

ST. LAWRENCE OF CANTERBURY R C CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A - 26TH MARCH 2023

(Psalter Week 1)

Entrance Antiphon: ***Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.***

Responsorial Psalm: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Communion Antiphon: ***Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.***

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 office 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.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7:30pm.

Have a blessed week.

Fr. Paul.

ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH GIFT AID SCHEME - ENVELOPES/DONATIONS

For those of you already on the scheme thank you for your continued support. The weekly donor boxes of envelopes for the next tax year will be distributed after all masses this weekend, as well as the smaller packs of envelopes for second collections for the Standing Order Donors. If you are a Standing Order Donor, might you consider a small increase which you can do yourself online or at your bank ? You must be a UK tax payer to use this scheme. If you no longer pay tax, please contact me as soon as possible. Please check that we have your current contact details.

For those of you unfamiliar with the scheme, if you are a UK Tax Payer we are able to reclaim tax paid on all your donations. We simply need your name and address and a record of your donations by either using a monthly standing order, or by placing your cash/cheque donations in a pre-printed envelope each week. If you would like more information, please see me or one of the representatives outside Mass this weekend. Many Thanks Nick Wells nickjohnwells@hotmail.com 07986 348013

PARISH AGM - THURSDAY 30TH MARCH AT 7PM IN THE PARISH HALL

You are invited to attend a forthcoming general parish meeting where a general update will be provided on where we are as a parish, some of the things that are going on in the background and how you may like to consider whether you have spare time and energy to contribute to the life of the parish. There will be short presentations representing St Peter Chanel Primary School, the Finance Committee, the Parish Council and the Clergy. All are welcome to attend.

NO. 1A HAMILTION ROAD - UPSTAIRS FLAT

Last year we applied and were granted planning permission from Bexley Council to redevelop the upstairs of No.1 Hamilton Road to a self-contained 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom flat. This is commercial venture intended to generate income for the parish and will be financed through existing funds. The first phase will create new paths that provide step free access to the ground floor offices from both Hamilton Road and Church Car Park. When the new paths are complete work can commence on the upstairs of the property. The upstairs flat has been registered as No.1A, Hamilton Road. Some of you may remember when it was previously used as upstairs flat? Plans are displayed at the back of the church.

DEATH NOTICES

1. The Funeral Mass for Hugh Monaghan RIP will take place on Thursday 30th March at 9:30am.
2. The Funeral Mass for Francisco Luis Jose Pinto RIP will take place on Thursday 30th March at 2:00pm followed by cremation at Kemnal Park Crematorium at 3:30pm.
3. The Funeral Mass for Ann Catherine Hawes RIP will take place on Thursday 13th April at 10:30am followed by burial at Eltham Cemetery at 12noon.

May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA - LENTEN APPEAL THIS SUNDAY

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

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SIDCUP - LENTEN LUNCHES

CTiS organised Soup & Bread Lunch will be held at Christ Church Main Road from 12noon to 1.30pm on Wednesday 29th March. All are welcome.

MARIST WAY

The next meeting of the Marist Way group will be on Saturday 1st April after the 9:30am Mass in the upper room of the hall. Come along. All are welcome to attend.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SIDCUP - WALK OF WITNESS ON GOOD FRIDAY

The Walk of Witness takes place on Good Friday, 7 April, departing from St. John's, Church Road. Gather at 9.30am for 9.45am send off, finishing at The Crescent. Tea/coffee and hot cross buns will be provided in St. Lawrence's Church Hall afterwards. All are welcome.

DIVINE MERCY IMAGE

Our Divine Mercy Image has been purchased and is erected above the sacristy door. It will be uncovered as part of the Easter Triduum celebrations. Thank you to everyone who has supported this initiative. It is wonderful to have the Divine Mercy Chaplet prayed in our community. On Divine Mercy Sunday 16th April at 3pm we will have a special service where the image will be blessed and people will be invited to make an Act of Consecration to Divine Mercy.

HANDMADE CANDLES SALE - On Sunday 26th March and 2nd April in the hall.

REPOSITORY - Easter cards and DVDs of the film 'Love and Mercy: Faustina' are available in the repository.

PARISH BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

The Parish Bereavement Ministry team invites parishioners who are suffering due to a bereavement to come along and have a chat, over a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits. This is in a group setting and not on a one to one basis. The team will be there to listen to you and support you. The next meeting is on Friday 14th April 2023, at 7pm until 8pm, in the upper room of the hall, at St Lawrence's Church, Sidcup.

WELCOMERS - Thank you to all the Welcomers who have helped get this going again. It would be truly wonderful if we had a few more people to join the teams for each of the Masses. Please email sidcup@rcaos.org.uk. Thank you. Pat. Slonecki.

WARM SPACE - We have stopped the Warmspace initiative for the time being. Some Fridays, we had a good attendance, but on other occasions very few. I think it would be safe to say that it proved to be a success if for nothing else parishioners meeting each other. Approximately 70 parishioners supported the project which shows we are able to help whenever there is a need. Thanks to all who offered the time to the initiative.

CHRIST THE KING SIXTH FORM COLLEGE - GOVERNANCE OPPORTUNITIES

CTK are currently seeking applications from practising Catholics to join their governing body. This is a voluntary role. Full induction and training will be provided. Please email Linda Harrison at governance@ctksfc.ac.uk. For more details speak with Fr. Paul.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 25th March

6.30pm

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

Intentions of the Victory and Woods families

Sunday 26th March

8.30am

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

The People of the Parish

10.00am

Intention of Angela

11.30am

Mary McDonnell RIP

Monday 27th March

Feria

9.30am

Michael White RIP

Tuesday 28th March

Feria

9.45am

Mary O'Connell RIP

Wednesday 29th March

Feria

9.30am

Mary Stubbs RIP

Thursday 30th March

Funeral Mass

9.30am

Funeral Mass for Hugh Monaghan RIP

2.00pm

Funeral Mass for Francisco Luis Jose Pinto RIP

Friday 31st March

Feria

9.30am

Agnes Medley RIP

Saturday 1st April

Feria

9.30am

For the recovery of Josephine Treloar

Collection	19th March 2023
Cash	£422.11
Gift Aid	£283.80
Total	£705.91
Monthly Standing Order	£4781

Please pray for all the sick of our parish who are at home and in hospitals. Please also pray for the souls of the faithful departed that God may grant them eternal rest.

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12