NOTICE BOARD

Would you like to join our team of cleaners and help keep the Lord’s House in order? The commitment is only an hour every five weeks, at a time that suits you. If you would like to serve in this way please contact the office. Thank you!

Ignite Teenage Retreats at Worth Abbey: 6-8 December for school years 7-9. A spirit-filled retreat for young people who want to spend some quality time exploring what their faith means to them. Run by an incredibly experienced team in collaboration with The Wellspring Community. Age range is flexible. For more info email toc@worth.org.uk

Click-to-pray app: The Jesuits in the UK have produced this very useful app which you can use to download a daily reflection for use in your prayer life. It is especially helpful for commuters. You can find it on www.clicktopray.org.

Hospital Admissions: Many hospitals no longer inform the chaplain of your presence unless a specific request is made by either patient or family. You need to make it clear on admission that you wish the chaplain to visit. Likewise, if you are readmitted - since previous statements of patient needs will not automatically be passed on. If you are going in hospital as a 'Planned Admission' please contact Fr Rob to celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick beforehand: it’s a prayer for healing, not the ‘Last Rites’!

REGULAR GROUPS


Catholic Grandparents’ Association: Meet on the first Thursday of each month for friendship, reflection and prayer after morning Mass. Next meeting Thursday 5 December. New members very welcome.

Friends & Faith: A group for women of all ages, meeting on the last Thurs of the month. Come along, and bring a friend. Next meeting 28 November at 8pm.

Please pray for our sick: Including Elizabeth Broadbent, Marie Dubey and Liz Amos.

Last Week’s Collection: Offertory £774.85; Cafod: £20.62; Standing Orders for October £7365.00

Deadline for submitting Newsletter items is Wednesday a.m. Email items to newsletter@olchurch.org.uk
Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust Registered charity: 252878.

OUR PARISH
Parish Priest: Fr Rob Esdaile
The Presbytery
Hampton Court Way
Surrey, KT7 0LP
020 8398 6127
priest@olchurch.org.uk

Parish Office: Mon to Fri, 10am-1pm
020 8398 2191
office@olchurch.org.uk

Times of Mass:
Mon-Fri morning prayer 9.15am, Mass 9.30am.
Sat morning prayer 9.15am. Holydays of obligation: Mass at 9.30am & 8pm.
Confessions 9.30am Saturday in church, or by appointment

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
A Fair Trade Parish

KEEP CALM & CRACK ON!

There was an advert for a news magazine a few years ago which featured what looked like a street mugging, with someone sprinting up and throwing an old lady to the floor. But then, when you’d registered what looked like a crime, a second camera angle revealed that the 'assailant' was actually saving her from being crushed by a falling weight. The point was: check your perspective before you judge.

That advice applies to this Sunday’s second reading (2 Thess 3.7-12) – and to every scripture text, for that matter. On first hearing, Paul’s instruction “not to let anyone have any food if they refused to do any work” sounds like a particularly hard-line approach to welfare and benefits policy. But that isn’t what Paul is talking about at all. It seems that some church-members, convinced that the end of the world is at hand, have just downed tools to wait for their heavenly reward.

Paul’s reply asks them to calm down and crack on, continuing “quietly working.” The Gospel doesn’t withdraw any of us from the hurly-burly of existence. Rather, it is in the humdrum and the everyday that we are to work together to seek God’s Kingdom and justice for the poor.

- Fr. Rob

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat
6pm
People of the Parish

Sun
9am
Decd. Membs. Of the Crieve Family
10.45am
Decd. Membs. of the Donovan & O’Brien Families

Mon
9.30am
Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion

Tue
8.30am
Decd. Membs. of the Roney Rosario Family

Wed
9.30am
Michael Wilkins RIP

Thu
9.30am
Decd. Membs. of the Naman Family

Fri
8.45am
Decd. Membs. of the Touma Family

Sat
6pm
People of the Parish

Sun
9am
Ronan Child RIP
10.45am
Stafford Fernando RIP
A Big Thank You to everyone who organised or took part in the Parish Craft Fair this Saturday. We now look forward to the (sold out!) parish Winter Carnival next Saturday.

Congratulations and welcome to Jonathan Asbury, whose baptism is celebrated this Sunday, and to his family.

On Tuesday Alpha continues (9-10.30). Please continue to pray for group members.

Liturgy of Remembrance: There is a parish Remembrance Service this Tuesday at 7.30pm for anyone who has suffered bereavement at any time. We hold them before the Lord in prayer.

The month of the Holy Souls: Throughout November a basket is placed at the foot of the altar containing the names of loved ones, and we shall endeavour to keep the church open until dusk – with an invitation to pop in and light a candle in remembrance of a loved one or simply to take a moment to sit in silent prayer. As Pope Francis has written: “The Church is called to be the house of the Father, with doors always open wide. One concrete sign of such openness is that our church doors should always be open, so that if someone, moved by the Spirit, comes there looking for God, he or she will not find a closed door.” (The Joy Of The Gospel n.47). Mass envelopes are in the narthex if you’d like a mass said for a deceased relative or friend.

