A close up of a logo

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**Newsletter for the week commencing 19th February 2023**

**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)-**

**Entrance antiphon: O Lord I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.**

**First Reading: Leviticus 19: 1-2; 17-18**

**Psalm 102 Response: the Lord is compassion and love.**

**Second Reading: First letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Matthew 5: 38-48**

**Communion antiphon: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name , O Most High.**

**Father Behr writes:**

 Dear Parishioners

Ash Wednesday we have Mass at 10am and 7.30pm

A very good way to start the season of Lent.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat.

The Clergy Support Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark provides care for priests in their old age and retirement, and in their time of ill health. A gift to this worthy fund will ensure a dignified retirement for our priests, after they have dedicated a lifetime of service to Christ, His Church and His People.

In 2022, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 73 retired priests, at a cost of £1.33 million. With the number of priests over the age of 65 steadily increasing, so too will the financial obligation to the Archdiocese.

Please be generous today with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers. Thank you!

• Donate Online: https://rcaos.org.uk/donate/csf

• Telephone Mon-Fri 9am-5pm: 020 7960 2504

• Cash / Cheque – please use the Clergy Support Fund envelopes at the back of church.

Best wishes,

Fr Behr

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased: Jean Dora Gillam RIP**

**Those ill or infirm:** Joe Adams, Jane McKinnon, June Munton, Maureen Escott, Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Sylwia Dorosz, Ellie Lawrence, Patricia Hook, Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those who are unwell and in need of our prayers.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Alice Jobson, Norman Finch, Dennis Hobday, Frank O‘Neill, Eileen Brandon, Raymond Carroll, Betty Manning, Maureen McGarry and Edmund Staples.

The Funeral and Burial of **Jean Dora Gillam RIP** will be on **Tuesday 28th February at 10:30 at Saint Margaret’s, Bethersden**

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| **This week’s services (18th to 25th February), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** | |
| **Saturday 18th Feb**  The Blessed Virgin Mary | No public Mass am  10.30 -11am Confession  6pm Vigil Mass *Muscat Family RIP* **Reader: Pat:** |
| **Sunday 19th Feb**  **Seventh Sunday (A)** | 10am Mass *People of the Parish* **Reader: Rachel**  12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass |
| **Monday 20th Feb**  Feria | 10am Mass *David Cockayne Wellbeing* |
| **Tuesday 21st Feb**  St Peter Damien, Bishop & Doctor of the Church; St Robert Southwell, Priest & Martyr | No Mass today |
| **Wednesday 22nd Feb**  **ASH WEDNESDAY** | 10am Mass *Sanctity of Human Life*  7.30pm Mass *Fr. Roy Bennett RIP* |
| **Thursday 23rd Feb**  Feria | 9am-10am Adoration  10am Mass *For Priests* |
| **Friday 24th Feb**  Feria | 10am Mass *Pope Francis*  10.30 – 11.30am Adoration |
| **Saturday 25th Feb**  Feria | No public Mass am  10.30 -11am Confession  6pm Vigil Mass *For people with skin conditions*  **Reader: Charles** |
| **Sunday 26th Feb**  **First Sunday of Lent (A)** | 10am Mass *People of the Parish*  **Reader: Collette**  12 Midday Traditional Latin Mass |
| **Flowers: No flowers during Lent** | |

**Confession**

Fr Behr is available for Confession every Saturday from 10.30am - 11am. He is also happy to visit those who are not able to  come to church.

Memory Lane

Saturday 25 February 2pm

You will all remember the wonderful montage of music and film that Bryan Masters produced for the Late Queen’s Jubilee. Now Bryan has put together a Gentle Stroll down Memory Lane. Nostalgic music from the 50’s, 60’s and 70’s and a fun quiz. Please put the date in your diary.

**Children’s Liturgy**

Lorraine is bringing back Children’s Liturgy at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend.  The next lesson starts on Sunday 5 March.

**Renewed in Hope**

A retreat for Lent 2023, introduced by Archbishop John Wilson, led by members of the Spirituality Commission.

If you are interested please register online.

The material consists of a link to a YouTube video about 15 minutes long, with the Archbishop, the retreat giver Christopher Chapman and someone offering a personal testimony. There are also notes and ideas for prayer and reflection.

<https://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/renewedbyhope>

Theme from St Paul’s letter to the Romans

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may

abound with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  [Romans 15: 13]

**Churches Together in Tenterden**

**2023 Lent Lunches and Course**

We will be using Zion Baptist Church this year as our venue starting on **this coming Friday, February 24th** at 12 Midday.

