



HOLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM
(For the Greater Glory of God)

Monsignor Malachy Keegan
The Presbytery,
115 Limpsfield Road,
Sanderstead,
CR2 9LF

Admin Assistance (Parish Room)
Wed: 10.15am - 12.15pm

Fr Malachy (Parish Room)
(Meetings by appointment)
Sat: 9.00am - 12.00Midday

17th August 2025

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The Church is open all day, every day
for private prayer

TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Saturday	16th August	5.00pm Vigil holy Mass	Mrs Mary Johnson (Maggie Bailey)
Sunday	17th August	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish That we all visit the Olde Forge Cafe and invite others to come too
Tuesday	19th August	6.00pm	In thanksgiving to the Lord for the evangelising crucifix in our garden, facing outwards towards the world and offering the message of the only way to find real love and life.
Wednesday	20th August	9.30am	In thanksgiving to the Lord that he can use our illnesses to teach us that we are ultimately, completely dependant on him.
Thursday	21st August	9.30am	In Thanksgiving to the Lord that we are in a position to give away most of our money to feed the hungry people of our world.
Friday	22nd August	9.30am	In thanksgiving to the Lord that holy Mass is so easily available to us, almost every day.

TWENTYFIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Saturday	23rd August	5.00pm Vigil holy Mass	People of the Parish
Sunday	24th August	9.00am 11.00am	In thanksgiving to the Lord that we have TVs which enable us to see and better understand and respond to the needs of poor and suffering people throughout our world That we only possess the clothes we really need.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY; 4.00pm - 4.30pm

MORNING PRAYER AND EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

WENESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY; 9.00AM

EVENING PRAYER AND EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

TUESDAY; 5.30PM

(Prayer book: Week 4 of the psalter)

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"The figure of the Crucified, invalidates all thought which takes success for its standard."
(Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO ARE UNWELL

Please pray for, Jill O'Donnell, Manuel Rodrigues, David Palmer, Shanna Davies and everyone who is in any kind of distress. May the good Lord give them peace and patience in their moments of need

"May the gifts of illness and old age bring our sisters and brothers the gift of wisdom and help them to be closer to the Lord."

THANK YOU

To everyone who helped to clean and tidy our church, after holy Mass, last Friday, the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady. Cleaning and tidying the church, when we do it together as a community of Faith, is a beautiful prayer to the Lord in which he delights. May he reward you for your loving care.

PARISH INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Forgive me for raising the issue of parish finances, but I need to alert you to how we must finance our parish and manage our financial resources, if we are to continue as a viable parish. We pay a monthly levy to the diocese of £1,110.59. We also pay a monthly Health and Safety levy of £118.43. Monthly charges for electricity are around £200.00

These are just a few basic monthly costs. Our general monthly expenditure is well in excess of these amounts. Our weekly Collection is presently around £450.00. As you will appreciate then, our present weekly income is not covering our normal weekly expenses.

Please may I suggest that every adult member of our parish give a minimum of £15, each week, in our Collection. If you are in personal financial hardship, please just disregard this suggestion. If you are in a reasonable or good financial position, please give more than this suggestion. We live in a relatively affluent area, so our finances should be secure.

In addition to a Current Account, we also have a Savings/Loan account. I am reluctant to take anything from that account to pay our normal bills. The Savings/Loan account is there in case we face any unforeseen, sudden, emergency call on our finances or for any special projects we might have. That said, we are about to incur a debt of almost £8,000 to replace our very poor church Sound System with a much-needed new system. We will have to take that cost from our Savings/Loan account.

In this weekend's first Scripture Reading at holy Mass, we were given an inspiring example of generosity prompted by trust in the providential care of God. In this very practical matter of how we manage our parish financial resources, please be generous.

BEQUEST, IN A WILL

It is wise to write a Will so that the resources you have when the time comes for you to leave this world, goes to the people and organisations you wish. May I suggest that you might consider leaving a Bequest in your will to our parish or to our diocese or to our priest as well as to other causes. A gift in your will can enable us to continue to help people to know the Lord Jesus and his saving love. What a wonderful legacy you would be leaving behind.

CRUCIFIX MOVED TO THE FRONT OF THE GARDEN – EVANGELISATION

Our church grounds boast a rather striking crucifix. It was hidden away at the back of the garden. As you will see, I have moved it forward, closer to the front of the garden, where it is much more visible and prominent.

