



St. Teresa's Morden

Canon Michael Scanlon, KHS Parish Priest

Fr Roshy Robert, Resident Priest

Pastoral Assistant: Deacon Con Diver

Parish e-mail address: morden@rcaos.org.uk

250, Bishopsford Road, Morden. SM4 6BZ. Tel. 8648 4113

<https://www.stcm.org.uk>



Please see the Mass Attendance [Protocols](#) below

CONFESSIONS AFTER ALL MASSES

Mass Times and Intentions-Year B:

Sunday 28th November – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9am People of the Parish
- 11am Allan Coombs RIP
Sheila Hanrahan RIP, 20th Anniv.

Monday 29th November

- 9.30am Rosary
- 10am Rev.Brendan Byrne RIP (FM)
Kevin McKeon's Intentions

Tuesday 30th November – Feast of St Andrew, Apostle & Patron Saint of Scotland

- 9.20am Funeral of Janina 'Jane' Neyman - N.E.Surrey Crematorium
- 9.30am Rosary
- 10am November Deceased List & The Holy Souls
Widows & Widowers

Wednesday 1st December

- 9.15am Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
- 10am John Duffy RIP
Mary & James Moorhead RIP
- 1.30pm Wedding of Roschany Edmund & Keerththanan

Thursday 2nd December

- 9.30am Rosary
- 10am Siobhan Conway RIP
Living & Deceased Members of the McDonagh Family

Friday 3rd December – FIRST FRIDAY - St Francis Xavier, Priest

- 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary
- 10am Sick & Housebound

Saturday 4th December – St. John of Damascus, Priest, Doctor

- 5.30pm Bea Miller RIP
Janarthanan Fernando RIP

Sunday 5th December – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Bible Sunday)

- 9am People of the Parish
- 11am Irene Ward RIP 1st Anniv.
John O'Leary RIP



St Teresa's School, Montacute Road, Morden.

Tel No 020 8648 1846

Headteacher; Mr Justin Dachtler.

Merton Catholic Deanery

www.mertoncatholics.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE:

Saint Teresa's Church is now OPEN to parishioners for morning Mass

Our Masses are also available online at

<https://www.stcm.org.uk/>

NOVEMBER DECEASED LIST – THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

We offer you the chance to hand in a list of names, family, friends, etc.

These names will be placed on the Sanctuary in front of the Altar with candles lit either side. They will be remembered in Holy Mass every day during the month of the Holy Souls. In our Prayers of Intercession, the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and periods of Adoration.

Listen graciously to the prayers of our Parish Family, in Your compassion, O merciful Father, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters and to all who were pleasing to You at their passing from this life, give kind admittance to Your Kingdom. We commend One and All to Your Divine Mercy.

Amen.

O LORD PLEASE HEAR OUR PRAYERS

For all who are on our Parish Sick List, for family and friends,

We pray for those who are unwell.

Those struck down by serious disease.

Those awaiting a diagnosis or operation.

Those receiving treatment for cancer.

Those with debilitating, chronic conditions.

And those with terminal illness.

From our Altar, from our hearts may we also send out our blessing to all who are unwell at home in our Hospitals, Care Homes, Nursing Homes and those in Hospice care. Amen

We pray for those who are Sick and Housebound remembering especially:



Anne-Marie Mendonça, Theresa Mason, Moira Macklin, Maureen Smith, Maureen Flaherty,
John McDonagh, James Diver, Francesco Gargano, Theresa McGoldrick, Patricia Jayasena,
Jean Lue, Ruba Santipillai, Baby Alexander Lynch, Erika Geddes, Denise Waaldijk, Valerie Somerset,
Leonard James Connolly, Thea Haddad, Margaret Lahy, Brian Wratten, Ann Van Essen and Jane
Turner, Kevin Mooney, John Mooney, Angela Patcheye, Leonard Paice, Ken and Margaret
Peacock, Michael and Madge Durkan, Jocyln De Silva, Mary Jeanette Connaire, Mary Reilly, Alan

O'Leary, Bill and June O'Keefe, Gerry Gillan, Bella Harding, Eileen Stevens, Dave Herris, Gabriel Lyons, Sylvester Forya, Anna Urbni, Tony London, Kevin McKeon, Vincent Moyle, John Antao, Stella Carrasco, Gerald Pereira, Fiona Beagan, Pope Francis and Pope Benedict, Pope Emeritus.

My Lord, hear our prayers for all those who are sick in hospital, hospices and care homes.
May they receive your special blessing.

*If you wish to be prayed for on our Parish Sick List, please let us have your name.
Every First Friday we offer and remember you in Holy Mass. We also keep you in our daily prayer, our times
of Adoration, Novena's and the Holy Rosary.*

PLEASE continue to remember the Sick Clergy of the diocese and send out your blessing in prayer to all the Nations of the World, as they do their best to combat the pandemic and natural disasters that many nations are battling with at this time. THANK YOU!



