

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Sebastian

Confidential phone number 07921 667679 Confidential business e-mail: petersebastian@rcaos.org.uk

Office: Tel Number 0208 397 4499 Office Email: chessington@rcaos.org.uk

Address: 98/100 Leatherhead Road, Chessington, KT9 2HY Website: www.stcatherineofsiena.org.uk

WEEKLY PARISH NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER 2023

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 3 DECEMBER – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) *Parish Mass Book p82*

8.00am Mass: Dennis Allen RIP
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am
10.00am Mass: Noel Horgan RIP
6.00 pm Mass: For the People of the Parish
Mon 4th No Rosary or Mass Today
Tues 5th **Feria**
11.30am Rosary
12noon Mass: For those grieving the loss of a loved one in 2023
Wed 6th **St Nicholas, Bishop**
9.00am Rosary
9.30am **Mass:** Sean Fanning RIP
Thur 7th **St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**
9.00am Rosary
9.30am **Mass:** Maria Keaveney Jessiman RIP
No Holy Hour
Friday 8th **THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
9.00am Rosary
9.30am **Mass:** Wellbeing of the Fotabe Family
Sat 9th **Feria**
9.00am Mass: Frank McCluskey-Birthday
9.30am **Holy Hour** – Exposition of the Eucharist, Rosary, Benediction, Confessions 9.40 am – 10.00 am

Sunday 10 DECEMBER – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

8.00am **Mass:** Paolo and Paola Ravano RIP
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am
10.00am **Mass:** The Kinahan Family
6.00pm **Mass:** For the People of the Parish

Readers 3rd Dec 8am: Valentino Ferdis

Readers 10th Dec 8am: Alberto Ravano

Counters 3rd Dec Howard and Marlene

10am: Louisa Nkohkwo

10am: Rovena Goclari

Cleaners w/c 4th Dec

6pm: Paul Johnston

6pm: Aurea Coloma

Concie, Rovena and Inoka

SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS – Tammy Finan and Steve Kearney E-mail: chessingtonsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk Tel: 07818 108689

TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION WE MUST LIVE THE SACRAMENTAL LIFE - BE A PRACTISING CATHOLIC THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS

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, Thursdays 10.15 am – 10.45 am, and after 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 call a priest to anoint family members in failing health. 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, care home, at home, indeed anywhere. Make sure you are anointed before an operation with general anaesthetic.

Sacrament of Ordination and consecration to the sacred Priesthood and Religious life – please speak to Fr Peter who will connect you with our vocations director.

Last Week's Offertory

£968.34 (£236.15 is Gift Aided envelopes, £175.00 is Gift Aided standing orders and £557.19 cash)

Catholic Youth Services

£172.53 (£81.61 Gift Aided envelopes)

Next Sunday is our Christmas Raffle and Parish Gathering in the hall after 10am Mass. Please join us for refreshments and mince pies and support this very important fundraising and social event.

