

Corpus Christi Catholic Church

11 Trent Road, London, SW2 5BJ

Parish Office: 020 8150 1150 brixtonhill@rcaos.org.uk #CatholicBrixtonHill



@CatholicBrixton

PARISH PRIEST	Fr Matthew O'Gorman	matthewogorman@rcaos.org.uk	
OFFICE HOURS	Currently Closed	HALL BOOKINGS: conor@lowcosthalls.co.uk	
SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE	Yogi Sutton: 07891039861	www.catholicbrixtonhill.org.uk	

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	5th	09:30	The Blessed Virgin Mary	<i>Memorial</i>	Deceased of Wegryzn Family RIP
SATURDAY	5th	18:00	Second Sunday of Advent	<i>Solemnity</i>	
SUNDAY	6th	08:30	Second Sunday of Advent	<i>Solemnity</i>	Pro Populo
		10:00	Second Sunday of Advent	<i>Solemnity</i>	Susan Fernandes RIP
		12:00	Second Sunday of Advent	<i>Solemnity</i>	FMM Deceased Sisters RIP
MONDAY	7th		NO MASS		
TUESDAY	8th	09:30	Immaculate Conception	<i>Solemnity</i>	Denis Collins RIP
WEDNESDAY	9th	09:30	Feria		Teresa Chanje RIP
THURSDAY	10th	09:30	BVM of Loreto	<i>Memorial</i>	Carmen Dolores Galvis Yepes
FRIDAY	11th	09:30	St Damasus I, Pope	<i>Memorial</i>	Dr Moses Anafu RIP
SATURDAY	12th	09:30	Dedication of Our Church	<i>Solemnity</i>	Our Confirmation Candidates

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY: 5PM - 6PM IN THE HALL

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER: WEDS: 4-6, SAT: 4-6.



We pray for Alfred Owusu, Charlie McCusker and Seamus Craig who died recently and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. As the cold weather begins in our country we remember all those whose work is adversely affected by climactic conditions and particularly those who find it difficult to afford their gas and electricity. We also ask for God's grace to descend upon us that we may be ever more vigilant about the problem of homelessness and ready to assist those who are in need; prayerfully, practically, financially and fraternally.

The season of Advent we have now begun is the beginning of the Church's year and is marked by our approaching the end of our Calendar year: this is, therefore, a bit strange. It seems like the end rather than the beginning in many ways: as you'll notice when you enter our beautiful Church again, the flowers are gone and we see the penitential colour of purple (the colour of vestments we use at funerals). Yet, there is one symbol that reminds us that what in many ways seems like an ebbing away of life and a time of death is not that at all: our Advent wreath. On the wreath we see natural light. Unnatural (or artificial) light is something we're very used to: on our screens all the time and invoked by one swipe or flick, it is often harsh and cold - useful but not beautiful. The light we see emanating from the wreath, however, is that of flame and is a contrast to the bare and sparse Church. It invites us to look, to reflect and to realise that amidst what seems like only darkness and death there is hope for the future: a future that is gentle, warm and beautiful; a future that is Jesus Christ. His coming is foreshadowed each week as we light another candle and grow in anticipation of the feast our faith invites us to - a belief we hope others will share - that no matter how dark things get, He is coming to save us.

Parish Offertory

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to donate quickly online (& Gift-Aid it) click [here](#).

Next Sunday's Readings: Third Sunday of Advent

First: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11
 Psalm: 84(85):9-14
 Second: 2 Peter 3:8-14
 Gospel: Luke 3:4,6



PARISH NEWS

WELCOME HOME!: It is great to have you back and for us to join together in worshipping Our Lord Jesus Christ publicly again. A reminder of our Sacramental Schedule:

- Sunday Masses: Saturday 6pm (Vigil), Sunday 8:30am, 10am & 12pm ([BOOK ONLINE](#))
- Our weekday Mass is at 9:30am (Tuesday - Saturday)
- Confessions will be heard every Saturday (socially distanced) 5-6pm in the Hall.
- Private Prayer: Wednesdays 4pm-6pm & Saturdays 4pm-6pm
- Streaming: our Sunday 10am Mass will continue to be live-streamed

ADVENT REFLECTION THIS WEDNESDAY AT 7PM: All are welcome to join me via our livestream on [YOUTUBE](#) and [FACEBOOK](#) to reflect upon the Advent season during which we will listen to the word of God, I will give a reflection and we will pray together in preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus. The stream will begin at 7pm.