RECENT DEATHS

Now At Rest And Kept In Prayer

Avril Jean Costella RIP
Shirley Johnson RIP
Dermot Peter Long RIP
Lourdes Mary Fatima
Irene Ward RIP
Sarah Marie Frost RIP
Veronica Gorrod RIP
Finbarr Francis Hurley RIP
Lolito Laydia RIP
Michael O'Kelly RIP
Newton Coutinho RIP
Anna Darby RIP
Mary Creighan RIP
Michael Joseph Nihill RIP
Gerald O'Toole RIP
Sarah Hedy Connolly RIP
Sotelo Cabrera RIP
Noel Ryan, RIP
Michael Scott RIP
Anna-Maria Fantocchi RIP
Giovanni Corsini RIP
Gerry Kirrane RIP
Gay Phillips RIP
Tony Byrnes RIP

Francis Assisi Mendonça RIP
Joseph Antony Quintus Rabindran RIP
Jayandradevi Rabindran RIP
Remo Dipre RIP
Alan Frederick Burridge RIP
Jonny Purvis RIP
Ann Donaldson RIP
Baby Angelika Hobbs RIP
Annie Francis RIP
Giovanni Mansini RIP
Joseph Lunn RIP
Norah Mary Williams RIP
Francisco José Carrasco RIP
Eva Sereny RIP
Steven Duggan RIP
Lena McBride RIP
Mary Whelan RIP
Mary Connolly RIP
Kevin Mattimoe RIP
Michael Bourke RIP
Dorothy Gertrude Cleary RIP
Frances Healion RIP
Douglas Banks RIP
Robert Peter RIP



Recent Southwark Diocese Clergy Deaths

Deacon William Boyd RIP
Deacon Jim Hayes RIP
Fr. Paul Sanders RIP
Canon Richard Hearn RIP
Fr. Richard Diala RIP
Fr. Michael Boland RIP
Fr. Robert Copsey SOLT RIP
May They Meet The Risen Lord

*Remind us Dear Lord, of the great company of your people who have been called before us,
famed or forgotten,
celebrated or overlooked,
all who have run their race and kept the faith, walking the way of Christ to their journeys end.
Hear our prayer and the prayer of our Rosaries for those whose anniversaries occur in the month of
October.*

FR. ROBERT ELLIS RIP



It is with sadness that we learn of the death of our former assistant priest Fr. Robert Ellis. In May 1991, Robert was appointed as an assistant priest at St Teresa's where in the words of Archbishop Michael Bowen "...he proved to be highly effective." This was to be Robert's final appointment as an assistant as in January 1995, Archbishop Michael wrote appointing him as parish priest of Our Lady Immaculate, Surrey Docks. In his letter to Robert, Archbishop Michael wrote, "It remains for me to say a very warm word of thanks for the work you have done in Morden as an assistant priest. I know you will be very much missed, but I hope you will settle happily in Surrey Docks.

Since 2016 he has been Parish Priest of St Thomas Aquinas, Ham. After a very short term of illness Fr. Ellis died on Friday 29th October in Kingston Hospital.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Robert Ellis and for the comfort of the Holy Spirit upon his family, friends and brother priests.

May Fr. Ellis Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory

JANINA (JANE) NEYMAN RIP

Funeral 9.20 am Tuesday 30th November, N.E. Surrey Crematorium

Jane Neyman was born in 1924 and died on 18th October 1921 aged 97 years. After the death of her husband Lech, her final years were spent at Tiltwood Care Home in Cobham, where she arrived with only one bag of clothes. Jane had fled Poland during WWII and arrived in the UK to safety.

We offer our prayers for the repose of the soul of Jane, especially as she has no family or friends to attend her funeral. If any parishioners would like to attend it will take place at North East Surrey Crematorium on **Tuesday 30th November at 9.20am.**

May Jane Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.

DENNIS LEADLEY RIP

Funeral – Wednesday 8th December, 2.40pm at N.E. Surrey Crematorium

We have just learnt of the death of Dennis Leadley who died on 5th November at the age of 81 years. Dennis was a parishioner of St. Teresa's who regularly attended the Saturday Vigil Mass. Please remember in prayer the soul of Dennis and all those who knew him.

May Dennis Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.

DANIEL SAMUELS RIP

Funeral – Wednesday 15th December 10am Mass at St. Teresa's. 11.30am N.E. Surrey Crematorium

With our parish school we are offering our love and spiritual support to the Samuel's family following David's sudden death. David was just 39 years old. His wife Rebecca and David were blessed with three daughters, Eva, Jaya and the eldest Hallie.

David was very much a family man. He worked in the world of finance. David has a twin brother and we offer sympathy and condolences to all the family. His roots are West Indian. His mother-in-law Jean Phipps said he was a wonderful son-in-law and his commitment to family life was exemplary.

As we wait for his funeral arrangements we keep David's soul in this month of the The Holy Souls in prayer.

May David Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.

JOSE GONCALVES

Funeral – Thursday 16th December Requiem Mass 9.30am at St. Teresa's, 11am Burial at Sutton Cemetery

Jose Goncalves passed away on 30th October aged 79 years. Jose lived locally in Carshalton and our prayers and condolences are with the family, especially his sister Virginia at this time.

May Jose Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.

MICHAEL JOHN MCANDREW RIP

Funeral – Thursday 16th December, 3.20pm at N.E. Surrey Crematorium

We send our prayers and condolences to the family of Michael McAndrew who died recently. We remember especially his daughter Cherrie and all who knew Michael.

May Michael Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.

SHEILA BORG RIP

Funeral – Tuesday 21st December, 12 Noon Mass at St. Teresa's then 1.20pm N.E. Surrey Crematorium

Sheila died at the age of 86 years and our prayers and condolences go out to her two daughters Jennifer and Theresa. Sheila was Baptised at Saint Teresa's Church and was a parishioner for many years. A daughter of Malta, Sheila lost her husband 12 years ago.

May Sheila Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.



