



Saint Vincent de Paul Parish
36 Altenburg Gardens, Battersea, London SW11 1JJ
One of the South Battersea Churches

Newsletter

Contact us:

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Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Ed Elliot & Deborah Sherwood: batterseaagsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Further information:

Our Parish Website: www.saintvincentdepaul-church.org or Scan the QR Code to the right
 The Archdiocese of Southwark Website: www.rcaos.org.uk
 Our Diocesan Directory: www.rcaos.org.uk/directory.
 The Catholic Church in England and Wales: www.cbcew.org.uk



Year C

Holy Week and Easter

13 – 27 April 2025

Services and Mass Intentions for the coming fortnight

Sunday 13 April	9am	Mass	Ann Sherwood RIP
<i>Palm Sunday of the Passion</i>	11am	Mass	Mr M Gbangbola RIP
	6pm	Mass	All Parishioners
Monday 14 th	No Public Mass		Kevin Galligan's Intentions (recent birthday)
Tuesday 15th	9.30am		Canon George Grady RIP (F)
Wednesday 16 th			<i>[The Chrism Mass at St George's Cathedral]</i>

Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper

Thursday 17 April	8pm		All Parishioners
			<i>Followed by Prayerful Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10pm</i>

Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Friday 18 April	10am		Stations of the Cross, especially for Children
<i>[Collection for The Holy Places]</i>	3pm		Celebration of the Passion of The Lord

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Saturday 19 April	9pm		All Parishioners
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Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Sunday 20 April	9am		Bernadette Austen (Birthday Intention)
	11am		John & Julia Galligan RIP
			<i>NO Evening Mass</i>

Monday 21 st	No Public Mass		
Tuesday 22 nd	No Public Mass		
Wednesday 23rd	9.30am		Canon John O'Toole RIP (Robinson)
Thursday 24th	9.30am		Inezz Palmer RIP
Friday 25th	9.30am		Deceased Relations of Fr Tim
Saturday 26 th	11am		<i>Confessions</i>

Sunday 27 April	9am		Antonio (RIP) and Rosa Antonini
<i>Second Sunday of Easter</i>	11am		Our Confirmation candidates <i>[Confirmation Mass]</i>
	6pm		All Parishioners

Time, Talents, and Treasure: In response to your participation, we will start to share the names and contacts of any new volunteers with those who organise activities in which you could start immediately. We will then contact those (such as Readers) who will need to arrange practices; and others who may need to get a Diocesan DBS clearance. Thank you again.

'Easter Offering': please take an envelope from the back of Church, especially if you will not be here at Easter; or use the additional option available on our Card Reader.

Gabriele Sedda is urgently looking for a room to rent by the end of April. If you can help, call 07909 596401

Journey with Christ our Lord through Holy Week to Easter

Wherever you will celebrate Holy Week and Easter, these are very special days of grace for us all.



Christ Carrying the Cross, by Titian, painted around 1565 and now in the Museo del Prado, Madrid.

We see in close-up, Simon of Cyrene helping Jesus as he stumbles towards Calvary to die for us. The Cross both separates them and binds them. The Lord wears the crown of thorns, his face is bloodstained, and he is being led with a noose by invisible soldiers. As he looks tearfully towards us, the Lord seems to ask if we too are willing to accompany him and share his Cross.

The Lord is inviting you to relive his final days on this earth with him.

Beating at their heart is his immense love for you; let that thought touch you and you will be greatly rewarded. *Holy Week should never feel like or be an ordinary week!*

In Holy Week, reflect on the journey the Holy Spirit has guided you on during Lent this year, and **whether any particular thing** emerged for you – think and pray about that in these days, and give God thanks for it if you can. Is there also something for which you may still wish to seek the grace of God's forgiveness, as you celebrate Christ's Passion? **Offer your prayers in solidarity with the suffering people of Gaza**, being unjustly oppressed so near to the places of Jesus' life and death.

At **Holy Thursday's evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (8pm)** we celebrate again how Jesus, at his final meal on earth, instituted the Eucharist and the Priesthood. We solemnly celebrate this Banquet of Love, that is the heart of every Mass. Give thanks for those gifts of grace which help you follow the Lord more faithfully. Pray for your priests, and encourage priestly vocations among your own sons.

