

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Sebastian

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WEEKLY PARISH NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 05 MARCH 2023

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 05 MARCH - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A—Weekly Cycle 1) *Parish Mass Book p 155*

8.00am Mass: John McAvoy RIP (*Brownrigg Family*)

Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am

10.00am Mass: Brendan Tobin RIP (*Philomena*)

5.00 pm **Stations of the Cross**

6.00pm Mass: For the People of the Parish

Monday 6th Feria

9.00am Rosary

9.30am Mass: Holy Souls

Tuesday 7th Feria

9.00am Rosary

9.30am Mass: Mary O'Sullivan RIP (*Frank McCluskey*)

Wed 8th NO MASS TODAY

Thurs 9th Feria

9.00am Rosary

9.30am Mass: Peter Judge RIP (*Kay McLoughlin*)

Friday 10th Feria

9.00am Rosary

9.30am Mass: John Phillips RIP (*Sharon McCluskey*)

Sat 11th Feria

9.00am Mass: Get well Mary Higgins (*Marjie Whitear*)

9.30am **Holy Hour** - Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Benediction, Confessions

Sunday 12 MARCH THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

8.00am Agnes Ruth (*Veronica*)

10.00am **For the People of the Parish and Eliza Bradley who will be baptized at this Mass. Mass will end at 11.15 am**

5.00pm Stations of the Cross

6.00pm Private Intention (*Adele Badrick*)

Readers 5th Mar

8am: Mark Murphy

10am: Rovena Gocllari

6pm: Paul Johnston

Readers 12th Mar

8am: Alberto Ravano

10am: Louisa Nkohkwo

6pm: Aurea Coloma

Counters 6th Mar

Vera and Valentino

Cleaners w/c 6th Mar

Audry and Siobhan

THE SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF PRACTISING CATHOLICS

Sacrament of Baptism – please speak to Fr Peter before fixing a baptismal date and reception venue.

Sacrament of the Eucharist – see above, Mass times

Sacrament of Reconciliation and Penance

Confessions: Sundays 9.15am-9.45am, Saturdays 9.45 am -10.15 am during Holy Hour, and after every weekday Mass or by appointment

Sacrament of Confirmation – annual course for baptised young Catholics – please apply to Fr Peter

Sacrament of Marriage – please speak to Fr Peter at least six months before the proposed wedding date.

Sacrament of Healing – It is our duty to make sure our family members receive the Sacrament of Healing. Please try to give notice if at all possible and don't leave it to the last minute. It brings consolation to the dying as well as healing to the sick. It can be administered at church, in hospital or care home, or at home, or indeed anywhere.

Sacrament of Ordination and consecration to the sacred Priesthood and Religious life – if you think you may have a vocation, please speak to Fr Peter who will connect you with our diocesan vocations director.

Last Week's Offertory

£ 880.56 (of which £325.00 is Gift Aided envelopes, £199.50 Gift Aided bank standing orders and £356.06 cash)

Clergy Support Fund

£ 417.59 (of which £155.00 is Gift Aided).

Today there will be a retiring collection for CAFOD Lent Fast Day.

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*Tea and coffee are served every Sunday in the hall after 10am Mass. All welcome.*

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The Parish Office is normally open on Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri from **10am until 12noon**. All Parish Hall bookings should be made during these times.

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**If you would like Mass to be offered please write clearly and complete a brown Mass Intention Envelope. For Anniversary Masses, with a particular date, please give at least eight weeks' notice to avoid disappointment.**

**Kingston Hospital** If you are admitted to Kingston Hospital, it is your responsibility to inform the ward staff if you would like to see the Catholic Chaplain. If you are calling on behalf of a patient in the Hospital please call the Hospital Main Switchboard on 020 8546 7711 who will contact the Chaplain.

### ST CATHERINE'S SACRAMENTAL COURSES

- **Baptism course** – as required
- **Confirmation:** every Friday 6.15 pm to 8.00 pm
- **First Holy Communion** children and parents: every Sunday 11.15 am to 12.15 pm.
- **To become a Catholic** – by appointment to discuss your needs.
- **Marriage preparation** – Please do not finalise the wedding date or a church venue or a reception venue without first speaking to Fr Peter

**PLEASE PRAY for the sick** especially Cindy Albright, Patrick Beglane, Joyce Crooks, Tyler Curniffe, Delia Gallagher, Marie Gilbert & Family, Martin Jackson, Paul Jarvis, David Jordan, Solomon Justin, Georgia Kelly, Paul Kwan, Teresa McDonald, Sally McKenna, Jimmy Murphy, Pauline Murphy, Ryan O'Loughlin, Mark Peace, Jean Pencyate, Kathy Richardson, Debbie Ruberg-Smith, Chloe Sheehy, Mary Sheehan, Anne Srivastava, Coby Thomas and Amy Woodgate Residential Home residents.