ROBERT PETER RIP

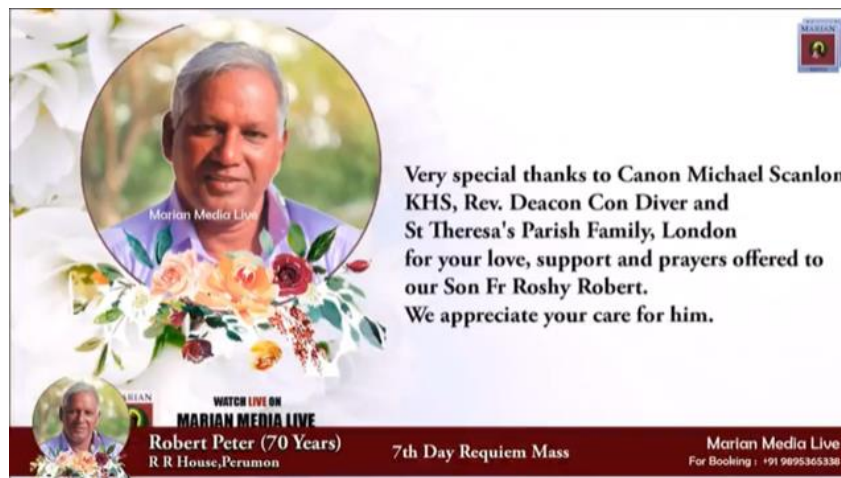
30 Day Requiem Mass Saturday 11th December (5.30am GMT). See link below to watch

It is with sadness that we learnt of the death of Fr Roshy's father, Robert Peter, who was 70 years old. Fr Roshy was able to return home in Kerala and be with his father for a short time before his death. The funeral took place on Sunday 14th November and there will be a 30th Day Requiem Mass on December 11th at 11 IST (5.30am BST)

<https://www.facebook.com/StJosephChurchPerumonMundackal/>

Please remember Fr. Roshy and his family in your prayers. A message from Fr. Roshy to St. Teresa's is below.

May Robert Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.



WELCOME - BISHOP PAUL HENDRICKS

Today we welcome Bishop Paul Hendricks who is visiting Saint Teresa's Parish. He will be speaking to us at the 11am Mass and if he is able will attend the 9am. We look forward to his visit to welcome him to our parish.



HAPPY NEW 'CHURCH YEAR'

Over the years, Christians have developed a variety of devotions and symbols to help them observe the Advent season. Each in its own way helps visualize the Advent experience of waiting and watching, listening and preparing for the celebration of Jesus's birth at Christmas, for the advent of Christ's presence in our daily lives, and for the Lord's return at the end of time. In his Angelus message for the first Sunday of Advent in 2020, Pope Francis reminded us that "Advent...is a time of expectation and a time of hope." Advent "reminds us that God is present in history to lead it to its ultimate goal and to lead us to its fullness, which is the Lord, the Lord Jesus Christ. God is...the 'God-with-us', God is not distant.... God walks beside us to support us.... He accompanies us through the events of our lives to help us discover the meaning of the journey, the meaning of everyday life and to give us courage when we are under duress or when we suffer."

THE ADVENT WREATH is one of the most recognized Advent symbols and a common Advent devotion. It consists of a horizontal wreath of evergreens into which four candles are placed -- three purple candles (a sign of royalty) and one pink candle (a sign of joy). The candles are lit in succession for each week of Advent. The circle of evergreens represent God's never-ending love for humankind; the candles symbolize the long years during which the Hebrew people waited for the promised Messiah who, when he arrived, enlightened a world made dark by human ignorance and sin with the light of God's love and forgiveness. The first two purple candles, lit during the

first two weeks of Advent, represent hope and faith; the pink candle, lit during the third week, symbolizes joy; the third purple candle, lit during the last week of Advent, symbolizes peace -- all four representing the gifts which the Son of God's Incarnation bring to human kind.

Lighting of the candles is accompanied by prayers and scripture readings which also remind us that the fullness of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ grows gradually, both in ourselves and in a world still waiting for the final expression of God's eternal kingdom of peace and justice. The Advent wreath is believed to have originated among German Lutherans in the sixteenth century, but did not become popular there until the mid-nineteenth century; it was gradually adopted by other Christian denominations.



SATURDAY 11TH DECEMBER

11am

For all those parents or guardians who are waiting to receive the holy sacrament of Baptism for their child, we are looking to hold a meeting next month.

Some rules and regulations are still in place which we must try and adhere to.

We invite parents to a meeting on **Saturday 11th December at 11am** in the Parish Church. We will offer weekday baptisms at 11am and possibly Saturday baptisms after the First Holy Communion classes at 12.30pm. This meeting will also include an explanation of the Sacrament of

Baptism. We will also keep you up to date on any new guidelines.

Over the last few months we have welcomed into the parish family



Matteo Herkus
Tamara Regitharan
Seanna Chavez
Risha Kiritharan
Rithisha Kiritharan
Dominic Adjetey
Kiekoloreoluwa Dada
Peter Pal
Kyle James

Cillian Lewis
Nancie-Rae Farnham
Olivia New
Jahsaiah Williams
Oliver Ersapah
Xayne Ubongen
Elijah Calvo
Oran Robinson

And this weekend we welcome Sophia Bate.

BISHOPS' STATEMENT: HONOURING SUNDAY



During the pandemic, public worship was suspended for a time and there have been restrictions on parish life. As a result, people have been exploring other ways to practice their faith including Spiritual Communion via live streaming.

As people begin returning to more regular patterns of parish life and following the first face to face meeting of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales in Leeds, the bishops have issued the following statement about the importance of honouring Sunday:

Honouring Sunday

As the Synodal Pathway of listening and discerning unfolds, we the bishops of England and Wales, are paying particular attention to the hopes and fears, the joys, and anxieties of all who are sharing their thoughts and feelings with us.

Longing for our Lord

We are attentive to the experience of the last year or so, when we have lived our faith through the limitations of the pandemic. We have heard of the longing which some express as a “homesickness”. We want to be in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. We yearn to celebrate the sacraments together, especially the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We desire to be nourished by our Lord in Holy Communion. The live streaming of the Mass and the remarkable response of our Catholic communities to those in need, have provided comfort, sustenance and resilience.

