

Look for the stone

4 OCTOBER 2026

SUNDAY *Plus*

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time **Divine Office Week III** Year A

Season of Creation ends



Fr Emil Kapaun celebrating Mass using the bonnet of a jeep as his altar, 7 October 1950, Wikipedia

In captivity, the cornerstone

The handworking skills that Kapaun had learned during his childhood in Kansas became useful again... The rice that [he] stole, the twigs that he gathered, the cooking pots that he shaped, together they were the means that allowed him to furnish

a hot meal to his fellow prisoners...

In a thousand ways Kapaun infused in the captives a desire to hang on, to live. "It was his actual deeds that gave the prisoners such a tremendous impact as they watched him living by God's law.

In a few words, Chaplain Kapaun practised what he preached."

Amid below-zero weather, starvation, and constant sickness, just staying alive had become a daily struggle. "By his example he sometimes forced the little bit of good remaining in these starving men to the fore," declared another prisoner... "When others were getting meaner, the priest was only kinder," said another American soldier. "The longer we were in the valley, the rougher it got – and the rougher it got, the gentler Fr Kapaun became." ...

Kapaun did not hide the fact

that he was a Catholic priest. The religious stole around his shoulders openly identified him. What rankled the Chinese even more was that Kapaun was a leader among the POWs. They knew that at night, groups of the Americans waited in their darkened huts as Kapaun moved steadily from one building to another to meet with them. Even though the Communists had banned religious activities, the chaplain led regular prayer services.

William L. Maher, *A Shepherd in Combat Boots: Chaplain Emil Kapaun of the 1st Cavalry Division*

Where the world sees threats, [the Church] sees children; where walls are built, she builds bridges. She knows that her proclamation of the Gospel is credible only when it is translated into gestures of closeness and welcome.

Pope Leo XIV

From beauty comes beauty

I have many times heard Michelangelo talk and argue about love... I well know, having been close to him for so long and so intimately... he has loved not only human beauty but universally every beautiful thing, a beautiful horse, a beautiful dog, a beautiful landscape, a beautiful plant, a beautiful mountain, a beautiful wood, and every place and everything beautiful and rare after its own kind, looking at

them all with marvellous feeling and admiration and so selecting what is beautiful from nature, as bees gather honey from the flowers, to make use of it later in their works, and as do all those who have made some name for themselves in painting...

He was never jealous of the works of others, even in his own art, though more from natural goodness than from any opinion he had of himself. Indeed, he has always praised everyone universally.

Ascanio Condivi (1525-1574), *Life of Michelangelo Buonarroti*

Lord, you find beauty and meaning in everybody and everything. Help me to see the world with your eyes.  Amen.



Feast of the week Wednesday 7 October

The Holy Rosary

The Holy Rosary is more than a string of beads: it's a spiritual lifeline, a rhythm of grace that draws us into the heart of Christ through the eyes of Mary. Each decade is a doorway into the mysteries of salvation: joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious. As we pray, we don't merely recite; we meditate, we walk with Jesus and Mary through the Gospel.

In a world of noise and haste, the Rosary offers stillness. It teaches us to listen, to ponder, to trust. Mary, our gentle mother, leads us by the hand, helping us see God's love in every moment of Christ's life – and in our own.

Let us reclaim this prayer as a daily companion. Whether in joy or trial, the Rosary steadies our hearts, strengthens our hope and deepens our love. Through it, heaven touches earth, and we are never alone.

READINGS

Today:
Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 4:6-9
Matthew 21:33-43

Monday:
Galatians 1:6-12
Luke 10:25-37

Tuesday:
Galatians 1:13-24
Luke 10:38-42

Wednesday:
Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14
Luke 11:1-4

Thursday:
Galatians 3:1-5
Luke 11:5-13

Friday:
Galatians 3:7-14
Luke 11:15-26

Saturday:
Galatians 3:22-29
Luke 11:27-28

Next Sunday:
Isaiah 25:6-10
Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20
Matthew 22:1-14



St Cecilia's Church

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Contact us via St Cecilia's Parish Office: Tel: **0208 641 3141**

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Facebook: [SaintCecilia Ncheam](https://www.facebook.com/SaintCeciliaNcheam).