St Paul says, “We preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, the power and the wisdom of God, to save us.”

Our Archbishop John asks every parish in the archdiocese of Southwark and every parishioner in every parish, to do everything possible to help the Lord Jesus to be better known and loved especially anyone who doesn't yet know the Lord. This is called 'Evangelisation'. Moving the crucifix to the front of our garden means it is very visible to hundreds if not thousands of people every day, passing along Limsfield Road in cars, vans, trucks, on buses or as pedestrians. When they see the crucifix, many will wonder what it means and that moment of wondering gives the Lord a chance to speak to their hearts!

The crucifix isn't in good condition, at the moment. It has been damaged by the trees and the ground which it has occupied, over the years. I'm hoping that we can properly and fully repair both the image and the cross.

Incidentally, the symbol of Jesus actually hanging on a cross, which is the normal symbol used by Catholic and most Orthodox Christian Churches, is called a 'crucifix.' The symbol of a cross, without the image of the Lord hanging on the cross, is usually simply called a 'cross' by members of Protestant Christian Churches.

May the symbol of Our Lord being put to death on a cross, showing the depth of his love for everyone, help people who gaze upon it, to know that the Lord Jesus offers them his saving love.

Jesus says, “Come to me all you who labour and are burdened and I will give you peace, for I am meek and humble of heart and you will find rest for your souls.”

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

To everyone who has managed to increase their Sunday Offertory Collection contribution to a minimum of £15 per person, per week. If you haven't done so already, please do so now, if you possibly can. You can do this in one of three ways - by using the Card Reader, located on your right as you enter the main body of the church, or by revising your instruction to your bank, or by using the basket collection during holy Mass.

Please may I ask that any coins, less than £1, are not put into the basket.

Please don't forget to ensure your weekly Offering continues even while you may be away from the parish on holiday.

Please don't forget to Gift-Aid every contribution you generously make, in favour of our parish.

As the Archbishop has said: “People are increasingly turning to the Catholic Church because we offer a message of hope, purpose for life and a spiritual and liturgical tradition which opens the soul towards God. Let's be as equipped as we can be, to lead people to the Lord Jesus so they can all know of God's love for them.”

INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC FAITH?

If you are not a Catholic or if you are already a Catholic but haven't yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, please let me know.

OLDE FORGE CAFE - A CALL FROM THE LORD TO BE EVANGELISERS

Our Olde Forge Cafe has been up and running for some time now. There have been very wonderful signs, during these past months, that the Lord has been working through our efforts in the Cafe, to bring his love and truth to others who don't yet know him well. Thank you so much especially to everyone who ministers as a Host or Baker. Thank you to everyone who has invited friends, family members, neighbours, colleagues to join them for refreshments in the Cafe. Of course we are delighted to offer our guests free drinks and cakes, while we ourselves offer a donation to cover costs.

If you haven't yet come into the Cafe or if you haven't yet brought a guest with you, please may I urge you in the name of the Lord and at the request of our Archbishop, to please do so. Every one of us is called by the Lord to bring others to know him. If you do or even if you don't think our Cafe is the best way to do this as a parish Faith community, nonetheless please take a full and active part in this initiative. In that way we really are trying to fulfil what our dear Lord Jesus is asking of us.

OLDE FORGE CAFE - FREE COFFEE AND CAKE FOR OUR VISITORS

Please do your best to bring members of your family, your friends, neighbours and colleagues who normally have little, if any contact with our Catholic parish, to the Olde Forge Cafe. Please remember that those you bring with you DO NOT give a donation for their coffee and cake. Only us, who are regular members of our parish, are asked to give a donation, each time, to cover the cost of the Coffee machine, coffee beans, heat, light etc. Dear Bakers and those who provide milk, please remember to take your expenses from the donations received.

CANDLES BURNING IN THE CHURCH - A HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUE

A lovely tradition in Catholic and Orthodox Churches is to light a small votive candle as a symbol of prayer. We provide facilities for this in our church. People can 'light a candle' and give a little donation, when holy Mass or Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is not taking place in the church. However, we must take matters of Health and Safety and the matter of Fire Prevention, very seriously. We cannot allow votive candles to be alight in the church when nobody is actually in the church. We must insist on this for very good reasons as I'm sure you understand. A recent serious incident involving fire, in a local Catholic church, highlighted the importance of this. When holy Mass is not taking place or hasn't yet begun or when Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is not taking place and if someone is present in the church, please feel free to 'light a candle'. However, please be sure to extinguish all candles before you leave the church.