The Eucharist, source, and summit

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our spiritual and pastoral life. Many people have said to us that they have appreciated the noble simplicity of the Mass at this time, which has allowed the mystery and majesty of our Lord’s sacrificial love to shine through.

The central appeal of the Mass, its beauty, and its transcendence, raises our minds and hearts to God in an unambiguous and compelling manner. Our Lord Jesus invites us to receive anew the gift

of Sunday as the preeminent day, the day of the Resurrection, when the Church gathers to celebrate the Eucharist. Here we stand together before our heavenly Father, offering our thanksgiving and prayer, through our Saviour in the Holy Spirit. Here we receive Christ in his Word. Here we are nourished by Christ in his precious Body and Blood. This is our primary joy, for which there is no substitute, and from which we draw our strength.

The Gift of the Sunday Eucharist

The Sunday Eucharist is a gift; as God's holy people we are called to praise and thank God in the most sublime way possible. When the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ's love.

At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass.

Responding to the Gift

We now encourage all Catholics to look again at the patterns which they have formed in recent months with regard to going to Mass on Sundays. This would include consideration and reflection about what we might do on Sundays, such as sports or shopping, or other leisure and social activities. This review, and the decisions which arise from it, fall to every Catholic and we trust this will be done with honesty, motivated by a real love for the Lord whom we encounter in the Mass.

The Sunday Mass is the very heartbeat of the Church and of our personal life of faith. We gather on the "first day of the week," and devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers (Acts 2:42). The Eucharist sustains us and spurs us on, renewing our gratitude and our hope. When we say "Amen" to Christ in receiving his Body and Blood, we express the love of God which is deep within us, and at the end of Mass, when we are sent forth, we express our love for our neighbour, especially those in need. These two dimensions reveal the full meaning of our faith. We are gathered together and sent out, we pray and are fed, we worship and we adore; these are intrinsic to our lives as those baptised into Christ.

Approved at the Plenary Assembly of Bishops in Leeds - Friday, November 19th, 2021

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WELCOMES YOU SAINT TERESA'S WELCOME YOU

If you are considering becoming a Catholic or you are a baptised Catholic who is considering completing your Sacraments of Initiation (Confirmation, Holy Eucharist) our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) can help you.

Please speak with one of the priests or our parish Deacon.
Because of Covid-19 we are adapting our parish programme to make it easier for you.

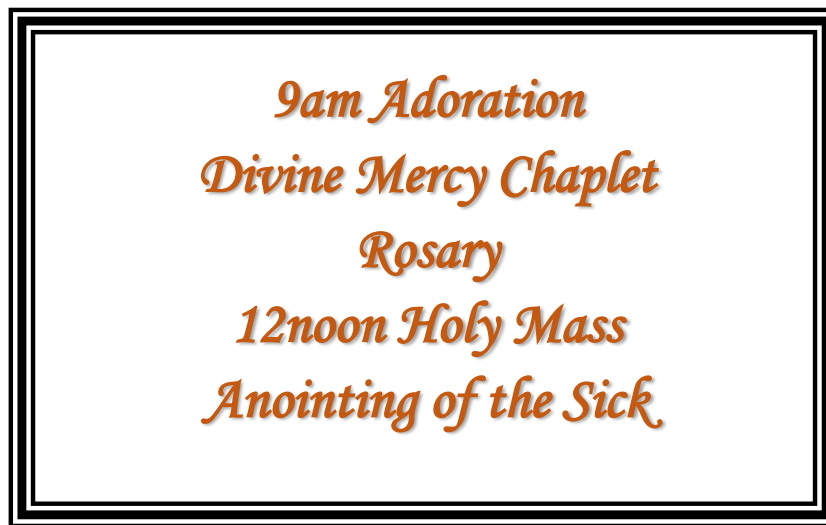
The RCIA process is designed to offer you guidance and support in your spiritual journey towards a deepening relationship with Jesus.
Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 1st December at 6.30pm.**



**Rite of Christian Initiation
for Adults**

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH – A MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND HEALING

On **Friday the 10th December** we will be holding a day of Thanksgiving to Saint Joseph and Healing.



Article from Vatican News:

Pope Francis began a new series of reflections on St Joseph at yesterday's General Audience. He explained that "today, as never before, in this time marked by a global crisis," St Joseph can offer us "support, consolation, and guidance."

As the year of St Joseph draws to a close, the Pope said he hoped his reflections might "further help us to allow ourselves to be enlightened by his example and by his witness."

The Holy Father began his teaching with a reflection on the biblical context of the life of St Joseph. Recalling the figure of Joseph, the son of Jacob, in the Old Testament, Pope Francis noted that the name "Joseph" - Hebrew for "may God increase, may God give growth" - is "a wish, a blessing based on trust in God's providence and referring especially to fertility and raising children." This, he said, "reveals an essential aspect of Joseph of Nazareth's personality. He is a man full of faith in God, in His providence."



Pope Francis went on to consider the places associated with St Joseph, especially Bethlehem and Nazareth, which "assume an important role in our understanding" of the saint.

Bethlehem, he said, means "house of bread" or, in Arabic, "house of meat," both expressions that are full of significances in light of the

Incarnation and the Eucharist. Bethlehem also recalls the story of Ruth, the great grandmother of David the king, from whom Joseph traces his descent; as well as the prophecy of Micah, who foretold the coming of the Messiah from Bethlehem.

While Jerusalem was "the city loved by the Lord, the 'holy city'," it was Bethlehem and Nazareth, both outlying villages, "far from the clamour of the news and the powers of the time" that are most associated with Saint Joseph. "The choice of Bethlehem and Nazareth tells us that the

periphery and marginality are preferred by God," Pope Francis said. "Failure to take this fact seriously is equivalent to not taking seriously the Gospel and the work of God."

