

St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
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 Parish Office: 8.30-13.30 Monday to Friday



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4th February 2018

Everybody is looking for you

Mass Times

- 3rd Sat St Blaise**
 9.30 With blessing of Throats
 17.30 *Alfredo Vanotti* +
- 4th Sun Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Times**
 10.00 *Richard Nathanson Wellbeing*
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 5th Mon St Agatha**
 9.30 *Yardley Family Wellbeing*
- 6th Tue St Paul Miki & Companions**
 9.30 *Peter McGinley* +
- 7th Wed Feria**
 9.30
- 8th Thu St Josephine Bakhita**
 10.00 *Requiem for John Heraty* +
- 9th Fri Feria**
 9.30 *Manu Appiah* +
- 10th Sat St Scholastica**
 9.30
 17.30 (Vigil Mass) *Desmond Mooney* +
- 11th Sun Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Times**
 10.00 *Reynaldo L Delos Santos* +
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*

Confessions:

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

Sunday Readings: Year B **Weekday Readings:** Year 2

Cycle of Prayer Ordinary Time: Winter

Peace on Earth, Racial Justice, Christian Unity, Victims of Human Trafficking, The Sick and those who care for them, The Unemployed

Next Week's Liturgy Group: Mark

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest

St Josephine Bakhita

Born in 1869 in Sudan, Josephine Bakhita was kidnapped by slave traders at the age of seven. So terrified she could not even remember her own name, her kidnappers gave her the name 'Bakhita' which means 'fortunate' in Arabic.



She was sold and resold into slavery five different times and was tortured by her various owners who branded her, beat and cut her, suffering especially during her adolescent years. As a result, for the rest of her life she bore 144 physical scars on her body. Despite not knowing Christ or the redemptive nature of suffering, she bore her pain valiantly. Eventually she was purchased by the Italian consul, who later gave her to a friend of his family who brought her to Italy to be a nanny.

This was the first time she was not mistreated. While she was with the family she discovered the Crucified Christ through the gift of a small silver crucifix, given to her by the family's estate manager. She would later say that looking at it she felt something she could not explain.

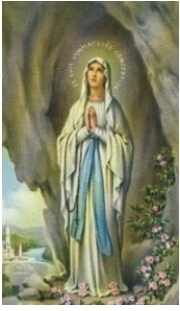
This was her first introduction to Jesus, whom she called 'The Good Master.' In 1888, when she was almost twenty years old, she and the daughter of the family were sent for a time to be guests at an institute run by the Canossian Sisters in Venice. There she began her journey of faith.

Soon after she was baptised and took the name Josephine Margaret. Desiring to dedicate her life to God, she won a legal battle to remain in Italy (though her master wanted her to return to Africa with him) and entered the Convent in 1896.

She dedicated the rest of her life to assisting her community and teaching others to love God, and she died on 8th February 1947. St. Josephine was beatified in 1992 and canonized in 2000 by St. John Paul II.

She is the first person to be canonized from Sudan and is the patron saint of the country as well as the patron saint of all victims of human trafficking.

Father Alex



Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes normally falls on 11th February but this year, since that day is a Sunday, we will celebrate the feast on Monday 12th. This is also the World Day of Prayer for the Sick and so we will offer the Sacrament of the Sick after 9.30 mass that day.

Nothing is so healing as the human touch

First Communion

First Communion classes take place today in the Corry Hall after the Sunday 10.00 mass.

Cake Sale

Cake and Jam Sale in the atrium and Priests House after Sunday morning Mass where Coffee and Tea will also be served.

Young Adults

There will be a Wine and Cheese Evening for Young Adults 19.30 in the Corry Hall on Thursday 22nd February. Theme of the discussion: Effective Communications.

Confirmation

Unfortunately, due to lack of applications this year we will be asking the Bishop to postpone the Sacrament of Confirmation until 2019.

Catholic History Walks

For King and Country! Sunday 4th February 15.00 Catholics & Politics: More, Fawkes, Pugin, Parliament and Abbey. Meet on steps of Westminster Cathedral.

Lift up your heads, O Gates! Monday 12th February, 14.00. Explore the Catholic aspects of Square Mile. Precious Blood Church, Southwark. SE1 1TA.

Cleaners

We need more volunteers to help with cleaning the Church. The time can be arranged to suit yourself.

Lenten Reflection

Judy Carlisle will lead a Lenten Reflection at 19.45 on Monday 26th and again after Mass on Wednesday 28th February.

The best men are only men at best

Upcoming Dates

Sacrament of the Sick..... 12th February
Wandsworth Deanery Meeting..... 13th February
Ash Wednesday 14th February
Seniors Clubs..... 14th February
You Adults Wine & Cheese.....19.30 22nd February
Marriage Preparation Course..... 24th February
Lenten Reflections 26th & 28th February
Parish Council 6th March
Parish Council 5th June



Lenten Retreat

by Fr Gerard Bradley

Tuesday 20th February

Beginning the Journey to Easter

Tuesday 27th February

The Person of Jesus Christ

Tuesday 6th March

Being a Disciple of Jesus

Tuesday 13th March

The Passion and Death of Jesus

Tuesday 20th March

Finding His Presence in all things

19:30 @ JTB Catholic Church, Purley

Funerals

Helen O'Donnell: funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium at 12.15 on Wednesday 7th February.

John Heraty of Santos Road: funeral at 10.00 on Thursday 8th February, burial follows at Putney Vale.

Those who think it is permissible to tell white lies soon grow colour-blind

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £451.70, Bankers Orders £384

Upcoming Second Collections

11th February Poor Parishes, Sunday 18th February Church Maintenance Fund, 25th February CAFOD Family Fast Day.

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: F Azevado, M Figueiredo n/w E Chavez. R Martella

Readers: Sat: C Wilkins, I Smith Sun: G Fayers, C McCarthy, n/w Sat: R & S Jackson Sun: A Burnett, T Greetham, A Kane Blanes

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat: D McGavin, K Dolan Sun: G Donaldson, W Gallagher, R Kuleke, D Lyons n/w Sat: M & S Lee Sun: G D'Monte, V Chima, S Palmer, A Kilcawley, R McMullan

Little Church: A Kane Blanes, C Webb n/w A Kilcawley, M Harrison, A Stacey

Tiny Church: J. Bronicka Anderson n/w E Lueth

Flowers: L Northeast n/w A Robbins

Royal Hospital: Sr Pauline n/w C Kawesi