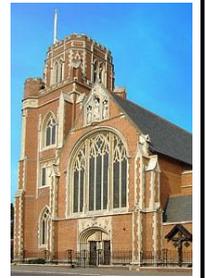




St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

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



Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

25th August 2019

The last shall be first and the first last

Mass Times

24th Sat	St Bartholomew
9.30	No Mass Confessions before or after 5.30 mass
17.30	Rene Aurelio Sauchelli +
25th Sun	Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
10.00	Antonia Ntanga Wellbeing
15.00	(Royal Hospital) <i>People of the Parish</i>
26th Mon	Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God
9.15	Zia Isaac & Jwana Suliman +
27th Tue	St Monica
9.15	Lilly Krauss +
28th Wed	St Augustine
9.15	Mervyn Lee Wellbeing
29th Thu	The Passion of St John the Baptist
9.15	Tim Nolan +
30th Fri	SS Margaret Clitheroe, Anne Line & Margaret Ward
9.15	John Dolan +
31st Sat	Feria
9.30	No Mass Confessions before or after 5.30 mass
17.30	Teresa Malervy +
1st Sun	Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
10.00	Irene Dionisio +
15.00	(Royal Hospital) <i>People of the Parish</i>

Confessions:

During August before or after Saturday 5.30 mass

Sunday Readings: Year C **Weekday Readings:** Year 1

Cycle of Prayer, Summer:

Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews,
Those who Suffer Persecution, Oppression, and Denial of
Human Rights, Europe, Human Life, Seafarers

Next Week's Liturgy Group: Luke

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest

SS Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward

The three martyrs we commemorate on 30th August are numbered amongst the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales, who suffered death for the Catholic faith. These three women were all martyred because they protected Catholic priests from the Elizabethan authorities, who were seeking out all Catholic priests for execution. During this dark time in history, it was illegal for priests to be in the country, as it was illegal for a Catholic to receive the Sacraments of the Church.

St Margaret Clitherow was a convert to the faith at the age of eighteen. Although her husband was not a Catholic, he supported her in the practice of her faith, along with their son Henry, who was studying for the priesthood. She welcomed priests into their home for the celebration of Mass, and in 1586 she was arrested for giving shelter to a priest. She was condemned to the horrifying death of being slowly crushed to death, being made to lay upon a sharp stone with a door placed upon her while nearly eight hundred pounds of stone were gradually added on top of the door. This took place on Good Friday in 1586. She died with the name of Jesus upon her lips.

St Anne Line was also a convert, and was completely disowned by her family. In 1586 she married a man who was also a convert, but who was soon exiled, leaving Anne by herself. She managed two 'safe houses' where travelling priests could hide, but was arrested on 2nd February 1601, when she assisted a priest in escaping arrest. When brought to court, she fully admitted what she had done, and told the judge that her only regret was that she had not helped more priests. St Anne Line was hung in London, and before her death she again admitted her guilt but said that she wished she could have done it a thousand times.

St Margaret Ward was an unmarried woman who helped a priest escape from the prison by smuggling him a length of rope so he could lower himself over the prison wall. She was eventually accused of giving assistance to the priest because it was known that she was the last person to have visited him and so must have given him the rope. She was bound by chains, hung up by her hands, and was brutally scourged, as the authorities demanded to know where the priest had gone. She steadfastly refused, and was hung publicly in London on 30th August 1588.

Although these three martyrs were canonized in 1970 among the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales, they are commemorated on a separate day because of the particular reason for their deaths; namely, their deep respect for the priesthood, and their zealous protection of priests.

Holiday Arrangements

Father Alex is away on holiday during August. Please note that there will be no mass on Saturday mornings during August. Confessions will be before or after mass on Saturday nights. Father Louis Kouevi from St Joseph's, Roehampton will be covering while Father Alex is away.

Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need but not every man's greed
Gandhi

Mass Intentions

If you would like us to offer mass for a particular intention please take a small envelope from the back of the Church, print the name of the intention clearly, to prevent any misunderstanding, and put it through the letterbox. A donation can be included. Mass cards are available for you to use if necessary. We will publish the names of the mass intentions in the newsletter. If you wish to have the mass offered on a special date please indicate this on the envelope.

Organ

Our organ specialist and tuner has informed us that the organ in our Church needs some important repairs. Apparently, the organ was completely overhauled in the 1990's but the work was very poorly done and the firm that did it went out of business shortly after. It is a splendid instrument but we are being told that it desperately needs work to be done in the near future. We don't have an estimated cost at this stage but it is thought to be around £15,000. Parts will need to be taken away to a workshop for overhaul and our consultant, Donald McKenzie, will oversee the work to ensure it is done to a high standard. We will need to take up a series of second collections to help fund these unexpected expenses. Also, we ought to make fundraising events for the organ a priority in the coming year or so. We will start by taking up second collections on a monthly basis. The organ certainly enhances the liturgy and we need to keep our marvellous organ in first class condition. Thank you for your support in this matter.

School Forms

If you require Father Alex to countersign school forms in the next few months he will need to have evidence that you attend mass regularly. Please sign the form on the table at the back of the Church each weekend to demonstrate your attendance.

**I'm only a spark, make me a fire,
I'm only a string, make me a lyre**

Forthcoming Dates

Parish Council17th September
Parish Council26th November

Going to University this Autumn?

Each University and Higher Education Institute in the country has a dedicated Catholic Chaplain based either in the University or in the parish.



The Catholic Chaplaincy is a place for you to explore your faith, to meet people with similar interests from a great range of backgrounds, and to get involved in activities and social outreach.

If you already have a strong faith, this is a chance to deepen it. If you are full of questions and doubts, this is a chance to share them and search for some honest answers about life and faith. Everyone is welcome. For addresses see the special website www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk



Movie Show

There will be a movie show called 'Ladies in Lavender' this **Wednesday 28th August at 10.30** in the Corry Hall. It is organised by David Davies. Seniors and any others are most welcome.

**Teach me my God and King
In all things thee to see;
And what I do in anything
To do it as for thee**

George Herbert 1593-1632

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £354 Bankers Orders £384

Upcoming Second Collections

Organ Fund 1st September, Catholic Education Service 8th September, Home Missions 15th September, Organ Fund 29th September

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: Resumes September

Readers: Sat: R & S Jackson, M Slade Sun: A Burnett, T Greetham, A. Kane Blanes n/w Sat: E & N Falcone, E De Souza, Sun: G Donaldson, L Brown, L Northeast

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

Royal Hospital: C Kawesi n/w A Vanotti, M Lewis

Maintenance Team: 11.00 Saturday 14th September