Parochial Administrator: Fr Benedict Fadoju

Confessions: 5:00pm - 6:00pm Saturdays or please contact Fr Benedict on request.

Hospital Chaplain: Fr Philip Pak **Telephone:** St Helier: 0208 296 2917

Useful information can be found by visiting the Diocesan Website at www.rcsouthwark.co.uk and the Sutton Deanery at www.suttondeanery.weebly.com

"My daughter, all your miseries have been consumed in the flame of My love, like a little twig thrown into a roaring fire." Words of Jesus to St Faustina Kowalska

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

ROSARY SUNDAY

Mass Count

Sat. 3rd Oct. 6:30pm Francis Almeida (RIP)

Sun. 4th Oct. 9:30am Mary Brady (RIP)

11:00am Francis Lobo (RIP)

Mon. 5th Oct. NO MASS

Tues. 6th Oct. 10:00am. Patrick Maguire (Anniversary RIP)

Wed. 7th Oct. 10:00am. Breda Piper (RIP)

Thurs 8th Oct. 10:00am Alf Oliva (Birthday RIP)

Fr Francis Kemsley O.Carm. (RIP)

Fri 9th Oct. 6:00pm. ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

7:00pm. Souls of the Faithful Departed

TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

DAY OF PRAYER FOR PRISONERS & THEIR FAMILIES

Fourth Mass Count

Sat. 10th Oct. 6:30pm. Joe Dillon (RIP)

Sun. 11th Oct. 9:30am. Mr & Mrs J. P. Rebello

11:00am. Clifort Menezes (Birthday RIP)

Saints of the Week

4th St Francis of Assisi; 5th St Faustina Kowalska;

6th St Bruno; 7th Our Lady of the Rosary;

9th St John Henry Newman; 10th St Paulinus of York;

10th St Denis & Companions; 10th St John Leonardi

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Second Offertory

The second offertory this weekend is for the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day. The focus is on helping to keep children in school by providing the food and safe water they need. Envelopes available.

Upcoming Mass Intentions

13th Breda Piper; 14th For Forgotten Souls; 15th Moya Condon;

15th Auntie T; 16th Anne Wilcox; 17th Josephine Taylor.

The Season for the Care of Creation in this the 800th

Anniversary Year of St Francis, comes to an end, 4th October.

Happy Birthday & Best Wishes to all St Cecilia's October born babies!

Mass Offerings: 26th/27th Sept. 1st Collection: £1216.64; Candles: £140.26; Mass Attendance 540

Prayers for the Sick & Housebound Please pray for the wellbeing of: D.H. Adelaide Cotter; Paul Fairhall; E.K.U.; Amy Bradbury; Marie Goti; Michael Christou John Rosenow; Mary Silva; Michael Hoskins; Phyllis Sibley; Martha Gilbert, Mary Nassan, Joe Mendes and Nanny Cossu.

Baby Cian Thomas Ashwin-Kelly is in the hospital at the moment, and is in need of your prayers.

For the Repose of the Soul Most merciful Jesus, receive the prayers we offer for the repose of the soul of: **Sr Veronica Hagen, Mother Superior of the Daughters of the Cross** Sister's funeral is Monday 12th October at 12pm at Marie Terese House, Holy Cross Hospital, Haslemere GU27 1NQ. Please also pray for the Repose of the soul of **Lydia Barreau** who died on Wednesday. Lydia was in charge of our Repository for many decades. And for **Mary Edward**.

MAY THEY REST IN YOUR PERFECT PEACE & RISE IN YOUR GLORY, O LORD.

PARISH LIFE

First Holy Communion Registration is open on the parish website. Closing date is 31st October. The Form was recently updated so please ensure you have completed the correct version. Registration does not guarantee a place.

Dei Amor Youth Group meet every Thursday at 5pm in the Church Hall.

Young Adult Group gets together once a month on a Thursdays at 7pm. Ages 18 to 35. Get in touch.

Volunteer Finance Officer to support your parish priest with the day to day finances including gift aid, admin, reconciliation. Must have a knowledge of MS Excel Spreadsheets or similar. Hours to be discussed.

Volunteer Safeguarding Representative to be a point of contact in response to safeguarding concerns for the protection of children and the most vulnerable of our parish.

***To find out more about both volunteer roles or register your interest please email the parish office.