

# ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Sebastian

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## WEEKLY PARISH NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 2023

### SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 10 DECEMBER – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) *Parish Mass Book p85*

- 8.00am **Mass:** Paolo and Paola Ravano RIP  
**Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am**
- 10.00am **Mass:** The Kinahan Family  
6.00 pm **Mass:** For the People of the Parish
- Mon 11<sup>th</sup> No Rosary or Mass Today**
- Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
9.00 am Rosary  
9.30 am **Mass:** For those suffering from or caring for someone with dementia  
**NOTE CHANGE: NO MASS AT 12 NOON**
- Wed 13 St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**  
9.00am Rosary  
9.30am **Mass:** Tommy Madden and Family

**NO DAILY MASS FROM THURS 14<sup>th</sup> – SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup>**

### Sunday 17 DECEMBER – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

*Gaudete Sunday Parish Mass Book p87*

- 8.00am **Mass:** Philomena Manche RIP  
**Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am**
- 10.00am **Mass:** For the People of the Parish  
6.00pm **Mass:** Frances Gibbons RIP

Readers 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 8am: Alberto Ravano  
Readers 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 8am: Mark Murphy  
Counters 11<sup>th</sup> Dec Pauline and Una

10am: Rovena Gocllari  
10am: Marcel Gilly Bruno  
Cleaners w/c 11<sup>th</sup> Dec

6pm: Aurea Coloma  
6pm: Emilia de Rennes  
Audry and Siobhan

**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

**£816.52** (£322.05 is Gift Aided envelopes, £175.00 is Gift Aided standing orders and £319.47 cash)

**TODAY 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.**

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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.

**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 Pencyate, 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 COME LET US ADORE HIM!

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

## ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH HISTORY

It is clear to me that our parish has a very rich history going back to 1938. I would very much like us to compile an expanded history of the parish into a booklet with photographs, memories of parishioners, initiatives like the creation of our beautiful sanctuary and background information on deceased and former clergy. If we have a historian in the parish who would like to take this on, please do approach me. One thing I would certainly like to do is to sit in on discussions with some of our most longstanding parishioners as I have many questions of one sort or another. For example, is there anyone in the parish who can tell us more about the **Italian prisoners of war** who attended Mass in our Hall during World War II? I understand many of them were from Siena and it was they who suggested the parish should be named after the great Saint Catherine.

## 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. If anyone wants to come and join and teach other **CROCHET** as well, please come and have a word.

## 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!**

**LET'S LOVE ONE ANOTHER  
AND GET TOGETHER  
PLEASE BRING MINCE PIES, CAKES,  
TO HAVE WITH OUR TEA & COFFEE  
AND DRINKS FOR CHILDREN**

## BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT! BE FILLED WITH HOPE, LOVE & TRUTH! JOHN THE BAPTIST POINTS US TO JESUS THE SON OF GOD

Perhaps after this first week of Advent as we have been examining our conscience, our life, our relationships, we may be feeling a bit dejected, a bit down, with the conclusion, "could do better." **If you are feeling a bit down, well done – that's not a bad indicator at all of your desire for holiness!** - We can all do better. **LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS** – there are grounds for great hope. We await our Lord and our God, Jesus Christ, to come to take us with him to eternal happiness with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He has conquered sin and death and prepared an eternal paradise for us. That is the Good News which our redeemer brings to the world at Christmas through his incarnation. **The readings from Scripture express this hope.** And in these two middle Sundays, this Sunday and next Sunday, the focus shifts to John the Baptist and the two comings of Christ. The Gospel of Mark and the prophet Isaiah proclaim joyously the first coming of the Messiah, the Christ child at Christmas – the beauty of the incarnation. Mark and all the Gospels go back to Isaiah: "A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight." All four Gospels identify this voice as that of John the Baptist. And John the Baptist is the great figure of Advent. He is more than a prophet. He is the final prophet, and in him the Holy Spirit concludes speaking through the prophets. John the Baptist echoes Isaiah and proclaims that the consolation for Israel – for the world – for us – is imminent and he has come to be a witness to the truth and the love of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Whereas John baptised with water, Jesus would baptise with water and the Holy Spirit. In other words, it is God who baptises us.

**TAKE HEART, BE FILLED WITH HOPE,  
PERSEVERE IN YOUR EXAMINATION OF  
CONSCIENCE, IN YOUR PRAYERS, AND STAY  
AWAKE. DO NOT SLEEP WALK THROUGH LIFE!**