## OUR LENTEN MISSION – JESUS OUR MODEL

Fr Peter writes: The first week of Lent has gone, and some of us may already be feeling downhearted because we have broken promises and we have failed to accompany Christ in the desert. Pressures at work and at home may have prevented proper fasting and abstinence, a significant contribution by way of charity, and a sustained prayer life. In the face of this failure, we may be tempted to give up completely and wallow in self-pity. If that is your attitude, then you are blessed, because God is obviously making you realize that you have fallen short. God is speaking to you, and that is wonderful! We pick ourselves up and we press on. Our Lenten mission is to prepare ourselves for mission as Christ prepared himself to launch his mission to a sinful and broken world. Those who take their faith seriously will be the disciples of Christ who will spread the Good News to the ends of the earth.

## HELPING YOU ON THIS LENTEN JOURNEY

**This is the time to devote more of ourselves to Christ.** Come to **Stations** of the Cross once a week (Sundays 5 pm). Come to an extra **Mass** during the week. Come to **Holy Hour** (9.30 am, Saturdays). Come to **Confession** and be reconciled with God. “Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.”

**REPOSITORY - Easter cards, Mothering Sunday cards** - our shop has cards for various occasions. Please approach Philomena who runs the shop with any suggestions for re-stocking.

## CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY LENT APPEAL SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

### PLEASE BE GENEROUS TO HELP THE HUNGRY

*This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families in hunger fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give) and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.*

## FR PETER'S WEEKLY DISCUSSION EVENING JOIN FR PETER AT CHURCH TO VIEW AND DISCUSS SCOTT HAHN'S "THE HOLINESS OF GOD" BIBLE STUDY – TUESDAY 7 MARCH 7.30 pm

Theologian Scott Hahn traces the meaning of holiness from its origins in Scripture to its appearance in our own lives today. This study is of an academic nature and assumes a good knowledge of the Bible. All welcome.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY TEAM

Only one person so far has volunteered to help re-start Children's Liturgy, even though I detect a strong demand for it. I would be delighted to do organize a good Children's Liturgy. I would suggest we initially trial Children's Liturgy one or two Sundays every month at 10 am. As usual we shall have to make sure that we have all the safeguarding measures in place and that the volunteers are given support in imparting their faith to the children. **Please do come forward and volunteer for this important ministry.** There are two types of roles: one is the catechist role to explain the Scripture readings of the day. The other is to provide support (e.g. helping with any artwork, taking children to the toilet etc) and playing a safeguarding role. Both the catechist and the support roles require safeguarding checks to be made and full clearance to work with children.

## REFLECTION ON TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS: IT'S OKAY TO BE CLUMSY IN PRAYER BUT WE MUST LISTEN TO JESUS THE TRANSFIGURATION

Very often we have an image in our minds of what it means to pray to and be with God. Perhaps that image is forged by the prayer life of saints as very holy people. Perhaps it is shaped by the solemnity of the Mass – which of course must be both solemn and awesome because of Christ's sacrifice for our sins and his conquest of death through his resurrection. Such images of how to pray can stop us from praying altogether, because we think our prayers are unworthy or silly or clumsy when set against the enormity of what Jesus does for us. We say we are just not holy enough.

However, the reality of what happened at the Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor should help us realize that it's okay to be clumsy in our prayers, because the first Pope – the Apostle Peter – was clumsy here in this mountain scene as he witnessed a remarkable event in the history of the world: standing between Moses (c1350 BC) and Elijah (c1000 BC), representing the Old Covenant (the Law and the Prophets), Jesus underwent a metamorphosis, a massive change – he was transfigured into a figure of light. Jesus was giving Peter, James and John a taste of eternity with God. And all Peter could think of doing was to set up three tents. But why now, about year before the crucifixion? Because a week earlier at Caesarea Philippi Jesus had upset the Apostles in saying that although he was the Christ, the Messiah, “the Son of the Living God” as Peter expressed it (Mt 16:18-21), he would have to suffer terrible torture, be killed and then rise from the dead after three days. The Apostles could not take this in. They were not listening to him, for they had yet to understand that this Jesus, the healer, was explaining that the journey to eternal life necessitated suffering. Jesus came to fix a broken world of sinners. On Mount Tabor God the Father repeated what he had said at Jesus's Baptism: “This is my son the beloved” and now adding, “Listen to him.” Catholics must remain faithful to Jesus' teachings.

## SATURDAY 18 MARCH 2023 12.30 PM The launch of Caritas Southwark

Some weeks ago we drew your attention to the formation of Caritas Southwark, the Archbishop's umbrella organization to coordinate charitable works in the Archdiocese and across parishes. Aurea Coloma represented our parish at an earlier consultation meeting. Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for SE London Area, is the head of Caritas Southwark. He writes: “My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, it is my pleasure to invite you all to a great event on March 18 2023 at **St George's Cathedral** during which Archbishop John Wilson will inaugurate Caritas Southwark in the Archdiocese. This occasion will begin at 12.30pm with the Holy Mass and continue in **Amigo Hall** thereafter, with light refreshments and a Roadshow of the numerous social and religious activities operating within the diocese.” Unfortunately we don't have any parish groups responsible for charitable works at the moment.

**SO LET'S FORM A ST CATHERINE'S CARITAS TEAM: Any volunteers? There is much to do.**