Jesus goes out especially in search of those on the peripheries, not only sinners, but also "those who have done no evil but have suffered it: the sick, the hungry, the poor, the least."

Now, as then, the Pope said, "there is a centre and a periphery" in society; and, as in the time of Jesus, "the Church knows that she is called to proclaim the good news from the periphery." Here St Joseph can be an example, reminding each of us to accord special importance "to what others cast aside." In this sense, the Pope said, St Joseph "is truly a master of the essential: he reminds us that what truly matters does not attract our attention, but requires patient discernment to be discovered and appreciated."

Pope Francis asked us to pray for Joseph's intercession, "that the whole Church might recover this insight," adding, "Let us start again from Bethlehem, let us start again from Nazareth."

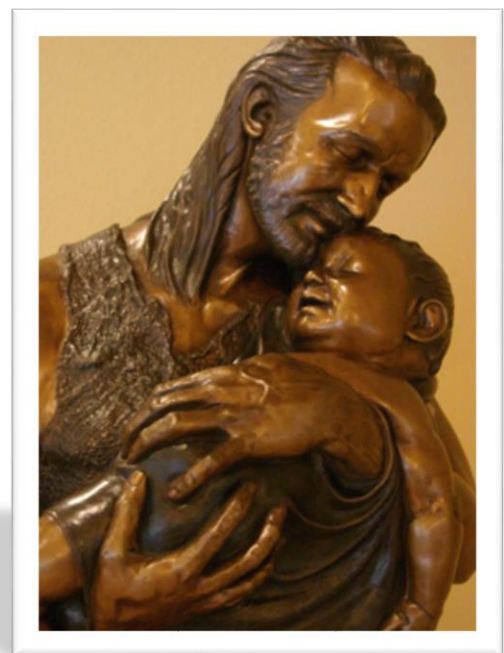
And to all those living on the geographical or existential peripheries, the Pope had this message: "May you find in Saint Joseph the witness and protector to whom you can look."

Concluding his catechesis, Pope Francis offered the following prayer to St Joseph:

***Saint Joseph,
you who always trusted God,
and made your choices
guided by His providence
teach us not to count so much on our own plans
but on His plan of love.***

***You who come from the peripheries
help us to convert our gaze
and to prefer what the world discards and
marginalises.***

***Comfort those who feel alone
and support those who work silently
to defend life and human dignity. Amen.***



CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS - CAN YOU HELP?

What is a Catechist? The word catechist comes from the Greek word "echo". Catechists are people who ECHO the Word of God.



"Catechists must hand on the teachings of Christ to those being catechized; ...Catechists must make the words of Christ their own: 'My teaching is not my own but is from the one who sent me,' and they confess with Saint Paul, 'I handed on to you ... what I also received.'" National Directory for Catechesis (Ch 4:29E)

The Confirmation Team are currently looking to recruit volunteers for their programme, which is due to start in the New Year. If you are interested, please contact Rob Mobilé at roberto@need2succeed.co.uk.

A meeting will be held in December to discuss the programme and training for all catechists.

For the safety of our children, all volunteers (18+) must complete a DBS background check.

HOW DO I BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN MY PARISH?



Saint Teresa's offers a variety of opportunities and reaches out to welcome parish members who wish to become more actively involved in the social, spiritual and organisational life of the parish faith community.

These are still difficult times. Covid-19 has changed the way we reach out. Parish life still carries on. Our commitment to serve one another and the Lord is still at the top of the list.

So, at Saint Teresa's opportunities to serve include liturgical ministries such as lector, extraordinary Eucharistic minister, hospitality minister and music ministry; catechetical ministries; outreach to the sick and housebound; ministry to the elderly and much more. We also offer you the chance to join the Legion of Mary, the SVP and Ministry to Youth.

Please keep in mind that becoming more active in any faith community is a bit like getting to know your in-laws; it takes time and patience on both sides to fit in – much less change – the customary way in how the community does things. God bless you – and please let us know if you like to get more involved.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Pope Francis's Prayer to Our Lady Untier of Knots

Holy Mary, full of God's presence during the day of your life, you accepted with full humility the Father's will, and the devil was never capable of tying you up with his confusion.

Once with your Son you interceded for our difficulties, and full of kindness and patience, you gave us example of how to untie the knots in our life. By remaining forever Our Mother, you put in order and make more clear the ties that link us to the Lord.

Holy Mother, Mother of God and our Mother, to you who untie with a motherly heart the knots of our life, we pray to you to receive in your hands (the name of the person), and to free him/her of the knots and confusion with which our enemy attacks.

*Through your grace, your intercession and your example deliver us from all evil,
Our Lady, and untie the knots that prevent us from being united with God, so that
we, free from sin and error, may find Him in all things, may have our hearts
placed in Him, and may serve Him always in our brothers and sisters.*

Amen.

ON THE “CHURCH’S SYNODAL PATH OF COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION”

Unlike previous gatherings of the world’s bishops, Pope Francis wants this synod to include directly the people in local dioceses across the world, especially with the lay faithful. Here in Southwark we will be holding consultation and listening sessions to gather perspectives that we will use in preparing a report for Rome to be delivered by next April. Following this long process of listening, the Pope will convene the synod of bishops in Rome in October 2023.

What Pope Francis is calling “the synodal path” is a journey of prayer and reflection. In this coming year, he is asking each of us to think about our relationship with Our Lord Jesus, our communion with Him in His church, and how we participate in His mission.



As a parish we will come together to reflect and respond to the Holy Father’s request. In unity with Archbishop John and our Diocesan family we will hold a meeting in the very near future. We hope you will be able to attend.