On **Good Friday at 3pm**, guided by the Passion according to Saint John, we accompany Christ on his sorrowful journey to the Cross on which he died; we will venerate the image of his Cross; and, receiving his Body and Blood in Holy Communion, contemplate his love poured out for us and the world as he died.

On **Good Friday morning at 10am**, there are **Stations of the Cross for all**, especially for **children** and their families.

On Good Friday, the special Papal COLLECTION for THE 'HOLY PLACES' is taken – it helps support Christian Churches and Communities in the Holy Land (including Gaza), where our brothers and sisters live in such peril,

caught in the conflict between Arab and Israeli. **Please be generous:** those who take envelopes should have one especially for this; you can also use the Card Readers.

On Good Friday, Catholics offer the Lord two final acts of Lenten penance, by Fasting and Abstinence – let these small sacrifices remind us of how great is Christ's sacrifice for us.

What is required from us? Adults up to the age of 65 (and all who can) **fast** by eating only one main meal and **abstain from any meat** throughout the day (vegetarians should adapt appropriately). We are only obliged to undertake these small penances twice a year: on Good Friday and Ash Wednesday, to begin and conclude Lent.

The Easter Celebration of Christ's Resurrection begins with the **Easter Vigil** next **Saturday evening at 9pm**. **This is the great Easter Service.** As night begins to fall, the light of Christ risen (symbolised by our Paschal Candle) guides us into the darkened Church towards new life. By the light of the Paschal Candle we will pray, sing and keep silence, reliving the great story of how God prepared his chosen people for wonders that are surpassed by the Resurrection of Our Lord from the dead. *If you possibly can, come to this special service rather than other Easter Masses.*

On Easter Day there are two Masses, at the usual morning times (9am and 11am), but **NO EVENING MASS.**

'On Pilgrimage' from Easter to Pentecost in our Parish and Diocese

Immediately after Easter in our Parish:

- At 11am Mass on **Sunday 27 April** Canon Gerard Bradley will be coming to **Confirm our 11 candidates.**
- **On Thursday May 1st at 7pm: we are holding a Reconciliation Service (Confessions) – it is available for all, but especially the children who will receive their first Holy Communion.**
- A local **Jubilee Walking Pilgrimage** with people from neighbouring parishes **on Saturday 10 May**, starting here or at Holy Ghost Parish Church. A sign-up sheet is available at the back of Church. *En route* there will be Mass at Holy Ghost at 10am, Adoration at Sacred Heart, Lunch at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and Evening Prayer and Refreshments here in the early afternoon.
- **First Holy Communions** will be celebrated at 11am Mass on **Sunday 11 May.**

As part of the Jubilee Year in our Southwark Diocese, there will be a big outdoor Celebration for the whole diocese, a **Jubilee Day at The Friars, Aylesford on Saturday 7 June** from **10.30 am - 4.30 pm** in the grounds of the Priory.

Sign Up now at the back of Church: A coach has been reserved by our Parish in the hope that sufficient people wish to go, so you must book early - cost £30 for adults and £10 for children/under 18s. Payment will be required immediately after Easter. For further details please contact kristinabcooper@gmail.com or 07972119252.

June 7th will be a day of fun and faith for all the family: talks, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary, Confessions, Prayer for Healing, exhibitions and fun activities for children, as well as the joy of just being outside relaxing in this beautiful historic place.

People are encouraged to bring your own picnics, but food, including a barbecue, a tea room and ice creams will be available on site (though probably with long queues). The day will culminate in a **concelebrated Mass led by Archbishop John**, who will pray a special blessing on all those present and on the whole diocese.

In the weeks of preparation between Easter and Pentecost, our Diocese is offering a **six-session course 'Pilgrimage to Pentecost'**, to help deepen our understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Sessions will comprise pre-recorded talks, a faith testimony, and music accessible via YouTube, and an opportunity to share with others online or in person. We hope the course booklet will be available very soon. If you would like to set up a group, please let us know.

