



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

## Newsletter

### Contact us:

**Parish Priest:** Monsignor Timothy Galligan: 020 7228 2121; Email: [batterseaag@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:batterseaag@rcaos.org.uk)

**Parish Pastoral Assistant:** Brother Paulin Meba SDB: Email: [paulin.meba@Salesians.org.uk](mailto:paulin.meba@Salesians.org.uk)

**Administrator:** Ms Alison Boys 020 7228 2121; [batterseaag@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:batterseaag@rcaos.org.uk) Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9.15am – 12.15pm.

**Parish Safeguarding Representatives:** Ed Elliot & Deborah Sherwood: [batterseaagsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:batterseaagsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

### Further information:

Our Parish Website: [www.saintvincentdepaul-church.org](http://www.saintvincentdepaul-church.org) or Scan the QR Code to the right

The Archdiocese of Southwark Website: [www.rcaos.org.uk](http://www.rcaos.org.uk)

Our Diocesan Directory: [www.rcaos.org.uk/directory](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/directory).

The Catholic Church in England and Wales: [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)



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## Seventh Week of Easter

1 – 8 June 2025

### Services and Mass Intentions for the coming week

<b>Sunday 1 June</b> <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i>	<b>9am</b>	All Parishioners
	<b>11am</b>	Holy Souls
	<b>6pm</b>	Mary Morrison RIP (F)
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>No Public Mass</b>	
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Violet Cooper RIP (F)
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.30am</b>	Funeral of Lorna Jayamanne RIP
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Public Mass</b>	
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Raymond and Catherine Bristow RIP (F)
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Diocesan Pilgrimage to Aylesford</b>	
<b>Sunday 8 June</b> <i>Pentecost</i>	<b>9am</b>	
	<b>11am</b>	
	<b>6pm</b>	All Parishioners

**Sunday 1 June:** Please be generous in the **Second Collection for World Communications Sunday**



### The Installation of Pope Leo

**On Sunday 18 May**, at a Solemn Mass in St Peter's Square in Rome, **Pope Leo XIV** was formally installed and entrusted with the **Petrine Ministry of the Bishop of Rome**, as the 266<sup>th</sup> Successor of Saint Peter. Many of you may have seen at least a news report.

By good fortune, I had arranged to be in the city for a few days across the weekend of 18 May, and I am delighted to say I had the privilege of concelebrating at the Installation Mass (along with many hundreds of other priests, bishops and

cardinals!). In the photo, you can glimpse some of the huge crowd leaving after the Mass concluded.



The Mass began at 10 o'clock and lasted until midday, when Pope Leo gave his Regina Caeli Message; we had to be there soon after 8am. Before the Mass itself, the Pope appeared in the 'Popemobile' and toured the Square, and the Via della Conciliazione as far as the river, to greet the crowds who had gathered for Mass (some 200,000 all told).

The Mass was, of course, in Latin, with the Scriptures in Spanish, Italian and English, and the Gospel proclaimed in Latin and in Greek. Using several traditional symbols, **this special Mass powerfully emphasised that Leo is taking up the ministry that Our Lord first entrusted to Saint Peter.** Without describing every detail, **I want to**



**share some of the special prayers and explanations, which can help us understand the unique ministry the Pope has for the Church.**

The Mass began inside the Basilica itself, around the tomb of Saint Peter, where the new Pope and the Patriarchs of the Eastern Catholic Churches prayed. The Bishop of Rome serves the unity not only of the Latin Catholic Church but of all the Catholic Churches. That moment by the Tomb underscored the deep connection between the Bishop of Rome and the Apostle Peter, who, together with many other Christians, bore witness to the faith by the shedding of his blood close to that very place.

Deacons then took three holy objects from by the Tomb that were to be solemnly presented to Pope Leo during the Mass – **the Pallium, the Fisherman's Ring, and the Book of the Gospels.** Accompanied by the Bishop concelebrants, the procession moved through the Basilica to the Altar outside, accompanied by the singing of a special Litany of the Saints. As the Apostles and Pope Saints were named, our response was '*Come to his [i.e. Pope Leo's] aid*'; then followed intercession of other saints to come to the aid of the Church and all people of good will. It concluded: '*Pax Christi veniat; regnum Christi veniat*', '*May the Peace of Christ come, may the Reign of Christ come.*'



In the Opening Prayer, Pope Leo prayed '*... Look with favour on me, your servant, whom you have chosen as successor of Peter. Grant that I may always be for your people the visible source and foundation of its unity in faith and communion*'. The Gospel, proclaimed first in Latin, then in Greek, was the passage from Saint John chapter 21, 15 – 19 (which we heard at Mass on the third Sunday of Easter), when Peter was asked three times by Jesus at the lakeside 'Do you love me?'.