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

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.

~~~~~  
**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.

**No Drop-in Session this coming week** – instead, please make an appointment with Fr Peter – 07921 667679 or e-mail him at petersebastian@rcaos.org.uk

#### MORE INTENSE PRAYERS AT HOME WITH OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Having the Statue of Our Lady of Fatima week by week in our homes helps us to develop a stronger prayer life at home and to immerse ourselves in the love between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. To arrange to receive the Statue in your home, **please contact: Aurea on 07713 149269. This week the statue passes from the Desbruslais to the Coloma family at the 6 pm Mass.**

**PLEASE PRAY for the sick** especially Cindy Albright, Patrick Beglane, Joyce Crooks, Tyler Curniffe, Louise Dovey, 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 Penycate, Kathy Richardson, Debbie Ruberg-Smith, Chloe Sheead, Mary Sheehan, Anne Srivastava, John Stratford, DS Aiden Taylor and residents of the Amy Woodgate Home.

## FAMILIES AND ELDERLY IN FINANCIAL DISTRESS

There may be families or elderly people you know who may not be able to afford Christmas festivities, food or presents for children or the like. We may be able to help out that family. Please let me know as soon as possible.

## CHRISTMAS MASS ARRANGEMENTS

This year Christmas Day falls on a Monday and Christmas Eve therefore on a Sunday Evening. The Sunday obligation to attend Mass **still stands**, even if we come to a Christmas Mass on Christmas Eve.

### SUNDAY OBLIGATION – SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER

Mass at 8 am

Mass at 10 am

No Sunday obligation Mass at 6 pm.

### CHRISTMAS EVE – SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER

Christmas Mass at 6 pm

Christmas Midnight Mass (12.00 am) preceded by Carols and Readings at 11.30 am

### CHRISTMAS DAY – MONDAY 25 DECEMBER

Mass at 8 am

Mass at 10 am

No evening Mass

## CHRISTMAS RETREAT FOR WOMEN

8-10 December 2023

AT THE CONVENT IN LYNTON, DEVON EX35 6BS  
An opportunity for young women aged 18-35 to come and await the birth of Christ in the heart of a Monastic community, to experience the Advent liturgy, silence, prayer, lectio Divina, lived in joyful expectation with the Blessed Virgin. To book or for more info contact the Sisters [srsmarymorningstar@gmail.com](mailto:srsmarymorningstar@gmail.com) NB This is a retreat for all women. It is not about testing one's vocation.

## KNITTING CRAFT CLUB

Every Tuesday 2 pm - 4 pm Parish Hall Foyer

This is a very happy group with a lovely spirit. Come and join them for a cup of tea or coffee and talk about knitting which is very therapeutic. This excellent example of a social and fundraising initiative is under way. Step out of the cold and into the warmth.

## BAPTISM - CONGRATULATIONS TO TEO

Many congratulations to Teo on his Baptism on Saturday 2 December. He has had original sin washed away, been made a Child of God and a member of the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church founded by Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit. Teo has been reborn in Christ. May he live a good, truthful and loving life.

## HOOK SINGERS' CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Come and celebrate Christmas with Hook Singers and sing Carols, on **Saturday December 9, at 3 pm**, at the Methodist Church, Church Lane, Chessington, followed by refreshments and a raffle. Admission FREE. There will be a Retiring Collection, in aid of the Fircroft Trust.

Contact Cecilia Suarez telephone 0208 397 5891 or Ruth MacKinlay telephone 07743 234508 - If you are unable to attend on Saturday please come on Friday 8 December at 11am and listen to our last rehearsal.

## CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AND PARISH GATHERING!

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER AFTER 10 AM MASS

PRIZES GALORE:

CLASSIC TEA FOR TWO

AT FORTNUM AND MASON

HAMPERS AND DELIGHTS:

Virgina Hayward Christmas Tradition Hamper; Virgina Hayward Snowy Delights Hamper; Virgina Hayward Taste of Christmas Hamper; Virgina Hayward Christmas Delights; Lindt Chocolate Christmas Hamper; Cadbury Christmas Hamper; Whiskey and Wine Hamper

NATIVITY SCENES AND SETS:

Marco Paul Christmas Nativity scene; Deyros the Christmas story Unique Nativity set; Holy Art Nativity set

CASH PRIZES: £50, £25 £25

**MANY OTHER PRIZES - £10 PER TICKET**

**PLEASE DONATE MORE PRIZES!**

**NEXT SUNDAY AT 11 AM**

**LET'S LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

**AND GET TOGETHER**

**PLEASE BRING MINCE PIES, CAKES,**

**TO HAVE WITH OUR TEA & COFFEE**

**AND DRINKS FOR CHILDREN**

## ADVENT – WE'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!

TAKE BACK CONTROL!

STAY AWAKE TO WELCOME THE SAVIOUR!

Advent is not the journey of comfort and joy leading up to the crescendo of Christmas Day. It is not a time for revelry, drink and getting tipsy. It is not a sequence of office parties and the like. By the time we get to Christmas are we completely fed up with Christmas and couldn't care less about the arrival of the Saviour of the world? The orthodox have got it absolutely right: celebrate Christmas at Epiphany, after we have absorbed the nativity and the incarnation. Celebrate it with great awe and joy and love, that the truth has come to dwell among us, the Word has become flesh. Capitalism, lined with greed and envy, has made Advent a series of mini material Christmasses. Comfort and joy in December, you say? I can already feel your fatigue, or your expectant fatigue just at the thought of what you have to go through in December. I wonder if it is possible to take back control and to turn back to God and away from materialism, from mammon (a Syrian deity of wealth and riches). Is there any chance we might be able to turn back to God? **Repeatedly Jesus in the Gospels tells us to stay awake and prepare.** During Advent we prepare both to welcome the birth of the Christ-child God humbling himself to become human – and also the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus, who will return to judge the living and the dead, and his Kingdom will have no end. Perhaps we should start with our schools and hold nativity plays and bazaars after Christmas, once we have absorbed the reality of the incarnation? For us Christians, we are offered an opportunity to opt out of the rat race and emphasize the centrality of our faith. **PLEASE STAY AWAY** and consider doing something extra, like attending Holy Hour, Mass on one weekday as well as Sunday. Please prepare by going to **Confession**. Do a regular examination of conscience. Consider **fasting** and be generous with your money to others. Take time away from social media. Learn some extra prayers. Offer the Rosary to God. **And to the RECENTLY CONFIRMED – LET THE HOLY SPIRIT INSPIRE YOU. THANK AND PRAISE GOD.**