



**Our Lady of Mount Carmel and  
St Joseph Roman Catholic Church**  
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Parish Team		
Fr.	<b>Peter Pagac</b>	<b>SDB</b>
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Rev.	<b>Fidelis Chukwu</b>	
Rev.	<b>Michael Kennedy</b>	

**SYNOD 2023: THE NEXT TWO YEARS IN THE LIFE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Synod 2021-2023 Remember that the Holy Father is inviting the whole Church, and every person at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Joseph's to prayerfully discern together and offer recommendations on how best our Church can grow in Communion, Participation and Mission. For more information visit <https://rcaos.org.uk/synod>

### Mass Times, Intentions and Information

<b>SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C</b> 10am: <b>Amina Riamah Birthday Thanksgiving</b> 12:00: <b>Norma Boter</b>	<b>THURSDAY 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 9.30am: <b>Rosary</b> 10:00am: <b>Sister Mary Magdalen (FM 10)</b>
<b>MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 10am: <b>No Eucharistic Service</b>	<b>FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 - Feria</b> 9.30 <b>Rosary</b> 10:00am: <b>No Mass</b>
<b>TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 9.30a: <b>Rosary</b> 10am: <b>For the People of the Parish</b>	<b>SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 – Feria</b> 10am: <b>No Mass</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 10.00:am <b>No Mass</b>	<b>SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C</b> 10am: <b>People of the Parish</b> 12:00: <b>John Maria &amp; Irene Gomes RIP</b>

**Mass at Sacred Heart Parish: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10am**

**SPARE ROOM:** A Parish Lady is seriously looking for a small room to rent within the Parish. If you can help, please get in touch with the Parish Office

**Holy Father's Intention for March 2022: For a Christian response to bioethical challenges:** We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

**GIFT AID 2022/2023** We are very grateful to all those who have signed up to the Gift Aid Scheme. During 2019/20 and 2020/21 there was significant disruption due to Covid 19, and we only received approx £11,000 from HMRC for your contributions to the parish. This is still a significant contribution to the parish income. For those of you who have not yet signed up to this scheme, we urge you to consider if you are eligible to claim Gift Aid and please speak to Marion Goonewardene for further information. For the tax year 2022/23, your personal tax allowance has been increased to £12,570 and anyone earning this before deductions is eligible to Gift aid your contributions. For every £1 you contribute we can get a tax rebate of 25p. It is a very effective way of maximising your contribution at no extra cost to yourself.

**EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE:** We start the sell of ticket from 13<sup>th</sup> March and the draw will take place on Palm Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April. £1:00 for strip of 5 tickets. Donation sheet is at the back of the Church. All money collected will go to Ukraine Refugee Appeal

**HOSPITAL CONTACTS** If you or a member of your family are admitted to one of the local hospitals, do please let the hospital's Catholic chaplain know.  
St George's Hospital: Fr Mark Higgins (020 8725 3069).  
St Heliers and Epsom Hospital: Fr Philip Pak (020 8296 2000)  
Kingston Hospital: Fr Tony Oleh (020 8546 7711)  
Guy's and St. Thomas Hospital: Fr Jake Dicto (020 7188 5588)  
Chelsea and Westminster Hospital: Call the Chaplaincy (020 3315 083 Emed: 07659 140 566)

**Offertory Collection:** Thank you for your generosity, this week's second collection is for the needs of the Parish

**CONTACT THE PARISH PRIEST:** If you want to have talk with Father Peter, please send him an e-mail: [peterpagac@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:peterpagac@rcaos.org.uk) or phone him on 0207 223 2747 and he will arrange a good meeting time for you to see him.

**COVID 19.** Please note that in this church facemasks and hand sanitiser are in use. Clearly parishioners who care for the health of their neighbour, as well as their own, will consider very carefully the advantages of continuing to sanitise their hands and of wearing a mask in church, it must be a mask covering nose and face. Whatever you think, thank you for thinking of others before yourself. Hands face

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Takes place on Fridays with confessions throughout the Lent, From 6.00 to 7.00pm. You are all welcome for a quiet time of prayer.

**SAFEGUARDING:** If you want to take up a ministry in the parish premises working with children or adults, you must have a DBS clearance-this is an essential safeguarding procedure that we must follow by British Law. Only Readers are excepted.

