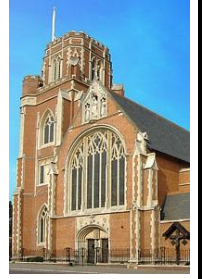


St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

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



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11th February 2018

Be cured

Mass Times

- 10th Sat Feria**
 9.30 *Aaron Jackson Wellbeing*
 17.30 *Desmond Mooney+*
- 11th Sun Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 10.00 *Reynaldo L Delos Santos+*
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 12th Mon Our Lady of Lourdes**
 9.30 With the Sacrament of the Sick
Peter Foster+
- 13th Tue Feria**
 9.30 *Peter McGinley +*
- 14th Wed Ash Wednesday
 (with distribution of ashes)**
 9.30 *Bill Gallagher Wellbeing*
 19.00
- 15th Thu Feria**
 9.30 *Tess Keaney +*
- 16th Fri Feria**
 9.30 Regina & Nwodo family Thanksgiving
- 17th Sat St Scholastica**
 9.30 *John Heraty +*
 17.30 (Vigil Mass) Paul & Julius Mabira Sick
- 18th Sun First Sunday of Lent**
 10.00 *Peter McGinley +*
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*



What is Lent?

A few years ago, it used to be fashionable in certain circles to greet people by saying, "Have a happy Lent!" This was not something I ever liked very much, because I think that it made the penitential season of Lent sound just like Easter, which really is the proper liturgical season for rejoicing.

But I suppose that greeting found its origin in the Preface for the First Sunday of Lent which used to say, 'each year you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery with mind and hearts renewed.' However, the new translation of the mass puts it a bit more accurately: 'each year your faithful await the sacred paschal feasts with the joy of minds made pure.'

This makes things much clearer, it stresses that Lent is principally a time of purification. So, it is not the season that is joyful but the fact that it leads us to purify our lives. The joy that is referred to is more like serenity than pleasure. It is the serenity that comes from having kept a good Lent, having borne the hardships of penance and fasting and having put quite a bit of extra effort into our prayer lives.

We need to be attentive to the fact that the liturgy has various moods with specific emphases for each liturgical season. The same applies to the mass which is why we shouldn't use exactly the same music for the Kyrie, the Sanctus and the Agnus Dei. They each need different tunes or emphasis to express the very different emotions of sorrow, praise and profound devotion.

Lent may be a penitential season, but that does not make it a miserable season. There is joy in it but it is a sober joy, a restrained serenity that comes from being faithful to the traditional Lenten penances which are undertaken to unite ourselves to the sufferings of Jesus. It is a sorrowful season but our sadness is moderated by the knowledge that Christ has won the victory and paid the price of our redemption.

Father Alex

Confessions:

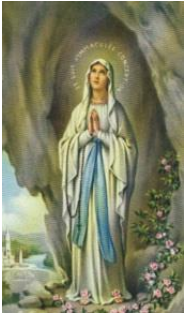
Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

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

Cycle of Prayer Lent: Candidates for the Sacraments, Needy and Hungry of the World, Women, Penitents and Wanderers

Next Week's Liturgy Group: Luke

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest



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. The Sacrament of the Sick will also be offered at the Royal Hospital on Sunday 11th after the 15.00 mass.

All cruelty springs from weakness

Seneca

First Communion

No First Communion classes this week and next due to half-term. Coffee and Tea in the Corry Hall.

Young Adults

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

Ash Wednesday

There will be an additional mass on Ash Wednesday at 19.00. Please remember that Ash Wednesday is a Day of Fasting and Abstinence from meat.

Lenten Reflection

Judy Carlisle will lead a Lenten Reflection after Mass on Wednesday 21st February (note date change) and also at 19.45 on Monday 26th in the Corry Hall.

Confirmation

Due to lack of applications we have postponed the Sacrament of Confirmation until next year.

Catholic History Walks

Lift up your heads, O Gates! Monday 12th February, 14.00. Explore the Square Mile, from its origins as a Catholic capital and then to the Reformation and beyond. Precious Blood Church, Southwark SE1 1TA.

Newsletter by E-mail

If you wish to receive the parish newsletter by e-mail please inform becket.westhill@btinternet.com

Cake Sale

Many thanks to all who supported the Cake Sale last Sunday which raised £175 for parish funds.

Never forget that only dead fish swim with the stream

Malcolm Muggeridge

Upcoming Dates

Sacrament of the Sick..... 12th February
 Wandsworth Deanery Meeting..... 13th February
 Ash Wednesday 14th February
 Seniors Club 14th February
 Young Adults Wine & Cheese ..19.30 22nd February
 Marriage Preparation Course..... 24th 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

People with tact have less to retract

Website

The parish website has been relaunched; check it out at www.stthomasabecketchurch.co.uk.

Floodlighting

The Church floodlighting which was installed by Wandsworth Council for the Millennium has been out of action for some time. This week the fittings were replaced with new LED lights and the flood-lighting is now operational from dusk to midnight. It is a great enhancement to our beautiful Church building.

First Communion Outfits

If you have an old First Communion dress or suit in the back of a cupboard that you would like to donate to another family please drop it in to the Sacristy.

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £478.89, Bankers Orders £384

Upcoming Second Collections

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

Rotas

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

Readers: Sat: R & S Jackson Sun: A. Burnett, T Greetham, A. Kane Blanes 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, C Kawesi Sun: D Lyons, E Sinclair, L Delos Santos, J Cato

Flowers: A Robbins n/w Violet Barkho

Royal Hospital: C Kawesi n/w Sr Pauline