

A parishioner writes

SUNDAY REFLECTION

In the first reading God promised Abraham to make his descendants as many as the stars in heaven and the sand on the seashore but this promise could only be fulfilled through Isaac as he was Abraham's only son. Yet when God asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, painful though that might have been, Abraham simply could not transfer his loyalty from God the Giver to Isaac the gift, so in faith and obedience to God Abraham said 'Yes' to God and this resulted in the blessing of the promise (Covenant).

The Christian tradition has seen in Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac a foreshadowing of God offering Jesus up to a sacrificial death.

The Gospel tells us about the transfiguration of Jesus and how he took his closest friends Peter, James and John (disciples) to be with him on the top of the mountain to see him in his inner glory talking with Moses (law) and Elijah (prophets) about his passion and death on the cross. The transfiguration of Jesus confirmed by his Father's voice, revealed once again the innermost truth and reality who Jesus is i.e. God made man and that the disciples should listen to him as it is a preview to the resurrection.

The sacrifice of Jesus supercedes all other Old Testament sacrifices that are completed and fulfilled in the new covenant established by the blood of his cross. The celebration of the Eucharist makes present this once and for all sacrifice of Christ.

Lent has no meaning for us unless we are given the same vision of faith which the disciples had. It was only faith which enabled them to understand the hopelessness of the cross. In Lent we are made to come down from the mountain and face the realities of life with Jesus who God made man, to be sacrificed on the cross and bring us forgiveness of sins and salvation.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday	8.30 am	UCM 'For those affected by the financial recession'	Thursday	8.00 am	Annie Phillips <i>RIP</i>
	10.00 am	Dec'd members of the Keunan Family		6.15 pm	Elizabeth Richards <i>RIP</i>
	11.15 am	Joe Mendes <i>RIP</i>	Friday	8.00 am	Mary Ambrose <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm	Michael Gilbride <i>RIP</i>		3.00 pm	Holy Souls - Hospital
Monday	8.00 am	Foundation Mass	Saturday	6.15 pm	Alice Campbell <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm	Philip Russell <i>RIP</i>		10.00 am	Benjamin Rioux <i>RIP</i>
Tuesday	8.00 am	Souls in Purgatory		6.15 pm	Sean McMahan <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm	Rev A Moraes <i>RIP</i>	Sunday	8.30 am	Pro Pop
Wednesday	10.00 am	Dezso Antoloczy <i>RIP</i>		10.00 am	Mrs H Kwaku Int. (<i>T'Giving</i>)
	6.15 pm	Angelina Moraes <i>RIP</i>		11.15 am	Claire Murphy <i>RIP</i>
				6.15 pm	Deceased Members Kennedy Family

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Last week's collection was £1,368.00
Cabrini Children's Society: £124.00. Thank you.

ST ANSELM'S CHURCH

9 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS Telephone: 020 8672 2179
www.st-anselms-tooting-bec.org.uk

2nd Sunday of Lent 8th March 2009
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Parish Team:

Fr William Hebborn,
Fr Oliver Antao & Thelma Lewis

Parish Sisters:

The Little Company of Mary

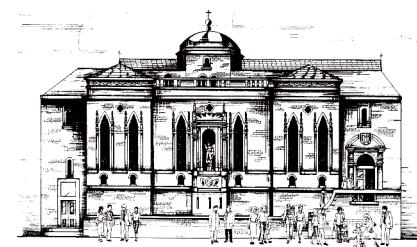
Mass Times: Saturday evening 6.15 pm,
Sunday 8.30, 10.00, 11.15 am & 6.15 pm.

Mass times during the week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday 8.00 am & 6.15 pm.

Wednesday & Saturday 10.00 am & 6.15 pm. (No 8.00 am.)

Holydays: 8.00, 10.00 am & 6.15 pm & 8.00 pm

Confessions: Saturday 11.30 – 12.30 pm & 7.00 pm



WEEKDAY READINGS

Monday:	Dan 9:4-10; Ps 78; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10.16-20; Ps 49; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20; Ps 30; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1; Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gen 37:3-4.12-13.17-28; Ps 104; Mt 21:33-43.45-46
Saturday:	Mic 7:14-15.18-20; Ps 102; Lk 15:1-3.11-32
Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17; Ps 18; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH

We pray for all our housebound parishioners, including those in the six nursing homes and Springfield Hospital.

Recently ill: Sadie Short, Rev. Deacon Michael Choppen, Rebecca Hebborn, Bryony Medor, Helen Bellman, Tom Rainbow, Chris Stocker, Maria Sanchez, Esmeralda D'Costa and Lydia Dal Din.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

Abraham responds in faith to God's call, even though he cannot fully understand it. In response, the Lord promises to bless him and his descendants.