Every parish has been asked to send at least two Delegates for meetings with Archbishop John and his team. I’m pleased to announce that Paul Carter and Fred Mendonça have agreed to take on this role.

PRAYER FOR THE LAITY

Lord God, you willed the power of the Gospel to act as a leaven in the world and you called the lay faithful to live out our lives amid temporal affairs. Let us be so on fire with Christian spirit that as we engage in our role in the world we will build and proclaim your Kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Synod Prayer:

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life

and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. *Amen.*



Saying Goodbye

When a baby is lost, whether during pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, it is a devastating experience for the parents and the extended family.

Sadly for people that lose prior to 24-weeks gestation, services to commemorate the life that has been lost are seldom held, while for parents who lose later in pregnancy, at birth or in early years, the parents are usually in the depths of grief when a service is held.

The Saying Goodbye services are the first international set of remembrance services, for people who have suffered the loss of a baby at any stage, and whether that be recently or decades ago. **They provide a time and place to acknowledge and remember your baby, whilst collectively 'saying goodbye'.**

The services also welcome anyone grieving the fact that they have been unable to have children.


The services are for people of any faith or no faith, are free to attend, no tickets need to be booked, and people are invited to bring family, friends and children with them. Held at cathedrals and similar venues across the globe, chosen for their beauty and grandeur, a wonderful tribute is created for all lost babies.

Together we will stand and say, "our children may have only been on this earth for days, weeks, months or years, but they were truly loved, and will always be missed!"

28th Nov 2021 | 3.30pm | Methodist Central Hall, Westminster

For up to date service details, please see www.sayinggoodbye.org

The Mariposa Trust is the charity that runs the Saying Goodbye services, and is supported by wonderful Ambassadors including Professor Robert Winston, Nigella Lawson, Jools Oliver, Mary Nightingale, Kym Marsh, Caroline Quentin, Julie Etchingham and Professor Lesley Regan.

 Growing You

 Saying Goodbye

 Mariposa Trust

SECONDARY SCHOOL - MASS ATTENDANCE FORMS

As per the statement from the Catholic Bishops of England in July this year (see below), the Sunday Obligation will resume from the first week of Advent - Sunday 28th November 2021, COVID situation permitting!

As we begin to return to some form of normality, the School Mass Attendance forms for all children of Years 4 and 5 ONLY, will be given out once a month at all of the Masses.

Parents must fill in this form, clearly stating the child's name and contact details. Children should NOT be filling in these forms themselves.



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Statement from the Catholic Bishops of England

Sunday – it is our Day¹

It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021. In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church.



The Passage, a Catholic charity working with homeless people is raising funds through the Big Give a matched giving scheme from 12.00 noon. Every £1 donated online between 12.00 noon on Tuesday 30 November and 12.00 noon on Tuesday 7 December makes £2 and £2.25 if you are a taxpayer through Gift Aid. At a time when The Passage's finances are stretched and they are helping more homeless people please consider supporting this charity through the link <https://bit.ly/PassageBG2021>

**IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO,
PLEASE COLLECT YOUR GIFT AID ENVELOPES FROM THE
CONTACT CORNER**

“Like many women around the world, Garmah in Liberia had no legal rights to her home when her husband died. CAFOD worked with local experts to help her and now Garmah and her children live rightfully and happily together in their family home. “I feel safe, my children have a place to rest their head and I can make a garden to feed them and myself. God sent redeemers to fight for my land rights. I am overfilled with joy.” **Thank you for your support** which enables hundreds of women like Garmah remain in their homes during times of struggle. Other examples of our work can be found in our World Gift catalogues or website worldgifts.cafod.org.uk
Have a wonderful Christmas.”



Photo: CAFOD/Evelyn Fey

Saint Teresa's

LIFE is remembered

LOVE is deepened, HOPE is rekindled,

*FAITH is awakened, FAITH is renewed, FAITH is
strengthened,*

Where BLESSINGS from Heaven await you.

Where the LORD OF DIVINE MERCY forgives you.

Where the Mother of God prays for you.

Where Saint Teresa intercedes for you.

Where Saint Joseph seeks to help you.

Where the Parish Family pray for you.

WELCOME - WELCOME - WELCOME



PAX CHRISTI – CHRISTMAS CARDS



New Christmas cards are now available from Pax Christi: Felt banners were created some years ago for display at a church in Cambridge during Christmas. These banners have now been made into Christmas cards. They can be ordered at £4.50 plus p+p from: [HTTPS://paxchristi.org.uk/product/nativity-trio-cards/](https://paxchristi.org.uk/product/nativity-trio-cards/)

ARE YOU CONSIDERING GETTING MARRIED?

Please be aware of the following change in the law which takes effect from 1ST July 2021!

Immigration laws for EEA nationals will change from the 1 July to reflect the changes brought about following EU Exit. These changes will impact EEA citizens **who wish to marry in England and Wales** as the definition of a relevant national has changed. A relevant national, from the 1 July 2021, will be classed as:

- A British Citizen
- An Irish Citizen
- An EEA National who has been granted Settled or Pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) or those with a pending application submitted before the 30 June 2021.

Currently couples who are subject to immigration control must make an appointment at one of 75 Designated Register Offices within England and Wales to give notice to marry. **From the 1 July 2021, all register offices will be designated for the purposes of taking a marriage for these couples.**

An EEA national who does not hold a status under the EUSS will be treated as all other foreign nationals and will have to give notice of their intention to marry (together with their partner) at a register office in the registration district where either resides and be issued with a Marriage Schedule.