Before his Homily, the Holy Father was presented by Cardinals with those **three special symbols of his new Petrine ministry that had been carried from the Tomb of Peter.** First, the Pallium (left), which was laid over his shoulders. Made of white wool, it is a symbol of the bishop as Good Shepherd, and at the same time of the Lamb Crucified for the



salvation of the human race. The lamb's wool is also meant to represent the lost, sick or weak sheep whom the shepherd places on his shoulders and carries to the waters of life. It is held in place with three pins representing the three nails of Christ's cross.



Secondly, he was given **the Fisherman's Ring**. It bears an image of Saint Peter with the keys and the net (Peter, having believed in Jesus' word, dragged ashore the nets containing the miraculous catch of fish). This was accompanied by the prayer: *'Most Holy Father, may Christ, the Son of the living God, the shepherd and guardian of our souls, who built his Church upon rock, grant you the ring, the seal of Peter the fisherman, who put his hope in him on the sea of Galilee, and to whom the Lord Jesus entrusted the keys of the Kingdom of heaven. 'Today, you succeed the Blessed Apostle Peter as Bishop of this Church which presides over the unity of charity, as the Blessed Apostle Paul has taught. May the Spirit of charity, poured into our hearts, grant you the gentleness and strength to preserve, through your ministry, all those who believe in Christ in unity and fellowship.'*

And finally, the **Book of the Gospels** was presented to him, with which he silently blessed the congregation and the world. After which the choir sang 'Tu es Petrus', 'You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church...'

**In his Homily** (which you can read in full [here](#)), Pope Leo said 'Love and unity: *these are the two dimensions of the mission entrusted to Peter by Jesus.*' He spoke of the *'too many wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice, the fear of difference, and an economic paradigm that exploits the Earth's resources and marginalises the poorest. For our part, we want to be a small leaven of unity, communion and fraternity within the world. We want to say to the world, with humility and joy: Look to Christ! Come closer to him! Welcome his word that enlightens and consoles! Listen to his offer of love and become his one family: in the one Christ, we are one. This is the path to follow together, among ourselves but also with our sister Christian churches, with those who follow other religious paths, with those who are searching for God, with all women and men of good will, in order to build a new world where peace reigns!'*

He concluded, *'Brothers and sisters, this is the hour for love! The heart of the Gospel is the love of God that makes us brothers and sisters. ... With the light and the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God's love, a sign of unity, a missionary Church that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the word, allows itself to be made "restless" by history, and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity.'*



A week later, i.e. last Sunday, in another special Mass, Pope Leo formally 'took possession' of his Cathedral Church of Saint John Lateran, the Cathedral of Rome (the Basilica of Saint Peter is the shrine over the Tomb of the first Pope and not, of course, a Cathedral). If you are interested in what he said there, you can read his homily [using this link](#).

### **A Jubilee Pilgrimage in Rome and Paris**

The principal reason for my Rome trip had been a gathering of priests and others who, like me, had spent time in seminary training at the Venerable English College in Rome. On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>, we made a Jubilee Year pilgrimage to Saint Peter's, processing through the Holy Door, and celebrating a special Mass in one of the side chapels with Archbishop Paul Gallagher (who was in the Seminary with me, and is currently the Pope's 'foreign minister'). Rome is packed with pilgrims and tourists. Nevertheless, the arrangements made to assist those who are actually Jubilee Year pilgrims are very impressive. At that Mass in Saint Peter's, my special intention was a prayer for our parish and all of you.

*The Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major*



On Monday 19<sup>th</sup>, I made a private Jubilee pilgrimage to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major, passing through the Holy Door, and pausing briefly for prayer at the tomb where Pope Francis is buried (picture, left). As you probably know, he specified the precise location and the simple tomb. It is very close to the Chapel of Our Lady, *Salus Populi Romani*, where there is a very venerable icon to which he had special devotion (pictured below). It arrived in Rome in the time of Pope Gregory the Great, at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> century. Pope Francis prayed there immediately

after being chosen as Pope, and at the beginning and end of all his pastoral trips abroad.

The Icon of Our Lady, *Salus Populi Romani*, in the Borghese Chapel of the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, Rome

The last four days of my trip I spent in Paris, staying with the Sisters at Montmartre. Last Saturday evening, I had the honour of concelebrating at a special Mass in honour of the Martyrs of China at the MEP Chapel of the Epiphany, invited by our Seminarian. These are the 87 Chinese Catholics and 33 Western missionaries from the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century to 1930, who were martyred because of their ministry and, in some cases, for their refusal to apostatize. Some of the westerners were members of the Paris Foreign Missions Society (MEP), and their relics are venerated in the Crypt of the MEP Chapel of the Epiphany where the Mass was held. Many from the Catholic Chinese community in Paris were there, and about 50 priests and I concelebrated with Bishop Tois, an auxiliary Bishop of Paris, in a Mass partly in French and partly in Chinese. Those martyrs remind us of the inspiring faithfulness of so many who discover the love of Jesus Christ for them.



