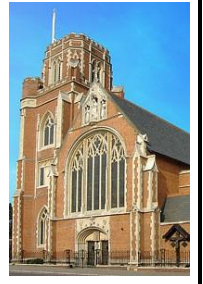


St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
 Becket House, Santos Road, Wandsworth SW18 1NT
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www.stthomasabecketchurch.co.uk
becket.westhill@btinternet.com
 Parish Office: 9.30-14.30 Monday to Friday



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

10th September 2017

Where two or three gather in my name, I shall be with them

Mass Times

- 9th Sat Feria**
 9.30 *Monica Ameke +*
 17.30 (Vigil Mass) *Vincenzina Vanedola +*
- 10th Sun 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 10.00 *Father Davis and his Ministry*
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 11th Mon Feria**
 9.30 *Private Intention*
- 12th Tue Feria**
 9.30 *Frank Ranson +*
- 13th Wed St John Chrysostom**
 19.00 *Private Intention*
- 14th Thu Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
 9.30 *Michael Lamb +*
- 15th Fri Our Lady of Sorrows**
 9.30 *Private Intention*
 19.00 *Private Intention*
- 16th Sat SS Cornelius & Cyprian**
 9.30 *Private Intention*
 17.30 (Vigil Mass) *Stefania Rondoni +*
- 17th Sun 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 10.00 *Susan & William Northeast +*
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*

Confessions

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

This Sunday's Readings: Page 125 in Mass Book

Sunday Readings: Year A **Weekday Readings:** Year 1

Cycle of Prayer Autumn: The Harvest, Fruits of Human Work, Reverent Use of Creation, Students & Teachers, Spread of the Gospel, Justice & Peace, Prisoners & their Families, Victims of War, Young People

Next Week's Liturgy Group: Matthew

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest



Prayer

In the Gospel this Sunday Jesus says, 'If two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.' In these words he gives us a powerful encouragement to intercessory prayer.

The Lord himself is telling us that we ought to ask God directly for the things we need. Maybe we might start out by asking for material needs but anyone truly committed to the spiritual life will surely move on from these sorts of prayers to others more outwardly directed.

We move on and in time we find ourselves asking God for other things such as protection for our loved ones or for peace in the home or for the welfare of others or that the dead may rest in peace. We find ourselves too praying for more general things such as peace in the world or food for the hungry. So while we are young we might pray mostly for ourselves and our own needs but as we get more mature we focus more and more on the needs of others.

However, we should take Christ's words at face value and pray for absolutely anything we need whether it be for ourselves or for others. God may not grant all that we ask at the particular time we want it, but what we will be doing is entering into a dialogue with him. And this is the most important thing of all. Every Christian ought to be in constant dialogue with the Lord. As we go about our daily duties we should be continually thinking of God and asking him questions and telling him of our needs. This is the very best way to come close to him.

Father Alex

Catholic Education Sunday

Today we observe Catholic Education Sunday and acknowledge the great work of the Church in this important area. Right across the country the Church has ploughed a huge amount of its resources into the provision of Catholic schools because of their key role in underpinning the faith and moral values of the Catholic family. In the constantly changing educational climate it is important that we strengthen and uphold our network of schools which do so much good for the Church and for society as a whole. A second collection will be taken up today in support of the Catholic Education Service which monitors upcoming legislation and government policy which might affect our schools.

**God's grace within me
and God's strength behind me,
can overcome any hurdle ahead of me**

Parish Council

There will be a meeting of the Parish Council at 19.30 on Thursday 21st September in the Parish Hall. Please note that all parishioners are very welcome to attend and express their views. With the change of parish priest this is a good time to discuss the situation of the parish. Please come along.

University Catholic Chaplaincy

Those who are going to University this autumn should be aware that there is a Catholic Chaplaincy at each University and Higher Education College. Besides the normal weekend masses many social activities and other groups are organised by the Chaplaincies. A list of University Chaplaincies can be found at catholicsatuniversity.org.uk.

CAFOD Southwark Pilgrimage

Meet at St Francis de Sales Church, Hartley on Saturday 16th September 11.45 am for a simple lunch to start a 3-4 mile pilgrimage at 12.30 stopping for prayer and reflection along the way. Returning 16.00 for tea and 17.30 Mass. Contact 020 8466 9901.

**Faithfulness in little things
is a big thing**

St John Chrysostom

Diocesan Day for Catechists

Catechists and Children's Liturgy organisers are invited to the annual Diocesan Day for Catechists at St George's Cathedral at 11.00 on Saturday 21st September. Details from the Parish Office.

Upcoming Dates

Parish Council 19.30 21st September
Race Night.....19.30 7th October
Deanery Mass for School Staff16.30 5th October
School Advent Service 1st December



Race Night

We are holding a Parish Race Night on Saturday 7th October at 19.30 with a Bar and Ploughman's Supper. Tickets only £5 on sale after both weekend Masses. £50 to sponsor a race and £5 to sponsor a horse. Eight races and eight horses in each race. Come along for a fun evening. Good luck!

Christian Initiation

If anyone would like to be received into the Catholic Church they should make themselves known to Father Alex so that the appropriate classes can be arranged. Normally adult baptisms and receptions into the Church are done at the Easter Vigil and so the preparation programme needs to begin in the first week of Advent. We warmly welcome all those who would like to become full members of the Church so that they can fully share in our sacramental life.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy resumes this Sunday at 10.00 mass.

Parent and Toddler Group

The Parent and Toddler Group will start again on Monday 11th September at 10.00 in the Parish Hall.

**It isn't the mountains ahead
that wear you out,
it's the grain of sand in your shoe**

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £443.26 Bankers Orders £384.

Second Collection

This week: Catholic Education Service Next week:
Home Missions

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: A Oliva & E Falcone
n/w F Azevado, M Figueiredo

Readers: Sat: N Nolan, S Vas, E De Souza Sun:
T Brown, A Harris, A Stacey n/w Sat: C Wilkins,
I Smith Sun: G Fayers, C McCarthy, A Blanes

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat: J Cato, D McGavin
Sun: A Nobis, R Nwodo, P Fahy, R McMullan n/w Sat:
D McGavin, K. Dolan. Sun: G Donaldson, C Kawesi,
W Gallagher, R Kuleke, D Lyons

Children's Liturgy: R & S Cousin Jackson n/w
C&C Kawesi, C Webb

Parent & Child Liturgy: B Cherian, N Pearson n/w
E Lueth, N Pearson

Flowers: A Oliva n/w L. Northeast