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## **Newsletter 28th March 2024**

### **Easter**

#### **Dear Parishioners**

We have begun the celebration of the Triduum, the most sacred time in the liturgical calendar. The Passion of Jesus is the highlight of the first three days and reaches its culmination on the Easter Vigil in the resurrection of Our Lord.

What we are invited to do in the coming days is not to analyse, assess or understand the Passion or even simply come to terms with it. We simply need to encounter it.

St Gregory of Nazianzus in one of his writings suggested a good technique: to pick a character in the narrative and see everything from the viewpoint of that person. Be Joseph of Arimathea who showed compassion to Mary and negotiated with Pilate to take the body of Jesus. Be Simon of Cyrene who took up the cross and followed Jesus. Be Nicodemus, the person “who served God by night” and prepared Jesus’ body for burial with perfumes. Be one or other Mary, or Salome or Joanna shedding tears for Jesus. Be St Peter who got scared at first but returned asking for pardon.

At the beginning of Holy Week pope Francis invited everyone to live this time accompanying the Lord Jesus with faith and love. He encouraged the faithful to learn from our Mother, the Virgin Mary, who followed her Son Jesus with the closeness of her heart, one soul with Him. This Easter we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection yet again benefiting from his life-giving power. It is another mile stone in our journey of faith when God invites us to strengthen our bonds with him and thus renew our relationships with others. May this Easter be for us the time of grace, joy and hope. Let us continue our earthly pilgrimage with Virgin Mary’s attitude of being “one soul with her Son”. Happy Easter!

Fr Sebastian

<b>Mass Times this Week: 30<sup>th</sup> March – 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>			
<i>Day/Feast Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> <b>Holy Thursday</b>	8pm	Holy Name - Mass of the Lord’s Supper	Richard Sullivan RIP
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> <b>Good Friday</b>	9.45am 10.30am 3pm 3pm	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i> Holy Name Our Lady of Lourdes – The Passion Holy Name – The Passion	<i>Family Stations of the Cross/hot cross buns</i> <i>Family Stations of the Cross/hot cross buns</i>
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> <b>Holy Saturday</b>	11am 8pm	<i>Holy Name – Blessing of the Easter Baskets</i> Our Lady of Lourdes – Easter Vigil	
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> <b>Easter Sunday</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Name followed by Egg Hunt Our Lady of Lourdes followed by Egg Hunt	Hull family intentions People of the Parish

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	NO MASS		
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am 10-12 noon	Holy Name <i>Adoration at Holy Name</i>	Maura McGroarty RIP
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>			
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am 12 noon	Holy Name <i>Holy Name</i>	Paul Hussey RIP <i>Funeral of Richard Sullivan</i>
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	Leo Monteiro RIP
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	5.30- 5.50pm 6pm	<i>Reconciliation at OLOL</i> Our Lady of Lourdes	People of the Parish
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	9am 11am 5.30- 5.50pm 6pm	Holy Name Our Lady of Lourdes <i>Reconciliation at Holy Name</i> Holy Name	Stanislaw Angielczyk RIP  Sarah, Nick and Billy Intentions

**EASTER OFFERINGS ARE YOUR PERSONAL GIFT TO FR SEBASTIAN.** Priests have no salary, therefore their personal income is derived from your contributions at Christmas and Easter and for mass intentions. GiftAid envelopes are available in the church porches for your Easter gift. Thank you.

#### **NO ADORATION AT HOLY NAME NEXT WEEK**

It will start back on Tuesday (9<sup>th</sup> April)

#### **BEREAVEMENT COFFEE MORNING – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Anyone enduring the pain and loss of bereavement is welcome to attend this caring, supportive gathering

#### **MARCH 100 CLUB WINNERS**

1<sup>st</sup> prize Gerda Pope, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize Roger Vincent, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize Nina McCaffrey

#### **FANTASTIC FUNDRAISING DURING LENT**

There have been some great fundraising efforts in recent weeks and we would like to thank all who have organised and supported:

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY TALK** at OLOL on 7<sup>th</sup> March raised **£240** towards Your Sanctuary, thank you to our speaker and team.

**FHC CAKE SALE** last weekend raised **£498.60** from both churches. Thank you to the children for baking, those who helped sell and those who bought. Proceeds will go to KCAH (Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness)

**HOLY FAMILY KNITTERS** have been busy selling Easter chicks amongst other items throughout Lent and raised **£855** which will go to CAFOD

**HOLY NAME PANCAKES AND LENTEN SOUP LUNCHES** raised **£490** which will go towards help pay for some altar servers to join the Red Shirts at Lourdes

**CAFOD BIG LENT WALK** some parishioners took part in a fun walk from OLOL to Holy Name last weekend and arrived to a huge breakfast feast. Donations toward CAFOD's support of fishermen in Liberia was **£297 + giftaid**

#### **GOOD FRIDAY UNITED SERVICES – 10.45am Giggs Hill Green**

Christians from the local churches will gather near the war memorial on Giggs Hill Green. All welcome.

## **VISITING OF THE HOUSEBOUND**

Fr Sebastian is available to visit any housebound visitors the week after Easter. If you would like to be visited please contact either parish office

## **SOCIAL**

**SUMMER CONCERT – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at OLOL**

**OLYMPIC CHARITY EVENT - Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024**

For all Parishioners with an Olympic Gold medallist Sunday 23 June 2024 after 11am Mass - details to follow.

