection, celebration and praise. The Theme for Flame 2023 is "Rise Up!" For information and to book tickets visit <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/flame2023?rq=flame%202023> or Contact Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis Email: aec@rcaos.org.uk or Tel: 020 8672 7684.

WORLD YOUTH DAY - 31ST JULY TO 7TH AUGUST 2023

The Archdiocese of Southwark is taking a group of pilgrims (aged 18-35) to World Youth Day in Lisbon from 31st July to 7th August 2023.

Bookings are now open, please visit <https://bit.ly/WYDSouthwark> the price is £1,295, which includes flights, 3* accommodation (shared room), transfers, WYD registration fee and meal vouchers. For further information about WYD please visit the link www.lisboa2023.org/en/.

ST. LAWRENCE CHARITABLE FUND - In past years Parishioners have made a donation to St Lawrence Charitable Fund rather than sending Christmas cards. A listing will be at the back of the church if you would like to do this. Thank you. SLCF Chair.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 26th November First Sunday of Advent - Year A

6.30pm Rita Brady RIP

Sunday 27th November First Sunday of Advent - Year A

8.30am The People of the Parish

10.00am Holy Souls

11.30am Santana C DeMello RIP

Monday 28th November Feria

9.30am David Mazzawi RIP

Tuesday 29th November Feria

9.45am Michael and Patricia McNulty RIP

Wednesday 30th November Saint Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland

9.30am John Somerset RIP

Thursday 1st December Feria

9.30am Thomas Linnett RIP

Friday 2nd December Feria

9.30am Edward Lysaght RIP

Saturday 3rd December Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

9.30am Stephen Young RIP

Collection	20th November	2nd Collection	Catholic Youth Services
Cash	£392.04	Cash	£290.44
Gift Aid	£342.00	Gift Aid	-
Total	£734.04	Total	£290.44
Monthly Standing Order	£4716		

Please pray for all the sick of our parish who are at home and in hospitals. In this month of November we remember and pray for the souls of the faithful departed that God may grant them eternal rest.

I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud, and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you. Isaiah 44:22