A light ploughman’s style lunch with Coffee or Tea will be served at a cost of £5 with “profits” going to Christian Aid, who along with CAFOD and other charities are part of the Disasters Emergency Committee.

Volunteers to help set up, serve and clear up are asked to please arrive at Zion each Friday to prepare the food at 11:30 am.

The Lent Course will run for five sessions, using the book “Lentwise” (Spiritual Essentials for Real Life) by Paula Gooder. Copies of the book will be available to purchase. Cost approximately £9.00. Please let Jolyon know if you would like a copy.

The course sessions will be led by a team drawn from Churches Together in Tenterden.

This will begin on Friday February 24th, straight after the Lent lunch from 1pm to 2:30pm and normally repeated the following Wednesday evening in St. Mildred’s Church, Tenterden from 7pm until 8:30pm.

Please note that the course cannot take place on Friday 3rd March due to the World Day of Prayer, so session 2 will be held for the first time on Wednesday 8th March and repeated on Friday 10th March.

Thereafter, the pattern of Wednesday, repeated on Friday, continues until the end of the course on Friday 31st March. The sessions are as follows:

**1. Friday 24th Feb and Wed 1st March – Compass: Finding Direction**

2. Wed 8th March and Friday 10th March – Nourishment: Keeping Going

3. Wed 15th March and Friday 17th March – Light: Gaining Wisdom

4. Wed 22nd March and Friday 24th March – Shelter: Finding Security

5. Wed 29th March and Friday 31st March – Water: Enjoying Refreshment

**GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER:**This new ONLINE course, has been developed in collaboration with the Southwark Marriage and Family Life team, the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis and Sycamore. It is a programme about the Catholic faith by Fr Stephen Wang. Growing in Faith Together consists of four one hour-long sessions via Zoom and is a wonderful opportunity for: **married couples**to enrich their friendship and love; **engaged couples**who have **completed their marriage preparation course**and want to continue exploring their faith together.

The **LENTEN course**runs on Tuesday evenings from 8-9pm beginning **28 Feb 2023**and continuing on **MAR 7, 14, 21, 28 & 4 APRIL 2023.**To **register**click on the link below:  
Growing in Faith Together — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (rcaos.org.uk)

**Sycamore is Back**

Sycamore is a series of talks about our Catholic faith that is both accessible and engaging. The parishioners who joined us last year found the experience really worthwhile and enjoyable.

This year we are joined by Deacon Simon South and parishioners from Rye.

I do hope you will come along.

We start every session with refreshments from 10.30am and we will finish by 12pm.

If you have never taken part in something like this before it’s really worth giving it a go.

**We will be meeting on the following dates**: Monday 20 and 27 February. Monday 6 and 13 March. 

**Grief in Loss, Hope in Christ Weekend"** If  you are mourning  after the death of a loved one this  weekend may be  for you.

Aylesford Priory **24 - 26th March 2023** Cost £230 single, £210 shared. Please Tel: 01622 717272 or email: [reception@thefriars.org.uk](mailto:reception@thefriars.org.uk)

**Fire Drill this Saturday, 18th February at the end of the 6pm Mass.**

**Bishop-Elect Philip Moger will be ordained** Bishop by Archbishop John Wilson on Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 12.30 pm in St George's Cathedral, Southwark.

All are welcome and the Cathedral asks that those wishing to attend should be seated by midday, in good time for the Ordination.

For those unable to attend in person, it will be possible to join the service via live-stream: <https://youtu.be/6hqaJ3_Qp80>

**CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal**

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD’s Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

**Used Printer Cartridges**

The sharp-eyed amongst you may have noticed a big box in the porch labelled 'Recycle Your Ink Cartridges Here'. I am hoping that those parishioners who have computer printers will bring their used cartridges to the church and put them in said box. The company who collects them will then make a donation to the Santa Maria Education Fund (SMEF) which is based in Paraguay. The fund was started some years ago by Margaret Hepplethwaite to foster the education of many of the poor children who live in and around Santa Maria and it has become very successful albeit with limited numbers of children due to lack of funds available. Many of the children go on to university and some even to the U.K. but at least all the pupils get an education that would otherwise be denied them.  
So, please, do your bit to help the SMEF and bring us your 'empties' - unfortunately this only applies to makers cartridges and not refills, at the moment. Further information from **Brian Lawrence**