CHRISTMAS MASSES: As in so many different ways, our celebration of Christmas will be different this year. Our Archbishop has advised that we avoid the celebration of a Midnight Mass in order to prevent the possibility of overcrowding and also placing a burden upon our Stewards to police entry. I have added a third Mass on Christmas Eve to cater for more people being able to attend. Masses of Christmas will, therefore, be celebrated at the following times:

Christmas Eve	-	Thursday 24th December 2020	-	4pm, 6pm, 9pm
Christmas Day	-	Friday 25th December 2020	-	9am, 11am

I will advise next week about the booking process for Masses and will be meeting with our musicians to plan what music we will be able to provide.

iPAD REQUEST: In order to welcome more people into our Church we have successfully trialed the use of an iPad / tablet to register people upon arrival. Using this technology means we do not have to close online bookings so early giving people more opportunity to register their attendance. We really need two iPads (at least) so as to avoid long queues and if anyone could offer an old iPad / tablet for use for this purpose please get in touch.

UPDATE ON THE FR TOM HENAGHAN MEMORIAL PROJECT: Please see the attached letter.

“VINNIE PACKS” FOR THE HOMELESS: The St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP) within our parish have sponsored a number of packs with cold weather essentials that can be handed out to the homeless. As in previous years, you are invited to sponsor one of these packs with a donation (suggested amount £4). You can donate via envelopes on your benches or via our [ONLINE DONATIONS](#). The packs are being stored within the parish and will be distributed to the homeless over the Christmas period.

PASSAGE APPEAL FOR THE HOMELESS: The Passage is the charity set up by the Daughters of Charity at the invitation of Cardinal Basil Hume. It is the largest centre for housing the homeless and insecurely housed in the UK. The support services they offer are varied enabling those who have housing or employment difficulties to find advice and support. They are raising funds over the festive period for their work and you can help them via [THIS LINK](#).

Fr Tom Henaghan Memorial Sanctuary Project - Update (December 2020)

Many of you have generously donated towards the Fr Tom Henaghan Memorial Project to redevelop our Sanctuary area in memory of your much-loved former Parish Priest. Members of the Parish were consulted about the design and everyone briefed on the proposals which were displayed within our Church Hall. This project is still yet to be realised and I wanted to update you all on its progress in light of the climate of uncertainty we have experienced and are still living within.

- The amount of money raised by the parish (including a legacy of £36,000 donated “for refurbishment only”) was around £70,000.
- The Sanctuary Steering Group suggested that an upper ceiling of £100,000 be set which would involve the use of around £30,000 of parish funds. This would be necessary to afford accurately referencing (by use of the same marble) the architect Bentley’s original design.
- The most competitive tender for the cost for materials and labour ended up being just above the £100,000 ceiling; a figure which excluded the architects’ fees that we, as a parish, had committed to pay. It also omitted the VAT (which we can apply to claim back from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme).
- Carrying out the works last Summer as planned would have meant parting with over £70,000 of parish funds (the total cost of the design and building works being £144,956) and put us in a vulnerable financial position at a time of great uncertainty.

It was, therefore, necessary for the project to be put on hold. The unfortunate consequence of this was that the permission granted by the Historic Churches Committee for the project was rescinded and may well need to be re-applied for. We await confirmation of this from the Archdiocese who are enquiring, on our behalf, to see if an exception can be made.

I convened our Finance and Buildings Committee to discuss the project last week. It was agreed that, given the current climate of uncertainty, it would not be responsible to allocate parish funds towards it at the current time. An alternative proposal from our architects to use a different kind of marble was presented to realise the project using only the monies raised (£70,000) without the need to rely on parish funds and this is now being investigated. In honouring the agreement with our architects we have paid them an initial sum of £12,000 for the work carried out thus far and await the new proposal to complete the design and building work with the remaining funds raised by the parish.

I am conscious of how many of you have given your time and money towards this project and I feel it is necessary at this point to update you on where we are.

**Fr Matthew O’Gorman
Parish Priest**