

## BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE COURSE

As part of the preparation for the 2025 Jubilee year, the Southwark Marriage and Family Team will be running a *Building a Better Marriage Course* throughout the Archdiocese from February 2024. The one day course is for married couples (however long they have been married). It seeks to help husbands and wives to make their marriage better and to improve their communication skills. There is no group sharing and private information remains private to each couple. Couples who have attended previously have found it enjoyable, informative, and uplifting. For more information contact the Marriage and Family Life team through the Archdiocese of Southwark website: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life>

## VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN (20S & 30S), 16-18 FEBRUARY 2024

### Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life

This weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) in Liverpool. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more, come along and stay for the weekend or just for the day on Saturday. For more information, contact Sr Lynne fcj at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

**THE MEDJUGORJE APOSTOLATE ANNUAL RETREAT** has been re-established and will take place from **Friday 23 to Sunday 25 February 2024** at the Kairos Centre, Roehampton, London. The retreat will be residential but there are places for non-residents. For more information and to book please contact Paul Spencer at [pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com](mailto:pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com) or on 07710567183.

## VACANCY FOR PAID PART-TIME PARISH ADMINISTRATOR— ST CHRISTOPHER'S, CHEAM

A job description, setting out the key accountabilities of the role, together with the competencies and personal qualities required, can be found on our parish website: <https://www.stchristopherscheam.com/feed>

## ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK & CO MAYO—3 MARCH 2024

£899.00 pps (single supplement on enquiry), includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast, lunch on 3 days, all entertainment, excursions and transport. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)

# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST CHRISTOPHER

Dallas Road, Cheam SM3 8RS

**Parish Priest: Fr Antony James**

**Presbytery:** 020 8642 2088

**Parish Office:**

[cheam@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:cheam@rcaos.org.uk)

Opening hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm

**St Helier Hospital Chaplain:**

Fr Philip Pak 07591 596656



**Parish Website:**

[www.stchristopherscheam.com](http://www.stchristopherscheam.com)

**Deanery Website:**

[www.suttondeanery.weebly.com](http://www.suttondeanery.weebly.com)

**Diocesan Website:**

[www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk)

# NEWSLETTER

14 January 2024

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

USUAL <u>MASS TIMES:</u>	<b>SATURDAY (VIGIL MASS)</b>	<b>6.00 PM</b>
	<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>10.00 AM &amp; 12.00 NOON</b>
	<b>MON, TUE, THU &amp; FRI</b>	<b>10.00 AM</b>
SYRO-MALABAR EASTERN RITE LITURGICAL SERVICE:	SUNDAY	2.00 PM—7.00 PM
<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:</b>	<b>SATURDAY WEEKDAYS</b>	<b>10.30—11.00 AM &amp; 5.00—5.45 PM BEFORE 10.00 AM MASS</b>
<b><u>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:</u></b>	<b>MON, TUE, THU &amp; FRI</b>	<b>9.00 AM</b>

## CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE

All parishioners are invited to this ecumenical service which will be held here at St Christopher's on **Tuesday 23 January 2024 at 7.00 pm**.

**Parish Office Phone:** A new phone line has been installed but we are now waiting for the old number to be restored.

**SAFEGUARDING:** It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased. If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. Further safeguarding information can be found on the parish website. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are: Kim O'Brien (07711 757399) & Angela Pitcher (07818 516321).

**14 January 2024**      **SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)**

Sat 13	6.00 pm	Eileen Pugh RIP
Sun 14	10.00 am	People of the Parish
	12.00 noon	Vincent O'Byrne RIP Anniversary
Mon 15	10.00 am	Thomas Prendergast RIP
Tue 16	10.00 am	Deceased Members of McCormack Family
Thu 18	10.00 am	May Fagan's Intentions
Fri 19	10.00 am	Breda Kirwin RIP

**21 January 2024**      **THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)**

Sat 20	6.00 pm	People of the Parish
Sun 21	10.00 am	Pat Weller RIP
	12.00 noon	Mimi Watts RIP

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH** and remember their carers in your prayers, especially during the Christmas period. Communion is taken to the sick in the parish on request.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 9.00 am before the weekday Mass. It is an opportunity for silent prayer. Come and find sanctuary and peace amidst the business of life.

**ARE YOU CELEBRATING A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY?**

Please let Father Antony know if you are celebrating a special birthday or anniversary and you will then be remembered in prayers at Mass.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who continues to support the parish through the collections, standing orders, Gift Aid and online donations.

**PEACE SUNDAY 2024—14 JANUARY**

Every year on the second Sunday in Ordinary Time, **Pax Christi** promotes Peace Sunday with the support of the International Affairs Department of the Bishops' Conference, England and Wales. The theme for Peace Sunday is Pope Francis' theme for the World Day of Peace - 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'. Pope Francis' overriding concern is that artificial intelligence should be used in the service of humanity and the protection of our common home and not to further injustice and inequality or to fuel division and violent conflict. Peace Sunday is also an important opportunity for Pax Christi to raise funds. To make a donation online: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/about-us/support-us/donation/> or send a cheque payable to Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London NW4 4TY.

**10.00 AM MASS THIS SUNDAY:**

**No music** today. Choir rehearsals are held most Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm. New singers and musicians are very welcome.

**No Children's Liturgy** today.

**Refreshments** will be served in the hall after Mass today. All are welcome.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024**

Registration forms for children in Primary School Year 3 (or above) are available from the sacristy and from the parish website <https://www.stchristopherscheam.com/sacraments>

Classes start in March and First Holy Communion will be celebrated on the weekend of 22/23 June 2024.

**Please note that the closing date for registration is 31 January 2024.**

**CHURCH UNITY OCTAVE & CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICES**

From this Thursday 18 January the Church observes eight days' prayer for Christian Unity. **Everyone is invited to a short ecumenical service which will be held here at St Christopher's on Tuesday 23 January at 7.00 pm.**

Parishioners are also invited to join Sutton and Cheam Churches Together on **Sunday 21 January at 4.30pm** for a service to mark the Church Unity Octave at the Sutton Christian Centre, 25 Tate Road, Sutton SM1 2SY.

**SATURDAY SOCIAL CIRCLE**

The Circle (for those who live alone) will be meeting on **Saturday 20 January at 2.00 pm** in the parish hall. We will be holding a Quiz.

**DAY OF RENEWAL AND HEALING—SATURDAY 27 JANUARY 2024**

The All Nations Catholic Charismatic Group (ANCCG) invite parishioners to a Day of Renewal and Healing at Our Lady of Annunciation, Addiscombe, Croydon from 10am to 4pm. The programme will start with the Eucharistic Celebration, followed by Word of God, Holy Wounds Novena, Rosary, healing prayer, Adoration, Confession and Praise and Worship.

**RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY—28 JANUARY 2024**

The Racial and Cultural Inclusion Commission invite you to a Mass to celebrate Racial Justice Sunday with Archbishop John Wilson at 10.00 am at St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7HY. Those attending are encouraged to wear cultural dress and bring a flag of their country of origin if they wish. Everyone is kindly requested to be seated at least 15 minutes before the start of Mass at 10.00 am. Light refreshments will be served in Amigo Hall after Mass.