**RACE NIGHT – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June at Holy Name**

**NEXT YOUTH GROUP – 12<sup>th</sup> April, Holy Name**

Our next youth group for ages 13 to 17 will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> February at Holy Name. All are welcome

**NEXT FUN FRIDAY – 10<sup>th</sup> May, OLOL**

Pizza, games, crafts and an opportunity to hang out with friends. For Years 3-6, siblings welcome.

## **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Jesus asked that we prepare for **Divine Mercy Sunday (7th April -Second Sunday of Easter)** with a novena starting on Good Friday. *"I desire that during these nine days you bring souls to the fountain of My mercy, that they may draw there from strength and refreshment and whatever grace they have need of in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death."*

The novena to the Divine Mercy is nine days of prayer with a specific Intention for each day, followed by the Chaplet. The Chaplet can be said anytime, but the Lord specifically asked that it be recited as a novena. He promised: *"By this Novena (of Chaplets), I will grant every possible grace to souls."*

Please join in prayer for the Divine Mercy Chaplet (including one decade of the prayer said in Polish as would have been dictated to St Faustina) at 3.00pm on Sunday 7th April (Divine Mercy Sunday) at Holy Name or there is an opportunity after any Sunday 09.00 Mass in the Lady Chapel also at Holy Name. To find the novena prayer and more information please visit <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet>

## **SONGBIRDS**

Songbirds will be resuming rehearsals from Monday 15 April 8.15-9.30pm and most Mondays until our Summer concert on Saturday 15 June 2024 all at OLOL Church Hall with professional musical director and parishioner Mary McIntyre. New choir Members and musical friends always welcome for further information get in touch with [Karen@Haizelden.com](mailto:Karen@Haizelden.com)

## **FEBRUARY COLLECTIONS**

Standing orders £12,177; Offertory Cash £2,121.45; Contactless £775; Lourdes 2<sup>nd</sup> collection £888.60; Cafod Fast Day £607.25; Missio £17

REGULAR EVENTS		
<b>Divine Mercy Chaplet:</b> All welcome to pray the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy, which Our Lord encouraged St. Faustina to say.	Weekly - <b>Sundays</b> after 9am Mass in the Lady Chapel	Holy Name
<b>TakeTime Meditations:</b> A calm, compassionate space to meet God with the opportunity to explore your faith with others.	Weekly - <b>Mondays</b> at 8pm on Zoom	Email parish office for Zoom link
<b>Playgroup and Café:</b> A cuppa and a chance to catch up with friends every Friday. Playgroup for babies and pre-schoolers too.	Weekly - <b>Fridays</b> 9-10.30am	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Sew 'N So's:</b> Complete your craft projects with a warm welcome, friendly chat and suggestions about anything you are "stuck" on.	Weekly - <b>Fridays</b> 11am-1pm	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Fun Fridays:</b> Pizza, games, crafts and an opportunity to hang out with friends. For Years 3-6, siblings welcome.	Monthly – 3.30pm Look out in newsletter for next one	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Youth Group:</b> Ages 13-17. Come along for food, games and fun	Every other Friday (see newsletter	Holy Name
<b>Holding Hands Play Café</b> A new playgroup and café. Toy areas for young ones to explore, alongside tables and seating for parents/ caregivers. Light menu available	Weekly on Mondays and Thursdays 9.15-1.00pm (Commercial venture)	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Drinks and games after Saturday and Sunday evening Masses:</b> come along after the 6pm Mass to meet fellow parishioners	Monthly – first Saturday of the month <b>Next: 6<sup>th</sup> &amp; 7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Rosary:</b> All welcome, especially anyone who would like to learn the Rosary or anyone who needs a refresher in a peaceful environment.	Weekly - <b>Friday</b> 7pm Monthly - <b>1st Saturdays</b> at 9.30am Weekly term time <b>Monday</b> 7.30pm	Holy Name Holy Name OLOL
<b>Bereavement Coffee Morning:</b> Anyone enduring the pain and loss of bereavement is welcome to attend this caring, supportive gathering.	Monthly - 1st Tuesdays at 10am	Holy Name
<b>Grandparents and Elderly Group:</b> Open to all grandparents and elderly in the parish. Come along for a chat and a cuppa.	Monthly - 3rd Tuesdays at 10.15am <b>Next: 16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Bible study group:</b> Come along for coffee, prayer and discussion: Have you ever thought about what you read in the Bible? Is it true? In what ways is it true? Is it a myth? Who says so? A small group who meet regularly to study and pray the bible together. Informative, useful, and fun	Fortnightly – Wednesdays at 10am Call: John Merrigan (07949 913487).	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Parish Soups:</b> A delicious selection of homemade soups served with bread and cheese. Come along and bring a friend!	Monthly - 2nd Wednesdays at 12pm <b>Next: 10<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Taizé Evening:</b> A short service of meditative and reflective prayer, combining periods of silence, readings from Scripture, and Taizé music based on Psalm.	Monthly - Thursdays at 7pm (Please check newsletter for next)	Holy Name
<b>Esher Catenians:</b> open to all practising Catholic men looking for a local, national and international social network	Monthly – generally 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays at 7:00pm for 7:30pm Email: Andrew_burton33@aol.com	Various, including Surbiton Golf Club, The Angel, TD