

ST. LAWRENCE OF CANTERBURY R C CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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31ST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A - 5TH NOVEMBER 2023

(Psalter Week 3)

Entrance Antiphon: ***Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!***

Responsorial Psalm: Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

Communion Antiphon: ***You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.***

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. Parish Men's Group meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 7pm - 9pm in the Hall.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY MASS IS AT 10AM NEXT SUNDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER.

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.

Fr. Paul is away from 6th–10th November on a Vocations Conference in Rome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - The Enrolment Mass is on Sunday 19th November at 10 am, 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, by Friday 10th November. Bookings can be done through the Pilgrim Bureau, Friday Market Place, Walsingham, Norfolk, NR22 6EG. Tel: 01328 820217, Web: www.walsingham.org.uk. Email: reservations@walsingham.org.uk. We have reserved some rooms so please mention that you are part of the St. Lawrence Sidcup Pilgrimage when booking your accommodation. If you wish to join this pilgrimage please email your names to the parish office on sidcup@rcaos.org.uk. For more details speak with Fr. Allan after Mass.

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. The first meeting will be on Tuesday 14th November at 7pm. We envisage to have a presentation and/or catechesis on a relevant subject aimed specifically for the male churchgoing audience. If you are interested please email sidcup@rcaos.org.uk 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 9pm with refreshments & pizza.

ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL SECOND COLLECTION - 12TH NOVEMBER

The Archbishop's Appeal is a Diocesan second collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2023. Every gift is welcome.

For info, or to donate online: www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal or:

- Scan QR Code using telephone camera (right)
- Telephone weekdays 9 am – 5 pm: 020 7960 2504
- Cash / Cheque – please use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes available at the back of church. Thank you for your generosity.



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 2:30pm.

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 the deceased 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.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE DONATIONS APPEAL

Our parish Christmas 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: **Wednesday, 15th November, at 10.30am (for 10.45am), in the main hall.** Spread the word! All are invited (including parishioners from neighbouring churches)."

DEATH NOTICES

1. The Funeral Mass for Marietta Arriola Vallecer RIP will take place on Tuesday 14th November at 11.00am followed by burial at Hill View Cemetery at 12.30pm.
2. The Funeral Mass for Richard Frank Lane RIP will take place on Thursday 16th November at 11.00am.
3. The Funeral Mass for Mary Catherine Troy RIP will take place on Friday 24th November at 2.00pm followed by cremation at Kemnal Park Crematorium at 3.30pm.

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 4th November **31st Sunday of the Year A**

6.30pm Elizabeth Mitchell RIP

Sunday 5th November **31st Sunday of the Year A**

8.30am The People of the Parish

10.00am Holy Souls

11.30am Tim Aseervatham RIP

Monday 6th November **Feria**

9.30am Tony Driscoll RIP

Tuesday 7th November **The Dedication of the Cathedral Church of Saint George**

9.45am Holy Souls

Wednesday 8th November **Feria**

9.30am Deceased members of the Pinto Family

Thursday 9th November **The Dedication of The Lateran Basilica**

9.30am Tess and Sydney Carter RIP

Friday 10th November **Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church**

9.30am Holy Souls

Saturday 11th November **Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop**

9.30am Jennie Healy RIP

Collection	29th October 2023
Cash	£530.43
Gift Aid	£221.20
Total	£751.63
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.

You, Lord, give perfect peace to those who keep their purpose firm and put their trust in you. Isaiah 26:3