### The Jubilee in our Parish and Diocese

**NEXT SATURDAY 7 June** is the Diocesan **Jubilee Day at The Friars, Aylesford**.

**If you are joining the Parish Coach group, PLEASE NOTE the Coach will leave from outside the Battersea Arts Centre on Lavender Hill at 8am NOT from outside the Church.** (W3W reference:

spell.pools.shade). A copy of the Jubilee Celebration Day Booklet should soon be found at:

[aec.rcaos.org.uk/jubileeccelebration](http://aec.rcaos.org.uk/jubileeccelebration)

IF YOU ARE GOING, PLEASE READ THE SPECIAL INFORMATION SHEET distributed at Mass.

**Some of our parishioners will be joining some or all of the 'walking pilgrimage' to Aylesford, which begins on Monday.** We will offer a special Blessing on them at the end of the 11am Mass this Sunday.

**A Jubilee 'mini-Pilgrimage' for our young people on Saturday 28 June:** Brother Paulin and I are organising this mini-Pilgrimage on Saturday 28 June, focusing on the example of Blessed Carlo Acutis, and visiting Our Lady of Dolours Church in Fulham and our Cathedral of Saint George in Southwark. Some of our newly-confirmed and other young people are taking part; **let us know if you would like to join them.** Travel will be by Bus. **We will gather here at 9.45am, and intend to be back by about 3.30pm.**



**A Parish Summer Picnic on Sunday 29 June** is being organised. As in past years, it will be held on the Common, beginning after the morning Masses, at approximately 1pm. **Keep the date free and come along. It will also be a chance to say 'farewell' to Brother Paulin**, as it will be his last Sunday with us.

**'Time, Talents and Treasure – an update.** Thanks again. We have contacted the organisers of some parish groups (e.g. Flowers, Refreshments, Cleaning, Children's' Liturgy) to pass on the contact details of those who have volunteered – I hope you have heard from them if you volunteered. We will be contacting others over coming weeks.

**Cathedral Mass Celebrating Marriage:** If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup> or any later wedding anniversary this year, you are invited to **renew your marriage vows at a Mass to be celebrated at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, at 3pm on July 12.** Close family members can attend with you. **You must apply BY THIS WEEKEND** to receive a personal invitation from Archbishop John: email [mflsw@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflsw@rcaos.org.uk) with the following details: your full names, address, phone number, anniversary being celebrated, and our parish name.

### For our Prayer

**Pray for Pope Leo XIV** and for an outpouring of all the graces of the Holy Spirit needed for his ministry for the whole Church.

**Pray with Pope Leo for Peace.**

For a just end to the Ukraine war. For peace in the Middle East, and an end to Israel's war of killing and starvation in Gaza, and its renewed campaign of destruction to intimidate and annex the Palestinian people of the occupied West Bank. And for peace in Sudan, and in the DRC. 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 so 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 repose of the soul of Lorna Jayamanne, whose funeral is this Wednesday, and for God's blessings on her family at this time.**

**For all our young parishioners who are taking public exams at this time.**

**For all who are sick and housebound, particularly:** Rosa Antonini, Mario and Mariana Cassar, Brian and Bridie Connolly, Rose Egan, Ethna Ezechie, George Giannoukakis, Joy Joseph, Betty Kilkelly, Becky Kumoji, Giuseppe and Giuseppina Morreale, Lorna Phaure, Iris Ramsey, 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

*Thank you for your recent donations to your 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**:  

<b>Sort Code:</b>	<b>50-21-01 Nat West, Clapham Junction Branch</b>
<b>Account Number:</b>	<b>82117209</b>
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- **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 you should **Gift Aid each Card you use** the first time used. 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*.

Sign up to support us on #easyfundraising today and you can raise free donations for us when you shop online with all your favourite retailers! That's right, you can raise money for us every time you buy clothes, groceries, takeaways, insurance, holidays or anything else you buy online at no extra cost. Join here and we could win a £250 donation: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/saint-vincent-de-paul-church/x3ti3n/c2s/ug3J7yc3/CE952/facebook/> **Thank you to those who have recently used this.**

*God Bless you all during this Jubilee Year of Hope, Fr Tim*