



**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>
Fr.	<b>Anthony Lobo</b>	<b>SDB</b>
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 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C</b> 10am: <b>Bukola Komolafe Birthday Thanksgiving</b> 12:00: <b>Laureano Lamser RIP</b>	<b>THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 9.30am: <b>Rosary</b> 10:00am: <b>Henry Saunders (FM 9)</b>
<b>MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 10am: <b>No Eucharistic Service</b>	<b>FRIDAY 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD</b> 9.30 <b>Rosary</b> 10:00am: <b>No Mass</b>
<b>TUESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 9.30a: <b>Rosary</b> 10am: <b>Raymond Brierley RIP and all deceased members of Margaret Farodye-Brierley Family</b>	<b>SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 10am: <b>No Mass</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 – Feria</b> 10.00:am <b>No Mass</b>	<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>Mass at Sacred Heart Parish: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10am</b>	

**Parish office:** Open Monday to Saturday: 11:00am to 7:00pm except Wednesdays

**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 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT C



We are now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describe Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Lent is an important opportunity to rethink and reevaluate the patterns and flow of our lives. That is what "repentance" means: think about it again and see if you are present to God and letting God be present to you in the ways you want, the ways that make your life fruitful and blessed.

In our second reading, Paul kindly reminded us of the consequences of deliberately going contrary to God's will. He carefully traced the death of the Israelites to their inability to please God. That is to say, because they sinned against God. Hence, Paul concluded by warning us that: *"All these happened as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age."* In his letter to the Romans he puts it directly: *"The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life" (Rom 6, 23.)*

In today's gospel, Jesus was very direct in his words when he said: *"Unless you repent you will perish."* One might say that this is too harsh to come from Christ who is merciful and compassionate. The truth is that when Jesus speaks this way, it does not diminish his compassion and mercy. Rather, he does so because he actually cares for us and sees what we cannot see. He simply warns us of the negative consequences of living a sinful life and wants us to repent and live a better life.

Finally, compassion (*cum passio*) means to suffer with, and also to love with. Therefore, God's compassion and mercy for us is always associated with his love. Just as God knew how miserable the Israelites were in Egypt, He knows how miserable we are under the slavery of sin. He is aware of our enslavement by both habitual sins of omission and commission. He also knows the efforts we are making to live good lives and how we often fail. So this Lent, Jesus is ready to suffer with us so that we might be free from the slavery of sin. Through our repentance, His compassion, mercy, and love we would be healed and restored to life this season and beyond.

**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

**ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?** If you are new to the parish then we extend a very warm welcome to you. Please complete the 'New Parishioner Enrolment Form' and post it to the Parish Office or hand it in during Mass. Hard copy forms are available in the entrance of each church

**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)**