

## ST. LAWRENCE OF CANTERBURY R C CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B - 10TH DECEMBER 2023

*(Psalter Week 2)*

Entrance Antiphon: ***O People of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.***

***Responsorial Psalm: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.***

Communion Antiphon: ***Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.***

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.

As we enter into the season of Advent we are invited to become more spiritually alert by considering our deeper longings for life, light, love, truth and joy through the Word made flesh, Jesus, who is born for us. As the days become progressively shorter we can find ourselves retreating more to the confines of our homes, this may give us the opportunity for a little more time for prayer and contemplation to prepare ourselves to welcome our Saviour into our lives this Christmas. Let us pray together: 'Come, Lord Jesus'.

Have a blessed Advent.

***Fr. Paul.***

## **SUBSCRIBE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER OR UPDATES BY EMAIL**

If you would like to receive the newsletter or updates by email please visit the parish website at <https://www.stlsidcup.org> and click on the Subscribe to our Newsletter button which is at the top of the homepage and complete the form and click subscribe.

## **CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME**

The Confirmation Programme starts on the 9th December 2023 at 5pm in the Hall.

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE** - Prizes for the winning raffle tickets 102, 59, 85, 34, 49 and 69 can be collected from the parish office.

## **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 Sunday for tea/coffee, biscuits and cake. The repository is open on Wednesdays and on Sundays during the coffee mornings. Christmas cards, Advent calendars and small gifts are on sale.

## **YOUNG ADULT ADVENT RETREAT - SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER**

Are you aged between 18 and 35 years? Are you looking to make time for prayer this Advent? If so, the Sisters of the Faithful Companion of Jesus invite you to join them on 16th December between 10.30 am - 2.30 pm for a day of reflection at the FCJ Spirituality Centre, 32 Phoenix Road, London NW1 1TA. To find out more and to book email: [bookings.fcjcentre@fcjhouse-somerstown.co.uk](mailto:bookings.fcjcentre@fcjhouse-somerstown.co.uk). All are welcome.

## **A DAY WITH MARY - SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER**

10:00am to 5:30pm at St. George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road SE1 7HY. Please see the poster on the notice board for details or visit [www adaywithmary.org](http://www adaywithmary.org).

## **REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE MIDNIGHT MASS ON CHRISTMAS EVE**

Please join us on Christmas Eve for the Service of Carols and Readings at 11.00pm followed by Midnight Mass. The Parish Spiritual and Social Events Team will be serving mulled wine, mince pies, tea and coffee and relevant items for children in the Parish Hall after the Midnight Mass. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Hall after the Mass.

## **CHILDREN'S LITURGY 2024**

St. Lawrence's Church will be starting a monthly Children's Liturgy group for pre-First Holy Communion children at the 10am Mass on Sunday once a month (term time only). The first group will start on Sunday, 14th January 2024 (to be led by DBS checked parishioner volunteers). Further details will be announced after Christmas.

## **BARN DANCE - 3RD FEBRUARY 2024**

The St. Lawrence's Barn Dance is back in 2024 with our favourite band 'The Cajun Boogaloo'. Save the date: Saturday 3rd February 2024. Further details and ticket sales to be announced after Christmas.

**THANK YOU** - Jacqui McCabe and the Lane Family would like to thank everyone for their prayers, Mass offerings, support and kindness over the last few months.

**100 CLUB WINNERS** - There are a few 100 Club numbers available at £5/month. These are displayed at the back of the church. If you would like to join the club please email your contact details to the parish office at [sidcup@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sidcup@rcaos.org.uk).

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SIDCUP (CTiS) - UPCOMING EVENTS**

1. Civic Carol Service organised by Churches Together in Sidcup in conjunction with the London Borough of Bexley takes place at St. John's, Church Road, on Sunday, 10th December, commencing 4pm. All are welcome.
2. CTiS's Carol-singing in the High St. takes place outside the gym opposite Hadlow Road on 16th December 11am-12 noon. All are welcome to join in.

## **CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE - WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER AT 7.30PM**

The annual Cathedral Carol Service, led by Archbishop John Wilson will take place on Wednesday 13 December at 7.30pm at St. George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road SE1 7HY. All are welcome so please invite family and friends to join in the service.

## **CAROL SERVICE AT ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH IN BEXLEY DEANERY**

All are welcome to attend the Carol Service in the Bexley Deanery taking place at St. Stephen's Church, Deepdene Road, Welling, on Saturday 16 December at 3pm, followed by refreshments in the hall. Come along and listen to some joyful Christmas music, as well as carols to join in with.

## **SOUTH EAST PASTORAL AREA, CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**

Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the South East warmly invites you to the Christmas Carol Service of the South East Pastoral Area, Archdiocese of Southwark on Sunday 17th December 2023 Gaudete Sunday at 7.30pm at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Brixton Hill 11 Trent Road, London, SW2 5BJ. See poster. All are welcome.

## **CHRIST THE KING SIXTH FORM - CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL**

If you would like to support CTK's Christmas Gift Appeal please see the poster on the notice board for details. Items that can be donated include toys, puzzles, colouring/ puzzle books, toiletries, chocolates, biscuits and hot beverages. The Gifts need to be dropped off at the entrance kiosk at CTK St Mary's, Chislehurst Rd, Sidcup DA14 6BE. The deadline for donating gifts is Wednesday 13th December.

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

## **CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNITY LUNCH**

Albany Park Baptist Church, Stansted Crescent, Bexley DA5 3JB will be opening their Church doors to serve Christmas Day Lunch at 2pm for the marginalised, the lonely, the bereaved and those struggling in the community. For further details visit the links <https://app.givingishuman.com/content/fQKQaHCuJCiUHbw39> and <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-day-lunch-tickets-753074936407?aff=oddtcreator>.

## **ST. PETER CHANEL PRE-SCHOOL**

St. Peter Chanel Pre-School are currently allocating places for January 2024. The Pre-School offers morning, afternoon and full day places. We are an outstanding setting within the beautiful grounds of St. Peter Chanel Catholic Primary School. Places are available for children from 2-4 years. Please enquire with the school about the different funding options available for places. Visitors are welcome to come along and see our exciting Pre-School in action. You will be able to meet the team and ask any questions you may have. To book an appointment please telephone 0208 302 6029 or email [admin@stpeterchanel.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stpeterchanel.bexley.sch.uk).

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday 9th December      Second Sunday of Advent Year B**

6.30pm      Barbara Cabral RIP

**Sunday 10th December      Second Sunday of Advent Year B**

8.30am      Margaret Quinn-Fish RIP

10.00am      The People of the Parish

11.30am      Mary Alice and Maggie Woods RIP

**Monday 11th December      Feria**

9.30am      Charlotte Brown RIP

**Tuesday 12th December      Our Lady of Guadalupe**

9.45am      Dick Tooher and Joe Fitzpatrick RIP

**Wednesday 13th December      Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

9.30am      Margaret Molloy RIP - 1st Anniversary

**Thursday 14th December      Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

9.30am      Marion Beedle RIP

**Friday 15th December      Feria**

9.30am      Intention of Moreen Hegarty

**Saturday 16th December      Feria**

9.30am      For the recovery and wellbeing of Irene D'Souza

Collection	3rd December 2023
Cash	£475.55
Gift Aid	£240.70
Total	£716.25
Monthly Standing Order	£4810

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.

***Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.***

***Psalms 118: 19***