Red Wednesday: On 27 November Aid to the Church in Need invites people of all faiths to come together in solidarity with Christians and others who are oppressed, forced from their homes, excluded from education or work and often killed just because of their faith. A torchlit procession will leave Trafalgar Square at 6.15pm and walk to Westminster Cathedral for a service at 6.30pm and a reception. For details, see www.acnuk.org / contact catherine.crowson@acnuk.org

From Thursday, November 28 until Saturday, November 30 the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham from the ‘Slipper Chapel’ (the Catholic Shrine in what has been called ‘England’s Nazareth’ in Norfolk) will be visiting Arundel Cathedral, as part of a tour of every diocese in England Wales. There is an accompanying exhibition, with talks and liturgies throughout the 48 hours, culminating in a solemn mass at 12.30pm on the Saturday. All are warmly invited. For details see www.downyour.org.uk.

Learning To Love God’s Word: In coming weeks we’ll offer a series of suggestions on how to prepare for the Year of the Word, which begins on 1st December. Do you remember the readings you had at your wedding, your confirmation, your first communion, even your baptism (or, more probably, your child’s baptism). Those Scripture texts have become part of your story. Return to them from time to time in your prayer. How did they speak to you then? How do they speak to you now?

An Invaded Life is the title of Fr. Rob’s new book of poems, on sale in the narthex priced £6 – or (while stocks last) £10 together with the last copies of its two predecessors, Renew, Refresh, Rejoice and Yes, Thanks!

Save the Date: On Tuesday, November 26, at 7.30pm we are hosting a ‘Hustings’ on behalf of Churches Together In The Dittons to allow voters to hear from and question the local candidates for the General Election. All are welcome.

Welcomers 23/24 Nov: 6pm S. Rawsthorne, 9am E. Weeldon, 10.45 L. Perera

Unfortunately, our Poppy Appeal collecting box was taken from the Narthex during 9am mass last Sunday. If you saw anything suspicious, please contact the office.

Parish Appeal 2019-20: Last weekend we launched our Parish Appeal to raise funds for ElmbridgeCAN (www.elmbridgecan.org.uk) and the parish (split 50:50). ElmbridgeCAN aims to build a culture of welcome to refugees within our local community, work to achieve the settlement of more refugees and support them in rebuilding their lives. If you would like to donate direct please do so using this dedicated online giving link: https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/11444 so that the value of your donation (but not who gave it) can be included in our Parish Appeal fundraising totals. If you would prefer to make a non-financial contribution there are many volunteering opportunities. See www.elmbridgecan.org.uk/volunteer.html for details. Thank you for your support of all the fundraising activities and events that will be run during the Parish Appeal.

Live Simply: As we work toward a Cafod ‘Live Simply Award’, as an Advent exercise this year we will show and discuss two films produced on behalf of our Bishops: ‘Global Healing’ and ‘Global Caring: Living In Harmony With God’s Creation’. The films focus on tackling environmental and climate-change issues in our homes and within our own parish community. The first will be shown this Thursday at 8pm, and the second on Thursday 5 December. They could be a good antidote to the madness of the secular pre-Christmas rush. Everyone is warmly invited to come along and join in the discussion.

Wall Hanging Fund-Raising Lunch: A huge effort by 20+ Parishioners has gone into producing the Blessed Sacrament Chapel wall hanging, which is now being blocked, stretched & framed. The second fund-raising three-course lunch will be held in the Hall on Wednesday, 27 November (suggested donation £20 per head). Sign up in the Narthex if you can come. Further details from chrismapieton@hotmail.com.

Parish Festive Teas: Sunday 8 December, 3-5pm. We have a lovely afternoon planned for our annual Festive Teas, an event valued by senior residents in our community. We need volunteer drivers to pick up and drop off guests, as well as people to help at the event itself which will be held in the Church Hall. If you are able to help at the event or provide lifts please contact Julie O’Brien (erinsmun08@yahoo.co.uk) Tel: 07747464441. Sign-up sheets are also in the narthex. Please add your name and contact number if you can help on the day or contribute by making sandwiches and/or cakes. Please support if you can and help us make this a special Festive event.

The OLOL Visiting Team is now one year old! We are holding a Review of the Year on Monday 25 November, 8-9pm in the St. Bernadette Room. So if you are interested in hearing what the Team has been doing, or you have ideas or suggestions about what you think it could be doing, please do come along to the meeting. Everyone will be very welcome. If you have any queries, please contact Catherine Dove on 07891 763861 or visitingteam@olchurch.org.uk.

The annual Songbirds’ Christmas singalong concert will be on Monday 23 December at 7pm. Put the date in your diaries! If you would like to purchase tickets now, email: leahc@number134.co.uk. Adults £10, under 18s free. Tickets will be sold in the church in December.