The booklet will have meditations for every day between Divine Mercy Sunday until the week after Pentecost. You can follow this course on your own at home, join a group in the Parish, or join an Online Group. Currently, two groups at St Vincent's have been proposed, but if you would like to host another please see Father Tim. One group will be meeting on Wednesday evenings (contact Stuart Edwards ste7474@icloud.com) and another on Wednesday mornings 9.30 am - 11 am (contact Kristina Cooper, as above). For further details of the speakers and to order booklets see <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/p2p>

Intentions for our Prayer

Pray for Peace. For a just end to the Ukraine war. For peace in the Middle East, where Israel has begun the war in Gaza again, and is also carrying out a campaign of destruction to intimidate and annex

the Palestinian people of the occupied West Bank. For the DRC, where Rwandan sponsored 'rebel' troops are killing thousands in a bid to acquire precious minerals. So many innocents go on suffering.

Pray fervently for lasting peace with justice for all, for an end to the starvation, killing, wounding, and trauma of innocents, and the utterly unnecessary destruction of people's homes and livelihoods.

Pray for Peace in the many other troubled places across our world including: Afghanistan, Armenia and Azerbaijan, Cameroun, Chad, China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Hong Kong, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Russia, Sudan, Thailand, Yemen.... and all the other places where the innocent are caught up in the violent power struggles of others.

And for the many Christians who in so many parts of the world continue to face persecution for their faith in Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God.

For the many victims of the earthquake in Myanmar and for an end to the Burmese government's violence against its own people.

Pray for the recovery to health of Pope Francis. Join him in his **April Prayer Intention – for the use of new technologies:** 'Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.'

For our young people preparing for Confirmation at the end of the month, and **the children preparing for First Holy Communion** in May; and that in the future their families will continue to support their growth in faith and attendance at Mass.

For all who are sick and housebound, particularly: Rosa Antonini, Mario and Mariana Cassar, Brian and Bridie Connolly, Rose Egan, George Giannoukakis, Lorna Jayamanne, Joy Joseph, Betty Kilkelly, Becky Kumoji, Giuseppe and Giuseppina Morreale, Lorna Phaure, Iris Ramsey, Vincenzo Robilotta, Gus Twycross-Hills, Angela Wells, Monica Wisdom, and all other sick or housebound parishioners; and for parishioners' elderly parents and sick relatives.

A Parish Online Prayer Group meets weekly on Wednesday evenings – would you like to join them?

Parishioners join together for about half an hour on Zoom. Please contact Marina for the Zoom link on 07568 133368.

Your Parish needs your generous support more than ever

Thank you for your recent donations to our parish

- **The most efficient way to donate regularly is with A GIFT-AIDED BANK STANDING ORDER.** Please ask us for details, or use the **Parish Pledge Form** on our website [using this link](#). To **GIVE DIRECTLY FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT** (please use your surname as the reference, particularly to ensure Gift Aid), you require these **BACS** details:

Sort Code:	50-21-01 Nat West, Clapham Junction Branch
Account Number:	82117209
Account Name:	RCAS Battersea Altenburg Gardens
- **Always GIFT AID YOUR OFFERING please.** Gift Aiding by UK taxpayers makes an indispensable contribution for it adds 25% to your donations from tax you already pay - [use this link to register](#). You can **GIFT AID ANY DONATION**, including Offerings for Masses. Just make sure to indicate your wish to do so, by using a special Gift Aid envelope and including your contact details (find the envelopes in the containers on the right-hand Church wall). You should register all card donations for Gift Aid when using the Card Readers.
- **Use the CONTACTLESS CARD READERS** as you enter or leave Mass, but remember to **Gift Aid each Card you use**. Register **each card** the first time. If you use the same card in the future, you usually need only register once.
- You can **DONATE DIRECTLY using the Parish JustGiving page** (also on our website); **please Gift Aid donations**.
- There is a **'DONATE BUTTON' on our website** allowing you to donate directly online. **This, too, lets you Gift-Aid.**
- When you **SHOP ONLINE**, and start first from our [Easyfundraising Page](#), you can raise donations for the parish from some 8000 online retailers. There is *no additional cost to you*.

Whenever you're doing a food shop online, use #easyfundraising! You can raise regular donations for Saint Vincent de Paul Church, Battersea with popular supermarkets including Tesco, Morrisons, ASDA, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Iceland and Ocado - at no extra cost to yourself! If you're not supporting us on easyfundraising yet, please sign up here: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/saint-vincent-de-paul-church/x3ti3n/c2s/618TPvFU/CE024/facebook/>

Thank you to those who have recently used this.

God Bless you all during this Holy Season, Fr Tim