THE MINISTRY OF LECTOR (READER)

Jim Keating has very kindly agreed to help all our Lectors to develop their public- speaking skills, so that God's holy Word is proclaimed as well as possible. Please, dear Lectors, work with Jim when he contacts you or when you contact him.

If any of our Lectors is not sure of the meaning and/or the historical context of any Reading they are to proclaim, please let me, Fr Malachy, know, a few days before you proclaim God's holy Word, so that we find a little time, convenient for you, to speak together about your Reading.

LECTORS FOR WEEKDAYS, THIS WEEK

Tue: Lisa

Wed: Phil

Thu: Claire

Fri: Lorenza

ANONYMOUS LETTER FROM A PARISHIONER

Dear Father Malachy

I hope this letter reaches you at the right moment. A small encouragement tucked between your many unseen labours Please know that even if you don't always hear it aloud, what you're doing and chose to do matters.

Though I remain anonymous, I am part of this parish and I wanted to say thank you. Thank you for staying- faithful, even when the pews felt a little empty. Thank you for showing up, not just to preach, but to live the Gospel through action; by opening the café, opening Bible study, creating spaces for connection, prayer and warmth. It's easy to overlook these things in a busy world, but I see them. Many of us do. And they mean more than you may ever know.

Thank you also for creating space for others to serve, in a time when many feel disconnected from their faith, it's a quiet gift to see opportunities open up within the parish, ways for people to take part, however small. That kind of invitation can mean more than words express.

Even if some members of your parish aren't here all the time, and even if the presence feels scattered or uncertain, please know that your ministry is still reaching hearts. There are many of us who are quietly praying for this parish, even from a distance. People who are not always visible but are still drawing closer to God, slowly, quietly, but deeply.

Even when growth feels hidden, I hope you remember that God sees it all. Your words, your witness, your sacrifices. None of it is in vain, Some-of the most life -changing work happens in silence and in stillness. You are creating a space where the holy spirit can move, even when it seems small. Sometimes, the smallest seeds grow into the strongest roots, ones that hold firm through every season. And though the fruit may not be visible yet, God is still working. Please do not lose heart. The quiet things matter to God, the prayers no one hears, the hours no one sees, the love that doesn't need recognition, It all adds up in eternity. Your faithfulness is planting more than you know. And one day, those seeds will bear fruit in ways only Heaven can measure.

May God bless you with strength when you're weary, joy when you're discouraged, and peace that comes not from outcomes. but from the quiet assurance that you're walking faith fully with him.

Thank you for your patience. Thank you for your leadership. Thank you for staying.

With gratitude.

A thankful member of the parish.

"Therefore, my dear brothers: and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labour in the Lord is not in vain" - 1. Corinthians 15:58

ROTAS - AUGUST 2025

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

2/3: 5pm Mary; 9am Lisa; 11am Carolyn, John, Jim(H)
9/10: 5pm Gabrielle; 9am Lesley; 11am Regina, Patrick, Linda(H)
16/17: 5pm Paul; 9am Lizzie; 11am Lorenza, Patricia, Marian(H)
23/24: 5pm Patricia; 9am Maggie; 11am David, Angela, Ross(H)
30/31: 5pm Phil; 9am Lisa; 11am Simone, Mary, Margaret(H)

LECTORS

2/3: 5pm Richard; 9am Chinwe; 11am Jim
9/10: 5pm Patricia; 9am Mike; 11am Lisa
16/17: 5pm Mutsa; 9am Gerry; 11am Phil
23/24: 5pm Marian; 9am Claire; 11am Lorenza
30/31: 5pm Lizzie; 9am Collette; 11am Paul

HOSTS

2: Kim, Manuel
3: David, Giannina
5: Gardening group
6: Admin' group
9: Phil, Simone
10: Collette, Maggie
12: Gardening group
13: Admin' group
16: Jim, Vanessa
17: Patricia, Lizzie
19: Gardening group
20: Admin group
23: Paul Mould, Lorenza
24: Marian, Mary
26: Gardening group
27: Admin' group
30: Lesley, Maggie
31: Regina, Patrick

BAKERS

2: Sophie Golding
9: Anderson
16: Giannina
23: Chinwe
30: Gerry Murphy