

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Sebastian

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WEEKLY PARISH NEWSLETTER SUNDAY 31 MARCH 2024

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST - MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 31 MARCH – EASTER SUNDAY (B) Parish Mass Book p255

8.00am **Mass:** For all families in the Parish
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am

10.00am **Mass:** For the many people helping out in the Parish

THERE WILL BE NO 6pm EVENING MASS

Mon 1st NO MASS TODAY
Tues 2nd NO MASS TODAY
Wed 3rd NO MASS TODAY
Thur 4th NO MASS TODAY
Friday 5th NO MASS TODAY
Sat 6th 9 am Mass – Leslie Walker RIP
9.30 am - Holy Hour and **First Saturday Devotions**
of Our Lady of Fatima, Benediction

SUNDAY 7 APRIL – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (B) p259

8.00am **Mass:** Ann and Eamon McCluskey RIP
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am

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

3.00 pm **Divine Mercy Sunday devotions.**

6.00pm **Mass:** Gloria Salonga RIP

Mon 8th NO MASS TODAY
Tues 9th NO MASS TODAY
Wed 10th NO MASS TODAY
Thur 11th **10.30am FUNERAL MASS: Natalina Cura**
Friday 12th NO MASS TODAY
Sat 13th 9 am Mass – Private Intention
9.30 am Holy Hour, Exposition, Benediction.

SUNDAY 14 APRIL – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (B) p262

8.00am **Mass:** Myrtle, Ernest and Andrew Frith (RIP)
Confessions – 9.15 am to 9.45 am

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

6.00pm **Mass: Leslie Walker RIP**

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

Readers 7th Apr 8am: Alberto Ravano

Readers 14th Apr 8am: Mark Murphy

Counters 7th Apr Karen and Peter

10am: Pauline Holman

10am: Alex Duval

Cleaners w/c 7th Apr

6pm: Paul Johnston

6pm: Frances Harryman

Jozwicki Group

Last Week's Offertory

£845.13 (£291.90 Gift Aided envelopes, £175 Gift Aided standing orders, £5 Gift Aided DONA Machine, £32 non Gift Aided DONA Machine and £342.13 cash)

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.

YOUR EASTER OFFERING TODAY IS FOR YOUR PARISH PRIEST

Your Easter Offering is your personal gift to your priest. Please take an Easter Offering envelope if you wish from the church lobby and hand it in at the offertory. Loose cash in the offertory on Easter Sunday will part of the Easter Offering. Thank you.

YOU CAN ALSO 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).

**A VERY HAPPY EASTER IN THE JOY OF THE
RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS
LOVE IS STRONGER THAN DEATH! HE IS RISEN, HE IS TRULY RISEN!**

My dear brothers and sisters.

The love of God is far stronger than sin and death. And these three days we are witnesses again to the greatest act of love in the entire universe – that God humbled himself to share in our humanity, to suffer and die for us to rid us of sin and death, but still more - **to teach us how to be the beautiful human beings** who will live with God into eternity. My brothers and sisters, we are filled with love and hope and joy. The worries and sufferings of this world are nothing compared to the destiny which God has prepared for us.

“It is accomplished.” Jesus’ words on the Cross as he was dying echo down these 2,000 years. Jesus has done everything the Father asked him to do to save us from our miserable selves. Only Christ – the God-Man – could save us from sin and death and restore a broken people. Only Christ was good enough to break the bonds of evil we had embraced so willingly, because he was not only fully human but fully divine. And therefore only Christ could love us so much that he was prepared to become one of us and suffer torture and die for us – as St Paul says, one might be prepared to die for a good man, but for a sinner? **One thing is abundantly clear: we could not and cannot fix broken humanity on our own.** That is the message to all our friends and relatives and brothers and sisters who do not acknowledge Christ: we keep trying to fix humanity by rejecting God, yet constantly fail and make matters worse. Human solutions seem to involve slavery, restriction of liberty and death of one sort or another, sanctioned and enforced by the impersonal state. God’s solutions, however, bring life, rebirth, freedom and resurrection – they bring wisdom, truth and love which cannot be separated.

**WALK OF WITNESS WITH OUR ANGLICAN AND
METHODIST BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

It was a pleasure to walk side by side with our Anglican and Methodist brothers and sisters and to celebrate together the victory of Christ over sin and death on the Cross. The Cross unites us all. We have received this kind letter of thanks: “On behalf of your Anglican brothers and sisters, up the hill at St. Mary’s, may I say what a pleasure it was that so many of your congregation were able to join with us at the start of the walk of witness this morning; this despite the less than encouraging weather. Also may I thank Fr. Peter for organising and leading the meaningful short service at the conclusion of the walk. And, not least, please pass on our thanks to everyone in your catering team who provided and served the most welcome teas and coffees and prepared the hot cross buns for everyone. We appreciate that in recent years our two churches have only rarely been able to worship together, and similarly join together for social events. Let’s hope that, following the experience of this morning’s walk, we will be encouraged to come together more in the future.

Yours sincerely, Peter West
(Churchwarden and Parochial Church Council Secretary,
St Mary the Virgin, Church of England).

FUNERALS

Thursday 11 April, 10.30 at St Catherine of Siena

Natalina Cura

Wednesday 24 April, 10.00 am at St Clements Catholic Church, Ewell.

John Stratford

Friday 26 April, 2 pm, St Catherine of Siena

Milan Hrabec

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen.

**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.

**PASTORAL MESSAGE ON ASSISTED SUICIDE
FROM OUR ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON**

From the Catholic Bishops Conference

Archbishop John Wilson, Archbishop of Southwark, issued a pastoral message on assisted suicide making clear we are called to care for those suffering, not to bring about their death. With increased pressure on MPs to change the legislation on assisted suicide, Archbishop Wilson has issued a pastoral message highlighting the threat this poses to human life and our claim to uphold equality. In the message, Archbishop Wilson outlines that the threats to human society today are not only physical, but moral and spiritual too. Human life is a gift from God and one that must be cherished, it is not a commodity we “manipulate and dominate”. Archbishop John said: The Catholic Church believes and teaches that every life is valuable, regardless of one’s physical or mental state or ability. **We are called to care for those who are suffering, not to bring about their death. We cannot approve of any form of euthanasia and assisted suicide.** Rather, we need to support individuals, families, and those who work in healthcare, so that the fundamental value of life is not eroded.” In the pastoral message, issued on 22 March 2024, Archbishop Wilson drew on Pope Francis who said: “We must be careful not to confuse [medical care] with unacceptable drifts towards euthanasia. We must accompany people towards death, but not provoke death or facilitate assisted suicide.” In his pastoral message, Archbishop John urges us to write to our MPs to vote down such a measure if a bill is introduced. He says “The United Kingdom is currently experiencing a significant campaign by advocates of assisted suicide. This has gained momentum following Dame Esther Rantzen’s announcement that she has joined Dignitas, the assisted suicide facility in Switzerland. There has been increased media coverage and pressure on Members of Parliament to change legislation. Assisted suicide refers to the act of deliberately assisting another person to end their life, usually by providing them with lethal drugs. Euthanasia is an action or omission which, of itself or by intention, causes death in order to eliminate suffering. **Both involve a fundamental conviction that life is not worth living and a suffering person is better off dead. This raises many serious issues...**” *The full text of our Archbishop’s Pastoral Message will be made available to the Parish soon and on the website.*