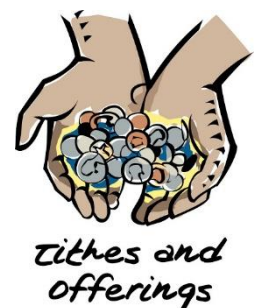
PARISH FINANCE

Sunday Collections and Donations

Last weeks' collection: **Offertory** £1378

2nd Collection **Catholic Youth Service:** £179

During the current situation, we would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the many of you who have kindly signed up to **standing orders**. This is so much appreciated and valued. If you wish to contribute by cheque in lieu of plate collections, this can be sent to the presbytery: St. Teresa's Church, 250, Bishopsford Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 6BJ. They may be made payable to St. Teresa's Catholic Church.



Many thanks to those of you who have so kindly offered to set up standing orders in lieu of our Sunday plate collections. This is a most convenient method of planned giving (for all concerned); already used by so many at Morden – and is vitally important at this time. Regular standing orders

can be for any amount, no matter how small – just give what you can afford. Please send a written request via the parish office with contact details.

We will be happy to receive any offerings directly by on-line banking or by [standing order](#), which can be arranged through your bank, or by using the [DONATE](#) link here or on the parish website.

Do You Gift Aid?

The value of your donation can be increased by 25% at no extra cost to yourself, simply by gift aiding it if you are a taxpayer. The parish learns nothing about your private financial affairs. The average weekly collection between plate and standing orders, was approximately £2,400 a week (*pre-COVID*). If only half of that was GIFT AIDED, it would mean an extra £300 a week, or £15,600 a year to Parish funds. We are genuinely grateful to those who are Gift-Aiding. If you haven't been doing so, please print off a Gift Aid form from the parish website. At the present time the parish income is down about £5,000 each month. Hopefully, when parish life returns to normal, we will soon see these financial worries and concerns disappear.



Thank you to everybody who continues to support the parish through the collection, standing orders, gift aid and dropping in contributions. Online donations have seen an increase recently - A big THANK YOU FOR THOSE DONATIONS coming in via our parish website 'JUST GIVING' - Press the button marked **DONATE**. If you scroll down further, we also say 'Thanks' for your support and other ways you can support our parish. Again, THANK YOU.

GIFT AID NOTICE – HAVE YOU COLLECTED YOUR GIFT AID BOX?

**PLEASE COLLECT YOUR GIFT AID ENVELOPES FROM THE
CONTACT CORNER**

For those already signed up, Gift Aid Envelopes are available. Please collect your Gift Aid or Standing Order envelopes before or after Mass from the Contact Corner. If no one is at the Contact Corner, please ask one of the Stewards for Linda or Lorraine.

If you pay tax and would like to join, please have a word with one of the team, it is simple and at no extra cost to you the Church can claim back 25%. See below for more details ***Do You Gift Aid?***

CARD READERS

To make things easier we have now introduced a number of card readers, which you will find throughout the church. The CollecTin reader is near the Icon of Padre Pio, instructions are listed next to the machine. You can use this for all offertories and donations.

The Sum-Up card reader will be situated in the narthex near the statue of St Teresa and can be used only for candles. Coming soon in the Repository will be another card reader so that you can pay for all your purchases using a credit debit card.

COLLECTIN

CollecTin is a card reader on which you can give your offertory and any other donation. All special collections will be listed on this machine and if you **Gift Aid** you need only register once, and it will remember you for all your donations - if you use the same card (*each card would need to be registered*).



CANDLES

SUMUP CARD READER

- IF THE SCREEN IS BLANK ***press the power button***
- ENTER THE AMOUNT YOU WISH TO DONATE
e.g. 5 0 0 is £5.00, press the green tick button
- TAP CARD ***for contactless*** or INSERT CARD ***using your pin***
- SELECT RECEIPT ***use arrows to select option required***

QR SCAN POINTS

There is now the opportunity to donate using a QR Scanner on your phone (if you have one installed). There are a number of Scan points in the church, one by the Statue of the Sacred Heart, one by the Exit side door and one on the noticeboard in the porch.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT – IT'S VALUED AND APPRECIATED!

Please Be Aware.

At this time, there is an increasing risk of cybercrime and online fraud. If you ever receive an email stating a change in bank account details purporting to be from the Archdiocese or from any of the diocesan parishes, please contact the diocese immediately by telephone on 020 8682 7880 in order to verify that the email is genuine and not a scam.

Basic Government Advise on Face Coverings Masks at Mass

Face coverings are encouraged still in places of worship. Many of you already attend Holy Mass wearing one – Thank You!

From now on at St. Teresa's all who attend Mass, or any other service **must** wear a face covering, unless they are exempt from doing so. This is for the good of all who gather in the Church for Mass, as it is an enclosed public space where there are people from different households who do not normally meet.

Mass at St. Teresa's

St. Teresa's Parish General Protocols

The Cardinal and the Archbishop wish to reassure you that THE DISPENSATION of the faithful from the obligation to attend SUNDAY MASS remains in place for the time being. NO ONE IS OBLIGED to attend Holy Mass whilst dispensation is in effect.

- All Sunday and Weekday Masses will continue to be Streamed Live on the Internet via the usual link.
- Attendees and volunteers from demographic groups at a greater risk of serious illness, such as people 65 years of age or older and individuals with chronic medical conditions, are

encouraged to stay safe by avoiding public gatherings, but are not prohibited from attending Mass if they so choose.

