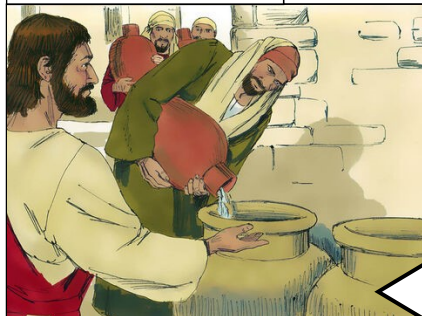


**16<sup>th</sup> January 2022: SECOND SUNDAY (C)**

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**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 62: 1-5  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

**Gospel:** John 2: 1-11



**CHRIST IS THE BRIDEGROOM OF THE CHURCH**

**J**ust as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so Christ rejoices in his Church. In the Eucharist, by the power of his Holy Spirit, he transforms bread and wine into his Body and Blood for us. The Holy Spirit gives us a variety of gifts, which we are to use for the missions of the Church.

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee.

**The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For true human fraternity**

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 15 18:30	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i> <b>Wellbeing of the O'Doherty family</b>
Sun 16 09.30 11.00	✘ <b>SECOND SUNDAY (C)</b> <b>Paddy Conaty RIP</b> <b>Hutcheon family members faithful departed</b>
Mon 17 09.30	<i>Saint Anthony</i> <b>Giuseppe Messina RIP</b> <b>Rosary</b>
Tue 18 09.30	<b>Wellbeing of Jean-Noel Sophola</b> <b>Rosary</b>
Wed 19 09.30	<b>Antoine Paraiso RIP</b> <b>Rosary</b>
Thu 20 09:30	<b>In honour of Mary Mother of Jesus</b> <b>Rosary</b>
Fri 21 09.30	<i>Saint † Agnes</i> <b>John Lockhart RIP</b> <b>Exposition</b>
Sat 22 09.30 18:30	<b>People of the Parish</b> <i>First Mass of Sunday</i> <b>Felicia Kankam RIP</b>
Sun 23 09.30 11.00	✘ <b>THIRD SUNDAY (C)</b> <b>Thanksgiving Mass for the Assemien &amp; Kouadjo families</b> <b>Lobo family members faithful departed</b>

**SHARING THE WORD TODAY**

The wedding at Cana in Galilee.

**First Reading:** (Isa 62: 1-5). This reading contains a message of hope for God's people at one of the lowest moments in their history. Jerusalem lay in ruins. The city's plight reflected that of the nation as a whole. Israel, once God's bride, was now like a widow bereft of children. However, her husband, God, has not forgotten her. There will be a new wedding feast, and God and his people will be like newlyweds again. This sets the stage for the story of the wedding feast at Cana.

**Second Reading:** (1 Cor 12:4-11) Here Paul is challenging the attitudes of the Corinthians towards 'charisms' or spiritual gifts. Some thought that their gifts were more important than those of others and regarded gifts as given to them for their own glory. Paul tells them that gifts are for service. Though there are many 'charisms' or spiritual gifts, all come from the same Spirit and should be used for her building up of the community

**Gospel:** (Jn 2:1-12) At Cana in Galilee Jesus 'let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.' The story must not be taken absolutely literally. What matters is not so much the story in itself but the symbolic significance the evangelist has given to it. The miracle is described as the first of the signs given by Jesus. We have to see beyond the sign to the thing signified. The water turned into wine symbolises the old order yielding to the new. What Jesus did at Cana was not a once-off thing. It symbolises something that happened throughout his ministry. The changing of water into wine is a symbol for what he was about. We note the same generosity here that we note in the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes. Mary was

involved at the beginning of Jesus' ministry. She will be present at the foot of the cross. Mary shared in the ministry of Jesus.

### WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2022

The Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal this weekend.

SPUC is currently campaigning to stop home abortion, which gives women abortion pills to take at home without medical supervision. This is one of the most dangerous threats to unborn children and their mothers in decades.

Please be as generous as you can to help us defeat this latest attack on unborn babies and help protect mothers from increased risk of coercion and serious health risks. Donations can be made on line at:

[www.spuc.org.uk/donate](http://www.spuc.org.uk/donate).

### PEACE SUNDAY – 16 JANUARY 2022

This Sunday is PEACE SUNDAY and this year Pope Francis asks us to think about 'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace'.

The need for peace in the world is obvious. People are struggling against violence and conflict, growing inequalities, the effects of climate change and the covid pandemic. How can we harness the gifts and energy of all generations in the work of peacemaking? Which 'tools for building lasting peace' do you think Pope Francis might be talking about?

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which does a great deal of good work to promote peace and nonviolence through parishes, schools and social media.

Their website suggests many ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022>

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x>

Or send a cheque payable to 'Pax Christi' to:

Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London NW4 4TY or Tel: 0208 203 4884

### DIVINE RENOVATION WEBINARS

#### From Courses to Conversions: Rethinking Sacramental Preparation

Join Divine Renovation for their two-part series: Part 1 on First Communion and Part 2 on Confirmation. Join Georgia Clarke (St Elizabeth's Richmond), Maria Quinn (Blessed Sacrament Exeter), Kurt Klement (Leadership Coach) and Hannah Vaughan-Spruce (Divine Renovation UK) for Part 1 on First Communion on Tuesday 25th January 2022 at 7pm.

### Part 1: First Communion - Tuesday 25th January, 7-8 pm

Do you find you're pouring resources into sacramental preparation that sees young people slip away at the end? Are you frustrated at the fruitlessness of families jumping through hoops, never to be seen again?

In this webinar, DV share 'from the trenches' experience of parishes doing it differently. Could now be the time when you decide to leave behind courses and instead prioritise conversions?

Register here: <https://divinerenovation.tfaforms.net/f/Sacramental-Prep-1>

### Part 2: Confirmation - Tuesday 22nd March, 7-8 pm

Join Divine Renovation for the second in their two-part series. Join Georgia Clarke (St Elizabeth's Richmond), Matt Regitz (Leadership Coach) and Hannah Vaughan-Spruce (Divine Renovation UK) for Part 2 on First Communion on Tuesday 22nd March 2022 at 7pm.

### CHURCHES TOGETHER SYDENHAM AND FOREST HILL

#### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Service for the Visible Unity of Churches around the world on Wednesday 19th January at 7.30pm. This will be held at the Church of the Resurrection, 165-169 Kirkdale Road, SE26 4QL.

The Worship Resources were prepared by the Middle East Council of Churches.

#### "We saw his star in the East"

Current covid restrictions will be in place. Masks should be worn unless exempt. Details will be requested for track and trace. To reduce risk of transmission, we are sorry that there will be no refreshments after this service. There will be a retiring collection on behalf of Christian Aid. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 19th January.

#### LAST WEEK

Offertory Gift Aided £128 • Not Gift Aided £353

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Pew Kneelers: £200

Mass Count Sat 18:30 (37) • Sun 09.30 (89), 11.00 (131)

THIS WEEK 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: SPUC White Flower Appeal

NEXT WEEK 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Pew Kneelers

#### DONATING

Gift Aid Tax payers, please sign up. We receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate. Visit [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church) for details.

Tap to Donate Payment Machine in Church Foyer or [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church)

Standing Order Please contact the parish house for details.

Cheques Payable to RCAS St. Philip Neri Sydenham

#### CONTACTS

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