

CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES (CCRS)

If you are interested in learning more about the CCRS qualification, please visit aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs for further information, or contact ccrs@rcaos.org.uk

COULD YOU BE A FRIEND TO SOMEONE FROM HONG KONG?

Did you know that 4,000 Hong Kongers have settled in Sutton over the last 2 years and some have joined our parishes and children are attending our schools? Volunteer Centre Sutton is looking for volunteers to be a 'buddy' to show someone around local places, meet for a chat, make them feel at home. Commitment to this scheme is only 12 weeks and training is available on **Tuesday 9 January 2024 10 -11.30 am** at Volunteer Centre, Sutton, 216 -220 High Street, Sutton SM1 1NU. Check vcsutton.org.uk for more information. CARITAS Southwark encourages support for families from Hong Kong.

Jackie McLoughlin, Sutton Deanery Refugee Community Sponsorship Group/CARITAS Southwark Refugee & Migrant Group

MEDJUGORJE APOSTOLATE ANNUAL RETREAT

This 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 although there are places for non-residents. For more information and to book please contact Paul Spencer at pilgrimsofmary@hotmail.com or on 07710567183.

ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK & CO MAYO—3 MARCH 2025

£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.

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).

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST CHRISTOPHER

Dallas Road, Cheam SM3 8RS

Parish Priest: Fr Antony James

Presbytery: 020 8642 2088

Parish Office: Phone out of order
cheam@rcaos.org.uk
Opening hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm

St Helier Hospital Chaplain:
Fr Philip Pak 07591 596656



Parish Website:
www.stchristopherscheam.com

Deanery Website:
www.suttondeanery.weebly.com

Diocesan Website:
www.rcsouthwark.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

31 December 2023

THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH (B)

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



NOTICES:

Parish Office Phone: The line is still out of order. We are waiting for Openreach to install a new line.

Church Heating: Please do not change the settings of the individual thermostatic valves on the radiators in the church. Thank you.

Car Park: Please avoid leaving cars in the church car park on Sunday afternoons and overnight. Thank you.

31 December 2023 **THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH**

Sat	30	6.00 pm	Brian Le-Boeuf RIP Anniversary
Sun	31	10.00 am	People of the Parish
		12.00 noon	Rachel Kearney RIP
Mon	1	10.00 am	MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, Solemnity Jimmy McGrath RIP
Tue	2	10.00 am	Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church, Memorial Annie, Johnny, John & Norah Vaughan RIP
Thu	4	10.00 am	The Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese, Memorial Sean Kennedy RIP Anniversary
Fri	5	10.00 am	Rose Nasser RIP & Imogen Nadir RIP

7 January 2024 **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

Sat	6	6.00 pm	Claire Rutherford RIP Anniversary
Sun	7	10.00 am	People of the Parish
		12.00 noon	In Thanksgiving—Edmund & Indira Louis

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.

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.

We are most grateful to all those who have switched their weekly offerings from cash to monthly standing orders or bank transfers.

For the parish bank details go to www.stchristopherscheam.com and click on Info—Financial Support, and if you are a taxpayer, please consider joining the Gift Aid scheme (information is available from the parish office).

10.00 AM MASS THIS SUNDAY:

Sung Mass today. Choir rehearsals are held most Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm. New singers and musicians are very welcome.

No refreshments after Mass this Sunday or next as the coffee helpers are taking a break.

HOW CAN I HELP MY PARISH?

Thank you to those who completed forms volunteering to get involved in a parish ministry or activity. You will be contacted in the near future by a representative of the ministry or activity in which you have expressed an interest. Your support is warmly welcomed and much appreciated.

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>

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on the weekend of 22/23 June 2023.

SAVE THE DATES: CHURCH UNITY OCTAVE & CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICES

From **18 to 25 January 2024** the Church observes eight days' prayer for Christian Unity. **A short ecumenical service will be held here at St Christopher's on Tuesday 23 January at 7.00 pm.**

You 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.

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 (whether married for one year, 60 years or anywhere in between). 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>

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Newcomers to the parish are always very welcome and are invited to take an 'Are you new to our Parish?' leaflet from the front entrance of the church and complete and return the enclosed form.