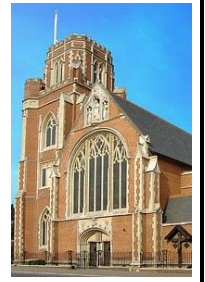


St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
Becket House, Santos Road, Wandsworth SW18 1NT
020 8874 1818 07788 415200
www.stthomasabecketchurch.co.uk
becket.westhill@btinternet.com
Parish Office: 9.30-14.30 Monday to Friday



Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th November 2017

Well done, good and faithful servant

Mass Times

18th Sat Feria

9.30 *Michael Lamb +*
17.30 (Vigil Mass) *Giuseppe and Edmea Brugnoli +*

19th Sun 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10.00 *Bridget Anne Farrell +*
15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*

20th Mon Feria

9.30 *Deceased members of the McHugh – Gallagher family +*

21st Tue Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.30 *Holy Souls*

22nd Wed Saint Cecilia

9.30 *Holy Souls*

23rd Thu Feria

9.30 *Holy Souls*

24th Fri SS Andrew Dung-Lac and Comps

9.30 *Deceased Members of Mariba Family+*

25th Sat Feria

9.30 *Michael Lamb+*
17.30 (Vigil Mass) *Nicholas Lewis +*

26th Sun Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

10.00 *Brendan Mc Cormack +*
15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*

Confessions:

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

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

This Sunday's Readings: Page 155 in Mass Book

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: Luke

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest



The Parable of the Talents

Spiritual Gifts

Many people think that the Parable of the Talents is all about money. It is true that a talent at the time of Christ was equivalent to thirty-six kilos of silver and therefore very valuable indeed. However, to think that this important parable is somehow defending a capitalist view of the world, as Margaret Thatcher once famously did, would be a serious mistake.

In the parable Jesus is speaking about spiritual riches. Of course, this should come as no surprise to us since we know quite well that Jesus was not concerned with money or the accumulation of earthly wealth.

What Jesus wants is for us to use our spiritual gifts in his service. He wants us to embrace the Gospel and the life of prayer; by doing this we will multiply the spiritual fruits that flow from a lifetime spent in his service.

We need to learn to appreciate the spiritual gifts that we have been given. Oftentimes we ignore the spiritual aspect of our nature, we fail to nourish it and so it gradually wilts away.

We need to unlock our spiritual talents and put them to good use. It may be that we have a gift for prayer or a special concern for social justice or a gift for interpreting the scriptures or for teaching or for some other spiritual quality.

It would be greatly to our benefit and to the benefit of those around us if we could discover which spiritual gifts we already have and put them to good use in the Church and the world.

Father Alex

First Holy Communion

The First Holy Communion classes start next Sunday 26th November after the 10.00 mass in the Priest's house. Children should be in Year 3 or above. Parents should come to the first session. The classes will continue on 3rd and 10th December and then pick up again in the New Year.

Young Adults

We are holding a Wine and Cheese Party for young adults in our parish on Thursday 30th November at 19.00 in the Corry Hall. If you are over eighteen and classify yourself as a young adult please feel free to come along for a convivial evening.

**The trees that are slow to grow
bear the best fruit**

Moliere

Cake Sale

The next Cake Sale will be on Sunday 3rd December in the Corry Hall. Thanks for your support.

Confirmation

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on 6th May 2018. Would those in Year 9 or above who wish to be Confirmed please complete a registration form available at the back of the Church.

Advent Reflection

Judy Carlisle will be leading an Advent Reflection on Martha and Mary after 9.30 mass on Wednesday 6th December. All welcome. It should last about an hour.

Weddings 2018

If you are considering marriage in 2018 please contact Father Alex even if the wedding will take place outside the parish so that the paperwork can be started.

**Use the talents you possess,
for the woods would be a very silent
place if no birds sang except the best**

Henry van Dyke

Advent Retreat for Young Adults

Saturday 2nd December 10.30-14.30 at the Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street W1K 3AH. Ring 020 7495 1673 for details. The retreat will include input about and experience of prayer, silence and sharing.

Upcoming Dates

Young Adult Wine & Cheese Party....30th November
School Advent Service 1st December
Cake Sale..... 3rd December
Advent Reflection 6th December
Parish Christmas Dinner 9th December
Seniors Club Christmas Party16th December
Penitential Service.....18th December
Christmas Carol Service19.30 20th December



November The Month of the Holy Souls

We remember our deceased relatives and friends most especially during the month of November. Their names are placed on the altar and included in all the masses during the Month of the Holy Souls.

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen*

Christian Initiation

If anyone would like to be received into the Catholic Church they should make themselves known to Father Alex as soon as possible. Classes have started but it is not too late to join.

Parish Christmas Dinner

Our Parish Christmas Dinner will take place at 19.30 on Saturday 9th December in the Corry Hall. Tickets are available after masses at £12.50. There will be a bar, raffle and entertainment. Donations of good quality items for the raffle would be appreciated.

Christmas Carol Service

We will be holding our Christmas Carol Service at 19.30 on Wednesday 20th December. It will be a traditional service of lessons and carols and we will be publicising it widely. The Mayor of Wandsworth hopes to be present. Please make an effort to attend and begin the Christmas Season in the right spirit. There will be mince pies in the Corry Hall afterwards.

**Life is like an onion;
you peel off one layer at a time
and sometimes you weep**

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £476, Bankers Orders £384

Upcoming Second Collections

26th November: Catholic Youth Work.

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: E Chavez, R Martella n/w M Harrison, L Northeast

Readers: Sat: R & S Jackson Sun: A. Burnett, T Greetham, E Lueth n/w Sat: E & N Falcone, C Kawesi Sun: G Donaldson, L Brown, L Northeast

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat: M & S Lee, Sun: G D'Monte, V Chima, S Palmer, A Kilcawley, R McMullan n/w Sat: E Falcone, D McGavin Sun: D Lyons, E Sinclair, L Delos Santos, J Cato

Children's Liturgy: A Kilcawley, M Harrison, A Stacey n/w J & N Neligan, A Mann

Parent & Child Liturgy: n/w E Lueth

Flowers: A Robbins n/w L Northeast