

# ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Sebastian

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## WEEKLY PARISH NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2024

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

#### SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B) Parish Mass Book p155

8.00am **Mass:** Brian Duffy RIP  
**Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am**

10.00am **Mass:** David Dicker  
**5.00 pm Stations of the Cross**

6.00pm **Mass:** For the People of the Parish

**Mon 26<sup>th</sup> NO MASS TODAY**

**Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Feria**

11.30 am Rosary

12.00 pm **Mass:** Sr. Martha Manche RIP

**Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Feria**

9.00am Rosary

9.30am **Mass:** Angelin Fanning

**Thur 29<sup>th</sup> Feria**

9.00 am Rosary

9.30 am **Mass:** Mary and Stan – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> St David**

9.00am Rosary

9.30am **Mass:** Pauline Madden RIP

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Feria**

9.00am **Mass:** Holy Souls  
**Holy Hour** – Exposition of the Eucharist, Rosary, Benediction, **Confessions 9.45 am-10.15 am**

#### Sunday 3 MARCH – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

8.00am **Mass:** John McAvoy RIP  
**Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am**

10.00am **Mass:** John Kinahan RIP

**5.00 pm Stations of the Cross**

**6.00pm Mass:** For the People of the Parish

**SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS–Tammy Finan and Steve Kearney**  
E-mail:[chessingtonsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:chessingtonsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk) Tel: 07818 108689

Readers 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 8am: Alberto Ravano  
Readers 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar 8am: Mark Murphy  
Counters 26<sup>th</sup> Feb Vera and Valentino

10am: Rovena Gocllari  
10am: Cristabela Pereira  
Cleaners w/c 26<sup>th</sup> Feb

6pm: Marcel Gilly Bruno  
6pm: Aurea Coloma  
Concie, Rovena and Inoka

#### Last Week's Offertory

£ 1,058.95 (£330.20 Gift Aided envelopes, £175 Gift Aided standing orders, £38 Card and £515.75 cash)

#### Clergy Support Fund

£ 192.10 (£35 Gift Aided envelopes, £47 Card and £110.10 cash)

Today there is a retiring collection for CAFOD. Special envelopes are available in the church porch if you would like to Gift Aid your donation.

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.

**Mass Intentions:** 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.

### TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION WE MUST LIVE THE SACRAMENTAL LIFE - BE A PRACTISING CATHOLIC CHERISH 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.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK especially Cindy

Albright, Patrick Beglane, Joyce Crooks, Tyler Curniffe, Louise Dovey, Delia Gallagher, Eileen Gathercole, Marie Gilbert & Family, 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, and residents of the Amy Woodgate Home.

### YOU CAN MAKE DONATIONS BY CARD

We have a new machine called **DONA** in the entrance hall to enable donations to be made by debit or credit card. Just tap on the screen to reveal the donation categories (e.g. Offertory, Second Collection, Clergy Support Fund etc). The first time you use DONA you will be asked for some basic identification details. After that a donation can be made in seconds. You can use it to **Gift Aid** your weekly and all other donations if you are a tax payer. It means St Catherine's can claim back from the Tax Office a further 25% of your donation. It makes sense. We will still have a cash collection but some of you will prefer to use **DONA**.

### FAMILY FAST DAY – DONATE TODAY

Last Friday 23 February was Family Fast Day. Today there is a second collection after Mass for CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas development, to help the poor and sick across the developing world for whom CAFOD IS a lifeline. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.

### CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

***Psalms – Chapter 71. ‘Do not reject me in my old age, nor desert me when my strength is failing’.***

Thank for your donation last week of £192.10 for this very important fund that helps old, sick and retired priests who have given their lives to serve you, to baptise you and to be with you as you die. I would like to ask you to donate a little more to this fund before I send your donation on. Please use the DONA machine to pay by card or the envelopes in the church entrance. You can Gift Aid.

*Our Archbishop John writes: “I kindly ask that you pray for our sick and elderly priests, and consider donating to this worthy fund. Thank you for your generosity of heart.”*

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS HOLY EUCHARIST

I would be most grateful if all “Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist” including those who have not been active since the start of COVID and anyone who would like to become a minister, could e-mail me privately on the address below indicating whether they would like to continue in or re-start this sacred role. The key requirements for the role are that candidates are:

- happy to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound monthly as their primary role.
- help the priest distribute Holy Communion at ass as and when required.
- ready to participate in an induction ceremony by the Archbishop at St George’s Cathedral.
- ready to obtain DBS safeguarding clearance.
- living with devotion the full sacramental life (see front page), actively participating in all the appropriate sacraments.

### ST CATHERINE OF SIENA TO HOST A DIOCESAN DAY OF REFLECTION - SATURDAY 27 APRIL FOR READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

I am delighted to say that the Episcopal Vicar Gerard Bradley has agreed to lead a day of reflection here in our parish for all readers and eucharistic ministers in the western end of the Archdiocese. This will be similar to the one held last year in Tooting parish which was a great success. The day will be open to readers and eucharist ministers in parishes in Kingston Deanery and neighbouring Deaneries. **Readers and Eucharistic Ministers: please note this date in your diaries and let me know whether or not you will be able to attend.**

### CONFIRMATION FOR TEENAGERS (13-17 yrs)

The first session of the new Confirmation course begins on Friday 1 March, 6.15 pm to 8.00 pm.

### YOUTH DAY – RICHARD CHALLONER SCHOOL SATURDAY 9 MARCH 2024

The Southwark Catholic Youth Service is holding Youth Day event at Richard Challoner between 11 am - 6 pm, with a charge of £5 per child or £8 per family, payable on the day. Lunch and dinner included. Learn more about the Catholic faith through catechesis and Adoration. Have fun through crafts and sport. To sign up: [www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/southwark-catholic-youth-service/](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/southwark-catholic-youth-service/)

### REFURBISHMENT OF THE CHURCH EXTERIOR

We are now in a position to move forward again with the refurbishment of the church exterior – the replacement of windows, gutters, soffits and fascias. I am in the process of taking some quotes to give us an idea of the scale of the work and the expense. I will shortly be contacting those who volunteered to form part of the **two teams** to make this happen: the Fundraising team and the Art and Architecture team for which very many thanks for volunteering.

### ABORTIONISTS IN PARLIAMENT ABOUT TO GO TO EXTREMES

- An attempt is being made to change the law so that it would be legal to induce abortion at home - using pills or any other method - at any stage of pregnancy, including just before birth. Please pray for the protection of the unborn and for help and comfort for all expectant mothers. Ask your MP to oppose this dangerous, anti-life proposal. You can find out more by contacting your MP, e.g. using SPUC’s web: <https://www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments>

### REFLECTION ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ARE WE TRULY LISTENING AND TRUSTING?

A theme of the Gospels, of the Good News, is that our faith brings us great comfort but also presents us with a very real challenge: that to enter the Kingdom of Heaven we must embrace suffering – we must embrace our cross just as the innocent Jesus embraced his. **Too often we listen to Christ’s words of comfort but resist the Cross.** St Peter and the Apostles had to face this truth about embracing the Cross. They were gradually coming to accept Christ as the Messiah, but they really did not know what kind of Messiah. They thought he was an earthly Messiah, to overcome Israel’s enemies. These themes come together during Lent and particularly on this second Sunday which focuses on the **Transfiguration of Christ**. It helps us in our faith journey through Lent to identify with the Apostles as we come to understand what Christ’s mission means for each one of us. We have the benefit now of knowing that Christ rose from the dead. And that is precisely what the transfiguration is: **a real visual event of the resurrected Christ** mentioned by all three synoptic Gospels and by St Peter (2 Peter 1:16-21) As the Catechism of the Catholic Church says, the Apostles are offered a foretaste of the kingdom. The Transfiguration took place about a year before the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord. You will remember that a week before the Transfiguration, at Caesarea Philippi, St Peter had declared that Jesus was the Son of the living God, the Christ. But when in the next breath Jesus said he himself was destined to suffer and die at the hands of the Pharisees and Scribes, Peter could not accept it, so Christ told him off: “Get behind me Satan” – in other words, **don’t try to take the Cross away from me!** The Apostles were dejected and depressed. They could not understand. So a week later, Christ showed the three most prominent Apostles the great reward awaiting them so as to encourage them and lift them. So we too are given a taste of heaven when we shall all be transfigured. The Feast of the Transfiguration is not until August, but the Church places this event before us today, early on in Lent, **to encourage us to persevere in our Lenten journey, fasting, abstaining and carrying our own cross with love, listening to God’s beloved Son.**