ST. LAWRENCE OF CANTERBURY R C CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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30TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A - 29TH OCTOBER 2023

(Psalter Week 2)

Entrance Antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

Responsorial Psalm: I love you, Lord, my strength.

Communion Antiphon: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

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.

1st November is All Saints Day and is a holyday of obligation, Masses are at 7.30pm (Vigil) and 9:30am. 2nd November is All Souls Day, Masses are at 9:30am and 7:30pm.

In the month of November we pray for the faithful departed. The dates and times for the grave blessing services at the various cemeteries in the Bexley Deanery are in the newsletter. Mass Envelopes for the Holy Souls are available at the back of the church.

Have a blessed week. *Fr. Paul.*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The parents meeting is on Thursday 2nd November at 7 pm in the Church Hall. The Enrolment Mass is on Sunday 19th November at 10 am, both parent and child will need to attend the Enrolment Mass.

CONFIRMATION APPLICATION FORMS

The Confirmation Programme for children in Year 9 and above will be starting on the 9th December 2023. For an application form please see Fr. Allan after Mass. The deadline for returning the completed application forms is Sunday 19th November.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

Thinking about becoming Catholic? As an adult are you thinking about becoming Catholic or are you considering the sacrament of Confirmation as an adult? If so please speak with Fr Allan about an application form. The first meeting for RCIA candidates will be on Thursday 9th November at 7:30 pm in the parish office.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Fr. Allan is leading a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham leaving St. Lawrence's on Tuesday 21st November after the 9:45am Mass, staying overnight and returning on Wednesday 22nd November.

Pilgrims have to book their own accommodation as soon as possible and by Friday 3rd November. Bookings can be done through the Pilgrim Bureau, Friday Market Place, Walsingham, Norfolk, NR22 6EG. Tel: 01328 820217, Web: <u>www.walsingham.org.uk</u>. Email: <u>reservations@walsingham.org.uk</u>. We have reserved some rooms so please mention that you are part of the St. Lawrence Sidcup Pilgrimage when booking your accommodation.

We are also requesting for volunteers willing to car pool to the shrine with the cost of petrol shared amongst the group. If you are interested in joining this pilgrimage please email your names to the parish office on sidcup@rcaos.org.uk please also let the parish office know if you are willing to car pool to the shrine or if you need a lift. For further information about the pilgrimage please speak with Fr. Allan after Mass.

FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH - 12NOON TO 2PM

All are welcome to join us for lunch in the church hall from 12 - 2pm every first Friday of each month. Our first lunch will be served on Friday 3rd November.

PARISH MEN'S GROUP

In collaboration with the Catenian Association it has been suggested to commence a men's group initially on a monthly basis. We will meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the parish hall. I envisage a presentation and/or catechesis on a relevant subject aimed specifically for the male churchgoing audience. If you are interested please email <u>sidcup@rcaos.org.uk</u> or speak with Fr Paul after one of the Masses. Hopefully this new initiative in the parish will be of interest. The group will finish around 8pm with refreshments & pizza.

MARIST WAY

The next meeting of the Marist Way group will be on Saturday 4th November after the 9:30am Mass in the upper room of the hall. Come along. All are welcome to attend.

REPOSITORY - The repository is open on Wednesdays and on Sundays during the coffee mornings. Christmas cards, Advent calendars and gift items are on sale.

1ST NOVEMBER IS ALL SAINTS DAY AND IS A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION

NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

The Holy Souls mass envelopes are available at the back of the Church. Please include the names of your deceased family members and friends along with your Mass offerings in the envelope. The envelopes will be placed in a basket at the front of the altar. Mass offerings will be used to celebrate Masses for Holy Souls during the year.

GRAVE BLESSING SERVICES IN THE BEXLEY DEANERY

The grave blessing services in the Bexley Deanery will take place as below: St. Paulinus Cemetery Crayford - Sunday 5th November at 12.30pm. Hill View Cemetery Welling - Sunday 5th November at 1pm. Kemnal Park Cemetery - Saturday 11th November at 1:00pm. Bexleyheath Cemetery - Sunday 12th November at 12:30pm. Sidcup Cemetery - Sunday 12th November at 1pm. Brook Street Cemetery Erith - Sunday 12th November at 3pm.

DEANERY MASS FOR THE DECEASED CLERGY OF BEXLEY

The Deanery Mass for the deceased clergy of Bexley will be celebrated at our parish at 11am on Tuesday 28th November to remember and pray for our past clergy, who served our communities. All are welcome.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS - KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA

The Knights of St Columba Southwark Province 12, are having their Annual Memorial Mass for the Deceased Brothers of their Order on Saturday 11th November 2023 at 2:00pm at Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church Bexley Road, Erith. DA8 1DN.

XMAS FAYRE DONATIONS APPEAL

Our parish Xmas Fayre is on Saturday 25th November 10.30am to 1.30pm. We are looking for the following donations: Chocolate, bottles/cans (wine, spirit or soft drinks), New Gifts, Teddies and Children toys (in working/good condition). Please bring your donations to the Parish office (Tuesday-Friday 10am-2pm). Any questions please ring Fabiola 0777 3793139. Thank you.

A PACT WITH PACT (PRISON ADVICE AND CARE TRUST)

A more detailed insight into Pact's work will be set out by Marie Norbury of Pact's 'Faith in Action' volunteering team. For all those who have already volunteered and those who may be thinking of volunteering, or are just generally interested in the work of this charity, please come and hear her speak on: <u>Wednesday, 15th November, at</u> <u>10.30am (for 10.45am), in the main hall.</u> Spread the word! All are invited (including parishioners from neighbouring churches)."

DEATH NOTICES

- 1. The Funeral Service for Lucy Figueiredo RIP will take place on Tuesday 31st October at Eltham Crematorium at 1:45pm.
- 2. The Funeral Mass for Richard Lane RIP will take place on Thursday 16th November at 11:00am.
- 3. With sadness we announce the death of Marietta Arriola Vallecer on the 24th October. Funeral details will be advised when known.

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 28th October		30th Sunday of the Year A		
6.30pm		The People of the Parish		
Sunday 29th October		30th Sunday of the Year A		
8.30am		Harry Rayner RIP		
10.00am		Pepe German RIP		
11.30am		Joseph and Marie Sherry RIP		
Monday 30th October		Feria		
9.30am		Ann Walsh RIP		
Tuesday 31st October		Feria		
9.45am		Timothy Hawes RIP		
7.30pm		The People of the Parish		
Wednesday 1st November		Solemnity of All Saints - Holy Day of Obligation		
9.30am		For the Street Children of the World		
Thursday 2nd November		The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed		
9.30am		Holy Souls		
7.30pm		Holy Souls		
Friday 3rd November		Feria		
9.30am		John Martin RIP		
Saturday 4th November		Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop		
9.30am		Holy Souls		
Collection	22nc	l October 2023	2nd Collection:	MISSIO
Cash £420).51	Cash	£524.08
Gift Aid £292		2.00	Gift Aid	-
Total £712		2.51	Total	£524.08
Monthly Standing Order £4785				

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.

For thus says the Lord to the house of Israel: "Seek me and you will live." Amos 5:4