# Parish Diary and Reflection

<b>Sunday</b> – El Shaddai Prayer – 1:00 – 3:30pm	Tea and Coffee - <b>Cancelled until further Notice</b>
<b>First Friday of the Month:</b> Adoration & Benediction	Saturday - Youth Practice 1:00 - 3:00pm Choir Practice: 1:00 - 5:00pm

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT C



Today is Laetare (“Rejoice!”) Sunday! It is on this Fourth Sunday of Lent that we change liturgical colors to rose in honor of the fact that Easter is drawing near. It is a time to rejoice in the coming celebration of the events of our salvation.

In Lent we are to be striving for repentance, that is, walking closer with God who is ever near us, but we stray through preferring our ways to God’s.

Our old Testament readings have been recounting the history of Israel to us. We heard about God’s covenant with Noah on the First Sunday of Lent, then about Abraham and the binding of Isaac on the Second Sunday, and last week was Moses and the Ten Commandments. This week, we fast forward to the time of Israel’s exile. This took place after the great King David reigned in Israel. David had united the kingdom and made a covenant with God

In today’s second reading, Paul tells us that we are “products of Christ’s reconciliation.” Christ took the first initiative of reconciling us to God. In order words, owing to sin, we were cut off from God. However, through the sacrifice of Christ, we became God’s adopted children. So, we are all children of the same father through Christ’s sacrifice.

This reading today succinctly summarizes the beautiful truth of the Gospel in which we rejoice. While we were “dead in our transgressions [i.e. sins]” and could do nothing to save ourselves, God took action and sent Jesus to die on the cross, rise from the dead, and, therefore, offer us salvation. This salvation is a free gift given to us by God

In today’s gospel, through the story of the prodigal son, Jesus reassures us of God’s readiness to reconcile with us. The parable of the prodigal son is the story of a loving father and a humble and repented son. It is the story of reconciliation at its best. Most importantly, it reflects our own daily story and struggle.

Even when we make a mess of things, our loving God is ready to take us in. Forgiveness is the final form of love, because it defies logic and can only be described as God-like. We’re all called to show it.

“Seventy times seven times,” as Jesus expresses it elsewhere in the Gospel (Matthew 18).

All of this should inspire us to ponder on God’s forgiveness of our sins, our need to repent and to have confidence in God’s mercy. And we must forgive others. We must pray for the grace to do so.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** To baptise your child please hone the Parish Office to book for the class, arrange a date and time of baptism. We request ALL PARENTS, who wish to get their child baptised, to bring their own baptism certificates as proof that they are Catholics, a copy of their child’s birth certificate and proof of address along with the Baptism Form collected at the back of the church. GODPARENTS will need to bring their baptism certificate to proof they are practicing Catholics

**MONEY COUNTERS:** We are looking for volunteers to count money on Sunday after 12.00noon Mass. If you are interested please get in touch with the Marion Goonewardene or the Parish Office

**Stations of the Cross:** We have every Sunday at 4.30pm throughout the Lent. A priest will be round to hear confessions

**THREE THINGS TO DO FOR LENT** Lent is a positive and strengthening experience ... a time to become the person you always wanted to be. Lent, we are told is a time for fasting and abstinence, almsgiving and prayer. Here are three things for you to do during Lent.

**Fasting and Abstinence.** Keep your meals small and simple during Lent. This is not a slimming exercise. The thinking behind fasting and abstinence is that we strengthen our spiritual life by weakening physical pleasures. Fasting means reducing the amount of food that we would normally eat. Abstinence means not eating a particular food (meat). The law of Fasting binds all those who are between eighteen years of age and sixty years of age. The law of Abstinence binds everyone (except for the frail and the sick) once they have reached their fourteenth birthday.

**Almsgiving** We are bombarded with requests for money from a huge number of charities. Identify a charity that means something to you .... find out what they do and make a contribution. If you can’t afford to give money, give your time.

**Prayer** Our lives are so hectic that we often forget to set aside a few quiet moments in which to talk to God. During Lent, postpone breakfast television for a few moments and make a short prayer. In the evening encourage your children to say a night time prayer before bed.

**How To Have A Mass Offered:** Please fill-in a Mass Intention envelope which you will find at the back of Church or alternatively you may ask a member of the parish Clergy for one. Once completed, place in the Collection bags on Sunday or hand it to any of the clergy, Parish Secretary or the Sacristan, or if during the week put it through the Priest’s House letterbox. It is important that you use the pre-printed Mass Intention envelopes so that we know who has requested the Mass. Charity Number: 1173050 (PLEASE STOP COMING TO THE OFFICE ON SUNDAYS TO BOOK MASSES – USE THE ENVELOPES AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH)