

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 17 MARCH 2024

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 17 MARCH – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B) Parish Mass Book p173

8.00am **Mass:** Mary Walsh RIP
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am

10.00am **Mass:** For the People of the Parish
5.00 pm Stations of the Cross

6.00pm **Mass:** Mark De Negri RIP

Mon 18th NO MASS TODAY

Tues 19th St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

11.30 am Rosary

12.00 pm **Mass:** John Stratford RIP

Wed 20th Feria

9.00am Rosary

9.30am **Mass:** Clifford Perry RIP

Thur 21st Feria

9.00 am Rosary

9.30 am **Mass:** Maria Keaveney-Jessiman RIP

Friday 22nd Feria

9.00am Rosary

9.30am **Mass:** Private Intention

Sat 23rd Feria

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

Sunday 24 MARCH – PALM SUNDAY (B)

8.00am **Mass:** Wellbeing of Andrew Brownrigg
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am

10.00am **Mass:** For the People of the Parish

5.00 pm Stations of the Cross

6.00pm Mass: Julie Woolliscroft - Birthday

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

Readers 17th Mar 8am: Kristin Walsh

Readers 24th Mar 8am: Volunteers

Counters 18th Mar Pauline and Una

10am: Shehara Gamage

10am: Volunteers

Cleaners w/c 18th Mar

6pm: Howard Brinkworth

6pm: Volunteers

Aurea's Group

Last Week's Offertory

£893.99 (£345.00 Gift Aided envelopes, £175 Gift Aided standing orders, £22 Gift Aided Card, £35 non Gift Aided Card and £316.99 cash)

Clergy Support Fund currently stands at

£325.70 (£125.60 Gift Aided envelopes, £90 DONA Card Machine and £110.10 cash)

TODAY there will be a retiring collection for Poor Parishes formerly the Needs of the Diocese.

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, and residents of 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**.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES - SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

- Holy Mass at usual Sunday times

Maundy Thursday

- Mass of the Last Supper at 8 pm
- Compline 10.30 pm

Good Friday

- 9.15 am - to 11 am Walk of Witness (see below)
- 3.00 pm - Good Friday – Passion and Crucifixion
- 7.30 pm - Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday

- 8 pm - Vigil Mass of the Resurrection

Easter Sunday

- Mass of the Resurrection at 8 am and 10 am (no Mass at 6 pm)

I would be most grateful if you could volunteer for various roles for each of these Masses by writing your name on the appropriate sheet of paper to be found by the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the front entrance. We need:

WELCOMERS READERS COLLECTORS
OFFERTORY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
TWELVE MEN TO SERVE AS
THE APOSTLES WHOSE FEET JESUS WASHED
SINGERS ALTAR SERVERS SACRISTANS
PLEASE DO COME FORWARD TO HELP

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA TO HOST A DIOCESAN DAY OF REFLECTION FOR READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS SATURDAY 27 APRIL 10.30 am to 3.00 pm

I am delighted to say that the Episcopal Vicar Gerard Bradley has offered to lead a day of reflection here in our parish for all readers and eucharistic ministers in the western end of the Archdiocese. I ask for **volunteers** to help with the organisation of the day, especially to help lay out lunch and clean up afterwards. With my thanks.

GOOD FRIDAY – WALK OF WITNESS HOSTED BY ST CATHERINE'S

We are organising a procession or *Walk of Witness* with our brothers and sisters in the Methodist and Anglican Churches in Chessington and Hook. Details to follow but the rough timings are: start at 9.15 am at the Methodist church and end at around 11 am at St Catherine of Siena when we will have a short service of remembrance followed by tea/coffee and hot cross buns in our parish hall. **Please do your best to attend this procession** and service and refreshments, both to demonstrate our solidarity with our fellow Christians and to be a witness to the truth and love of Christ to the local community.

I will need help with hosting our guests in our hall and I ask for volunteers.

Please e-mail me: petersebastian@rcaos.org.uk

ICON PAINTING RETREAT

The Kairos Retreat Centre, Roehampton 8 - 15 April 2024 led by Cari Bridgen

Painting an icon with tuition on techniques and use of traditional materials - Regular prayer time - Spiritual Direction available. Cari Bridgen trained for 3 years with a master Iconographer in Canterbury and has made a number of Icons. She is an experienced Ignatian Spiritual Director and is accustomed to leading groups. This retreat is suitable for beginners and experienced icon painters alike.

Cost of the retreat varies as follows:

Ensuite Room £630, Standard £550,
Extra charge for resources £95.00 max

COLLECT YOUR GIFT AID BOXES TODAY PLEASE JOIN THE GIFT AID SCHEME

Please note that today after Mass you will be able to collect your Gift Aid boxes of envelopes for the next financial year 2024/25. For those who are not yet signed up to our Gift Aid Scheme, please consider doing so. I urge you to do so. Simply complete one of our Gift Aid forms which you can find in the church entrance (please ask) and return it to the Parish Office or to our Gift Aid Coordinator, Carolyn Cooper-Burrows. We are able to claim back from the government tax office 25% of whatever you donate to St Catherine's. If you do wish to join our Gift Aid Scheme, please consider donating by **Standing Order**, which you can set up with your bank. **An assured regular donation benefits our parish**

WHAT IS THE SECRET OF ETERNAL YOUTH!?

Scientists have been working away for centuries to discover the secret of eternal youth. The Catholic Church has had the answer for 2000 years. Has it shared the secret with you? Yes. It is **Confession of your sins**. It is reconciliation with God – not once in a lifetime, not once a year, but as often as is necessary to rejuvenate us by removing the heavy burden of our sins, such a heavy burden on our backs that we buckle under the weight. After Confession, one can see people visibly gain strength and even look younger; there is a glow of peace shining from their faces. Their very body language alters. **Not only do we love ourselves again with a clear conscience, but we love the people around us more.** We make no judgements; we make allowances for our brothers and sisters. And yet the devil – and many non-Catholics – try to shatter your confidence in this Sacrament and dissuade you from coming to Confession. They scoff at the critical role of the priest to whom Jesus through the Apostles gave the power to forgive sins. If this healing Sacrament is the secret of eternal youth, it is also the secret of eternal life, because we humble ourselves before God. We are honest with ourselves and with God. **We love truth and truth enables love.** We've had enough of deceiving ourselves and others. We cannot deceive God. So just as Jesus obeyed the will of the Father, so we die to self every time we confess our sins in humility as many of you already do as you strive to live a holy life as children of God. **Jesus shows us the way:** *"I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life."* (John 12:20-30). This is the new covenant of which God speaks in Jeremiah (31:31-34). "Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, "Learn to know the Lord!" No, they will all know me . . . **since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.**" And the new law, the NEW COVENANT God speaks of is Christ's self-sacrifice, his teaching, his Sermon on the Mount, his Beatitudes, as once again this Lent we hear in Psalm 50, "A pure heart create for me, O God." My brothers and sisters: **"Learn to know the Lord!"** Have we done that properly, or are we going to abandon Jesus at the first sound of gunfire? **I invite you to join me on a journey of faith most Thursday evenings at 6 pm starting on 18 April so that together we might "learn to know the Lord" still more!**