ST. LAWRENCE OF CANTERBURY R C CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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ASSISTANT PRIEST: FR. ALLAN MACDONALD

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PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: JEANETTE FERNANDES

Parish Office: 1 Hamilton Road, Sidcup, DA15 7HB Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am to 2pm

Tel: 020 8300 2480

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HEADTEACHER: MRS. S. GOWER

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24TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A - 17TH SEPTEMBER 2023

(Psalter Week 4)

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Communion Antiphon: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

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.

Parish Prayer Group meet at 2:30pm on Mondays in the Upper room of the Hall. Divine Mercy Devotion after Mass on Wednesdays.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays 10am to 12noon with Rosary. Saturday morning prayer starts at 8:45am followed by the rosary and then Mass. Parish bereavement group meet in hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month 1.30-3pm.

May God bless you all.

Fr. Allan.

TODAY IS EVANGELII GAUDIUM (HOME MISSION) SUNDAY - The 2nd Collection today is for the Catholic Agency for the Support of Evangelisation. The collection provides the bishops of England and Wales with resources to support Home Mission, the spread of the gospel in our own country. The money collected enables a breadth of work to be done in support of parish evangelisation.

Fr. Paul is currently away on holiday returning on Saturday 7th October, Fr. Allan will be covering the parish over these weeks.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND - 20TH - 27TH MAY 2024

Join this wonderful seven night parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Fr. Paul: visiting many of the religious sites in Bethlehem, Nazareth, Galilee and Jerusalem. The full cost of the pilgrimage is £1959pp based on 2 or more sharing a room. Single room supplement is £505pp. The package price includes flights from London Heathrow, half board hotel accommodation - 4 nights in Bethlehem and 3 nights in Tiberias, coach transfers whilst in the Holy Land, full services of a local courier and 2 Lunches. To express an interest in joining this pilgrimage or for a booking form, please contact the parish office on 020 8300 2480 or Email: sidcup@rcaos.org.uk. Alternatively to book your place on this pilgrimage call Gill at Tangney Tours on 01732 886666.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR CLEANING THE CHURCH

We have a very small group of people cleaning the church on a weekly basis on Mondays after the 9:30am Mass (excluding Bank Holidays). It would be helpful if some more people can come forward and join the group. The role involves dusting/sweeping/hoovering and cleaning the glass doors and takes about half an hour. If you are able to volunteer please come along and join the team after Mass on Mondays.

DECORATION OF SACRED HEART STATUE - Thank you to Albert Keshtenja who has spent the last few weeks decorating our Sacred Heart statue outside the entrance to our church. The open arms of the statue expresses an invitation to everyone who passes by that they are welcome in our community of faith.

COURSES FROM THE AGENCY OF EVANGELISATION AND CATECHESIS

- 1. THE ARCHBISHOP'S CERTIFICATE (ARCHCERT) 2023/25 is a two-year online course for all in Southwark who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy. The course will commence online on 7 October 2023 from 10am 12pm. For further information on the course please visit https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert.
- 2. CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES (CCRS) is a knowledge based, internationally recognised qualification that provides participants with an understanding of the teachings of the Catholic faith. For further information on the course please visit https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs.

Please email aec@rcaos.org.uk or telephone 020 8672 7684 for further information.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY

The diocesan annual mass count begins next Sunday and will continue over the next four Sundays. Volunteers are requested to please collect and return the tally counters from the sacristy before and after each Mass.

TUESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER - Please note that the morning Mass on Tuesday 26th September will start at 9:30am instead of 9:45am as Fr. Allan has to attend a clergy meeting at the Cathedral that morning.

COFFEE MORNINGS AND REPOSITORY

Come and join fellow parishioners in the Church Hall after the 9:30am Mass on Wednesdays and after the 8:30am and 10am Masses on Sundays for tea/coffee, biscuits and cake. The Repository will also be open at these times.

FOODBANK BINS - For donations of non-perishable essentials are at back of church.

SERVICE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PRAYER AND REFLECTION - WEDNESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER at 6:30PM AT ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL SE1 7HY

Archbishop John Wilson and the Archdiocese of Southwark Safeguarding Team, in partnership with LoudFence, invite you to attend a service of acknowledgement, prayer and reflection, for all those that have been harmed by abuse and for those that support or work with those that have been harmed. The service will take place at St. George's Cathedral at 6:30pm on Wednesday 27th September. After the service, there will be an opportunity to tie a ribbon on the tree of reflection in support or prayer for those that have been harmed by abuse and to show our commitment to end abuse. Light refreshments will be provided. Please see the poster on the notice board.

DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS - SATURDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

On behalf of the Archbishop, the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis invites all catechists to the annual Diocesan Day for Catechists on Saturday 30th September 2023 from 10.00am to 4.00pm at the Amigo Hall in St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, SE1 6HR. This is a day for all the catechists of the diocese. To book your place please complete the online form - https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/cat23.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND LECTORS OF THE SOUTH EAST - FORMATION DAYS 2023

All Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors are invited to attend one of the two formation days. Can you please email sidcup@rcaos.org.uk to confirm which day you can attend.

- **1.** Saturday 14 October 2023 10am-4pm, for Parishes in the Deaneries of Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich . Venue: St Stephen's Church, 26 Deepdene Road, Welling, Kent DA16 3QL.
- **2. Saturday 21 October 2023 10am-4pm,** for Parishes in the Deaneries of Camberwell, Lewisham and Lambeth . Venue: Bishop Thomas Grant School, Belltrees Grove, London SW16 2HYS.

ARCHDIOCESAN SEMINAR - SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER

You are all invited to an Archdiocesan Seminar on Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion in our Parishes, Schools & Communities on Saturday 28 October 2023 at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7HY from 9.30am to 4pm. Visit https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/commission-for-promoting-racial-inclusion-28-october-2023/.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 16th September 24th Sunday of the Year A

6.30pm Anthony McAleenan RIP

Sunday 17th September 24th Sunday of the Year A

8.30am The People of the Parish

10.00am Roy Lawrence David Nathaniel RIP

11.30am Louise Stotesbury RIP

Monday 18th September Feria

9.30am Holy Souls

Tuesday 19th September Feria

9.45am Louise Stotesbury RIP

Wednesday 20th September Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and Paul Chong

Ha-Sang and Companions, Marytyrs

9.30am Sheelagh Aughterlony RIP

Thursday 21st September Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

9.30am Holy Souls

Friday 22nd September Feria

9.30am Eula Mascarenhas RIP

Saturday 23rd September Saint Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), Priest

9.30am Anton Jeyaseelan RIP

Collection	10th September 2023	2nd Collection:	Catholic Education Service
Cash	£425.23	Cash	£334.48
Gift Aid	£362.20	Gift Aid	£347.10
Total	£787.43	Total	£681.58
Monthly Standing Order	£4745		

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

Great is your mercy, O Lord; give me life according to your justice. Psalms 119:156