

ST. LAWRENCE OF CANTERBURY R C CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR B - 28TH JULY 2024

(Psalter Week 1)

Entrance Antiphon: ***God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.***

Responsorial Psalm: You open wide your hand, O Lord, you grant our desires.

Communion Antiphon: ***Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his blessings.***

It has been a privilege and an honour to serve this parish since March 2021 and I have appreciated the love and support I have received throughout this time.

The great character of St Lawrence's parish is its vibrancy that is lived with enthusiasm for the Gospel and for each other. We share our faith with joy and unity as disciples of Christ on our earthly pilgrimage. We are loved by God as his sons and daughters and he wants us to share that same Christian love with each other and everyone we meet in how we worship, pray, welcome, socialise and support each other; this is the true mission of the Church, this is how we evangelise ourselves, each other and the stranger we do not yet know. Everyone is welcome at St Lawrence's!

Please forgive me for the times I failed in my ministry or I have not been the priest you needed. You have been patient with me and have shown me much kindness and understanding. Please continue to support your priests and each other. A special thanks goes to the many volunteers without whom the parish would be a very different place. I will miss you all and keep you in my prayers.

Fr. Paul.

INTERNATIONAL MASS AND FAREWELL FOR FR. PAUL

Our annual International Mass takes place this Sunday 28th July at the 11.30am Mass. The liturgy will be multi-lingual although the Mass readings will all be in English and the Eucharistic Prayers will be in Spanish. Everyone is invited to wear their traditional dress for this wonderful celebration. A reception will be held afterwards in the church hall where parishioners are invited to bring a dish from your country of origin to share with others and refreshments will be served. You will be able to drop off your dish in the parish hall prior to the 11.30am Mass. A celebration of Fr. Paul's appointment as Parish Priest of St. Lawrence's Church from March 2021 to 2024 will take place at the same time. This is also Fr. Paul's last day in the Parish. Everyone is welcome.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who so generously contributed to my leaving collection over the past weeks and to all those who have bought me presents and written beautiful messages in farewell cards. I have been humbled to hear you recall your love and gratitude towards me and my ministry here in Sidcup. I will miss you and keep you all in my prayers. I will be taking some time off over the coming weeks and will offer some Masses for your intentions during this time. Fr. Paul.

PARISH OFFICE AND CHURCH OPENING OVER AUGUST

Jeanette will be away from the 9th to 26th August.

Fr. Allan will be away from the 19th August to the 1st September.

The Church will be closed after the weekday morning Mass from Monday 19th to Monday 26th August. Fr. Bryan Wells and the Franciscan Friars from the Erith Friary will be covering for us when Fr. Allan is away.

The Parish Office will be closed while Jeanette is away from the 9th to 26th August. Contact Fr. Allan for any urgent matters on allanmacdonald@rcaos.org.uk.

INTERNATIONAL MASS

A big thank you to all those who have contributed their time and talent in preparation for this year's International Mass. I thank the readers and all those who have contributed towards the food in the hall afterwards. I especially want to thank the choir and musicians of both 10am and 11.30am Mass who have been practising together for many weeks. It has been such a joy to witness your dedication to ensuring the International Mass is the success you want it to be. Well done, I am very proud of you!

FR. REGIS RUBAYA - NEW PARISH PRIEST OF SIDCUP

Fr. Regis Rubaya will take up his appointment as Parish Priest of Sidcup from the 1st October 2024. Please pray for all your priests as they enter this time of change.

SPIRITAN FATHERS MISSION APPEAL 2024

The Spiritan Fathers will be making a Mission Appeal at all the Masses on the 28th and 29th September. A second collection will be taken at all Masses for their Mission work.

DEATH NOTICES

1. The Funeral Service for Kathleen Anne Lyons RIP will take place on Thursday 1st August at 3.30pm at Kemnal Park Crematorium.
2. The Funeral Service for Michael Kenneth Bunch RIP will take place on Monday 5th August at 1.45pm at Eltham Crematorium.

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

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is today Sunday 28 July. Pope Francis has given the day the theme "Do not cast me off in my old age" Psalm 71:9. Visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/popes-message-to-grandparents-and-the-elderly-2024/> for his full message. On this fourth World Day devoted to them, let us show our love for the grandparents and the elderly members of our families. Let us spend time with those who are disheartened and no longer hope in the possibility of a different future. Thank you to all our Grandparents and Elderly on this special day.

TUESDAY MORNING MASS TIME

From August 2024 the Tuesday morning Mass will start at 9.30am.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ON FRIDAYS

There will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the month of August, the devotion will recommence on Friday 6th September.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IN SEPTEMBER

The Children's Liturgy will restart on Sunday 15th September at the 10am mass. It is with great joy that we announce the Children's Liturgy will take place every Sunday from this date with breaks for the school holidays. The schedule will be shared in September. Please see the designated noticeboard for further information plus the beautiful drawings created by our children. Volunteers are DBS checked. Children and parents/carers/grandparents are all welcome.

MARIST WAY MEETING

The next meeting of the Marist Way group will be on Saturday 3rd August at 10am in the upper room of the hall, the speaker will be Fr. Martin McAnaney, All are welcome.

UPSTAIRS FLAT - 1A HAMILTON ROAD

With great pleasure it can be announced that Sidcup Parish as Landlord has entered into an agreement with the Archdiocese of Southwark as Tenant to lease the flat at full commercial value to a retired priest of this diocese. Fr. Christopher Basden, who will be retiring from parish ministry at Ramsgate in the summer, will take up occupation from late August. Fr Christopher will have no obligation to the parish of Sidcup who will continue to have two priests serving the parish community.

GOVERNORS AT LOCAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS; SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS TO FULFIL THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

In an increasingly secular world our local Catholic schools provide outstanding formation of young people with Gospel values at the heart of their work. St Peter Chanel and St Columba's both have vacancies for Foundation Governors and would welcome anyone interested in helping the schools remain amongst the best in Bexley. For more information or an informal chat with a local headteacher on what serving as a Governor entails please contact Bill Stone on office@st-columbas.bexley.sch.uk.

LARK IN THE PARK - 25TH - 29TH JULY AT SIDCUP PLACE

Lark in the Park is a community event provided by Churches in Sidcup. For details of the programme for this free event visit <https://larksidcup.com>.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 27th July

6.30pm

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year B

The People of the Parish

Sunday 28th July

8.30am

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year B

Kathy Nesi RIP

10.00am

Maureen Griffin RIP - 1st Anniversary

11.30am

Intentions of Fr. Paul Kyne and In Thanksgiving for his Ministry in our Parish and in the Archdiocese

Monday 29th July

9.30am

Saints Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Memorial

Jeannie Healy RIP

Tuesday 30th July

9.45am

Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Ellen and James Bull RIP

Wednesday 31st July

9.30am

Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Pat Dowd RIP

Thursday 1st August

9.30am

Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Maurice Madden RIP

Friday 2nd August

9.30am

Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

Intentions of Raymond and Lorna D'Silva - 55th Wedding Anniversary

Saturday 3rd August

9.30am

The Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Souls

Collection	21st July 2024
Cash	£322.04
Gift Aid	£334.50
Total	£656.54
Monthly Standing Order	£4766

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.

We give thanks to thee, O God; we give thanks; we call on thy name and recount thy wondrous deeds. Psalms 75:1