- Anyone attending Mass does so at their own risk.
- All attendees are asked to wear a mask before entering the church, until they leave. Each person should bring their own masks.
- **Another reminder: ANYONE who has even the slightest symptoms or feelings of sickness must remain home.**
- Until further notice: Our Parish will adopt a FIRST COME, FIRST-SERVED approach at all our Masses.
- We are required to keep a register of all attendees. So please put your name, address, contact telephone number on the Sign-In sheet.
- A number of benches will be designated for those who wish to observe social distance.
- Infants and children should remain with their parents AT ALL TIMES.
- We will have one point of entry in order to control the number of people entering. Once the maximum number of attendees is reached, no one else will be allowed entry.
- If weather permits, all doors will be propped open before Mass as you arrive so that you do not need to touch the handles or doors to enter.
- At the end of Mass, exits will be indicated by the parish priest to expedite the guided departure and minimise chances of people encountering one another. In all cases, **PHYSICAL DISTANCING MUST BE OBSERVED.**
- The Parish Church is closed at the end of each Mass for a special cleaning. Our thanks to the parish team.
- Please be aware that there will only be DISABLED toilet facilities.

SAFETY

- Physical distancing of is in place at all times and in all directions between people who are not of the same household.
- Please **do not move or swap** seats.
- Reminder – Volunteers and ALL members of the congregation should use the Medical Guidelines that have been issued before attending Mass. If you have ANY symptoms, such as a cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat, please stay at home.
- All team members, welcomers and participants – please wear your own personal shield or mask.
- All who attend must observe proper hand hygiene from the point of entry, whilst inside and upon exiting the church.
- Hand sanitising stations are available by the doors of the church.
- Hand washing with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds (say a prayer) is also strongly encouraged before arriving for Holy Mass.

HOLY MASS

These are some of the main points to note:

- Sacred Vessels will be purified and washed by the parish priest after Mass. This reduces the risk and need to have sacristans and Eucharistic ministers in the sacristy.
- Singing of hymns will be introduced gradually.

- Offertory processions maybe re-introduced soon in the next couple of weeks.
- Altar Serving will continue on a rota basis.
- The chalice, paten, ciborium, cruets and lavabo will be on a small table beside the altar.
- Your parish priest will not be wearing a mask during the Liturgy of the Eucharist; therefore, all ciboria will be covered at all times. He will wear a visor if and when he distributes Holy Communion.
- Collections will start to be taken up during the Mass. The collection boxes will still be available at strategic points and two card readers have been installed. Secure vigilance will be in place over the donations.
- There is no shaking of hands at the Sign of Peace.
- There will be no Holy Water in fonts.
- All hymnals, missalettes, pew cards, pencils, donation envelopes and other loose items will be removed.
- Newsletters are only available on-line at the parish website.

Regarding the Distribution of Holy Communion:

- The individual attestation at the distribution of Holy Communion ("The Body of Christ, Response: Amen") is eliminated. Instead, one general announcement ("The Body of Christ") will be made by the parish priest, and one general response ("Amen") is to be made by one and all before distribution begins. **Then each person who wishes to receive the Blessed Sacrament comes forward in procession at a safe distance and receives in silence.**
- The Precious Blood will not be distributed at this time.
- Holy Communion may only be received **in the hand** until further notice.
- For the common good, our Bishops around the world acknowledge that Communion on the tongue is the right of the faithful, we ask you please receive **ONLY** in the hand until further notice. Thank you for your understanding and support.
- When needed, Ministers of the Eucharist may be invited to officiate at Holy Communion time. If called upon, Ministers of Holy Communion must sanitise their hands immediately after receiving Communion **BEFORE** distributing Holy Communion to the faithful. They must also sanitise their hands immediately after distribution.

Should you have any questions regarding this information please reply by email: morden@rcaos.org.uk or call our parish number: 020 8648 4113

PERFECT CONTRITION AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

What to do if you cannot go to Confession or Holy Communion due to the COVID-19 coronavirus: If you have to self-isolate or are quarantined, you will be unable to receive the sacraments as normal. In these circumstances, there are devotions through which you can receive absolution for your sins (under certain conditions), and the consolation of Eucharistic grace. The following devotions are officially encouraged by the Church and have been practised by saints.

How to make an Act of Perfect Contrition

Through an act of Perfect Contrition, you receive pardon for your sins outside of confession, even mortal sins, on condition that you are determined to amend your life and make a firm resolution to go to sacramental confession as soon as this becomes possible for you.



Perfect Contrition is a grace from God, so sincerely ask for this gift throughout the day prior to making your act of contrition: *'My God, grant me perfect contrition for my sins.'*

1. In reality or imagination kneel at the foot of the crucifix and say to yourself: *“ Jesus, my God and my Saviour, in the midst of your agony, you remembered me, you suffered for me, you wished to wipe away my sins”*
2. Contrition is ‘perfect’ if you repent your sins because you love God and are sorry for having offended Him and causing the sufferings of Christ on the cross. Before the Crucified Christ remember your sins, repent of them because they have bought Our Lord His sufferings on the cross. Promise him that with His help, you will not sin again.
3. Recite, slowly and sincerely, an act of contrition focussed on the goodness of God and your love of Jesus: *“O my God, because You are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against You and by the help of Your grace I will not sin again. Amen.”*
4. Make a firm resolution to go to a sacramental confession as soon as practically possible.

How to make a Spiritual Communion

The key to Spiritual Communion is to grow in your heart a constant desire for the Blessed Sacrament.

1. If you are aware of serious or mortal sin, make an Act of Perfect Contrition
2. Imagine the sacred words and actions of the Mass or watch online or on TV.
3. Make all those acts of faith, humility, sorrow, adoration, love and desire that you usually express before Holy Communion.
4. Desire, with earnest longing, to receive Our Lord present – Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity – in the Blessed Sacrament.
5. Say the prayer of St. Alphonsus de’ Ligouri – The Prayer of Spiritual Communion
6. After moments of silent adoration make all those acts of faith, humility, love, thanksgiving and offering that you usually express through prayers after Holy Communion.