Second Reading Romans 8:31-34

Christ died for our sake and rose from the dead. Therefore we have nothing to fear.

Gospel Mark 9:2-10

Jesus takes Peter, James and John up the mountain with him. There they experience a moment that will deepen and sustain their faith.

PARISH MEETINGS DURING THE WEEK

Monday: Union of Catholic Mothers 2nd and 4th Monday [Mother Teresa] at 2.00 pm in lower hall.
Legion of Mary at 7.00 pm.
St Vincent de Paul at **7.00 pm** (2nd & 4th Monday of month).

Wednesday: Exposition and Benediction after 10.00 am Mass.
Friendship Club 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm.

Thursday: R.C.I.A at 7.45pm in lower new hall.
Topic: *Liturgy I*

CAFOD SPEAKER TODAY we have a CAFOD Speaker, Francis McDonagh, speaking to us at all Masses about the Fast Day Appeal, and thank us for all our support for CAFOD's work. Please return your envelopes at the retiring collection. Thank you.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Wednesday & Friday after the evening Mass and Sunday afternoons during Lent at 5pm.

LENTEN COURSE IN THE YEAR OF ST PAUL. 'LIFE IN CHRIST'

Life in Christ presents a project of re-evangelization and spiritual renewal based on St Paul's Letter to the Romans. It is therefore neither an exegetical commentary nor a theological treatise, but an attempt to go straight to the heart of what animated the Apostle when he wrote this Letter, namely to build up the faith. In this Holy time of Lent we ask that you make a special effort to attend this course **Wed 11th, 18th, 25th March & 1st April** at 8pm in the upper new hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION Please note that the service has been moved to **Saturday 14th March at 10.45am in the church.**

FAMILY FOLK CHOIR – SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 10.00 AM

Meet Saturday 14th March at 9.30 am in the lower new hall and on Sunday in the Sacred Heart Chapel at 9.30 am before Mass. If you enjoy singing, come and join us!

PARISH PENITENTIAL SERVICE Thursday 26th March at 8pm in the Church. Please make every effort to attend this service in preparation for the Easter Celebration. This is a most important Sacrament as we renew our relationship with God and one another. 'A pure heart create in me, O God, and give me again the joy of your help'.

HOUSE TO SHARE Female Professional. Ring 020 8672 3647.

SPUC WANDSWORTH

A planning meeting will be held on Monday 9th March at 7.00pm in Thelma's office; we hope to promote the Billings method of family planning. If you would like to come, please phone Stephen on 020 8675 6218.

PALM SUNDAY, TRIDUUM & EASTER READERS' ROTA

Please sign the list in the sacristy (on the notice board in the main sacristy) to say which Masses you will be attending on Palm Sunday and over the Easter Triduum. You will be contacted at a later date with details. Thank you.

ST ANSELM'S SHOP Visit the shop and see our range of cards, gifts and artefacts. Come in and be pleasantly surprised. **Shop Rota Sunday 15th March: Paul, Julie & Karen.**

JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB Next meeting Saturday 21st March 10.30am-12 noon in the old hall. Tooting Bec Road entrance.

SENIOR YOUTH CLUB Next meeting Friday 13th March at the Hub 7-8.30pm.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION Sunday 17th May, 11.30am Weekly programme Monday evenings from 7.30-8.30pm March 2nd, 9th & 16th. Thursday 26th March (to include Penitential Service), March 30, April 27 and Wednesday 13 May.

ST ANSELM'S SCHOOL PTA QUIZ & CURRY EVENING followed by dancing. To be held in the school hall on Saturday 14th March at 7.30. All welcome. Tickets are available **in advance only** from Penny Hayward 020 8672 7321 at £10 each.

PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER – Verification Forms

If you have Primary or Secondary aged child(ren), please ensure you complete the Catholic Verification forms **this weekend**, which can be found in the foyer area of the lower new hall. It is to your advantage to complete these forms as they will be used for school references to show evidence of Mass attendance. We do this to be absolutely fair to everyone. These verification forms will be made available periodically throughout the year and will be announced in the newsletter. Please complete a form on **each occasion – ONE FORM PER CHILD. DO NOT** remove these forms, but complete all the details and return to the box provided. Thank you for your cooperation.

KEYBOARD Do you have an unwanted keyboard which could be donated to the parish for use by a new prayer group commencing after Easter? Please contact the clergy if you can help.