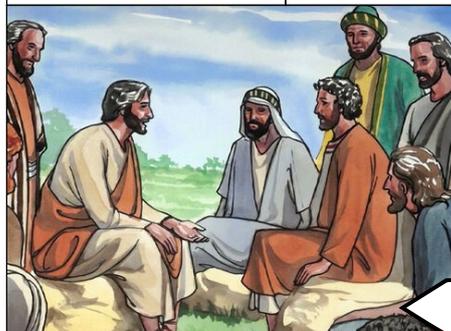


**19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023: SEVENTH SUNDAY (A)**

Mass Book Page <b>139</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: Leviticus 19; 1-2, 17-18 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 3: 16-23	Gospel: Matthew 5: 38-48	
Hymns for 11 am Mass	Entrance: 217 Communion: 920	Gospel Acclamation: Hymn Sheet Post-Communion: 924	Offertory: 731 & 813 Recessional: 847



**Love your enemies**

Every human being is made in the image and likeness of God. Jesus teaches us to look upon our neighbours as friends and not enemies. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ. In this way we will become holy as God wants us to be.

Love your enemies.

**The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For parishes**

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days		Prayer Requests
Sat 18 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Marie Boni RIP	If you request for yourself or an immediate family member to be listed in the Parish Newsletter, it will run for a month per request. Send an email to Fr Regis or send a message on the parish mobile: 07857801938.
Sun 19 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>SEVENTH SUNDAY (A)</b> Emmanuel Cassar RIP Father Bernard Solanus RIP	
Mon 20 09.30	Intention of Sylvia & George Lakey Rosary	<b>Those who have died recently:</b> John Horan, Margaret Wheeler, Michael Fahey and Martin Herrera. May they rest in peace.
Tue 21 09.30	Intention of Rose Green Rosary	<b>Sick and Housebound</b> If your neighbour or anyone you know is unable to attend mass because they are in poor health, please let Fr Regis know and he will take Holy Communion to them.
<b>THE SEASON OF LENT</b>		<b>Sharing the Word</b> <b>The Season of Lent</b>
Wed 22 09.30 <b>20.00</b>	ASH WEDNESDAY Wellbeing for Dr Martin Lloyd Rosary John Egan RIP	Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. The readings we listen to on Ash Wednesday introduce us into the spirit of Lent. "Rend your hearts, not your garments," proclaims the Lord to the assembly gathered before him. (Joel 2:13). With its core disciplines of fasting, prayer and almsgiving, Lent is a time of preparing a people worthy of the Lord's special care. As much as we work on our individual hearts, Lent is also a time when we must work on the heart of the community, calling it to a change of life. During the season of Lent, the church "goes on retreat". It is a good time for self-reflection and spiritual exercises that lead to metanoia, a change of heart. One traditional path to metanoia is through acts of penance with prayer, fasting, and
Thu 23 09.30	Joachim Francis Xavier (Visayan) RIP Rosary	
Fri 24 09.30	Deceased member of the Lloyd family RIP Exposition	
Sat 25 09.30 18:30	John Neylon RIP First Mass of Sunday Deceased members of the Dean Family	
Sun 26 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</b> Thanksgiving for the wellbeing of Pauline Assemien, Leah & Marcelline Holy Souls	

almsgiving. Scripture emphasizes the mercy of God, the grace of God that changes hearts. Acts of penitence do no persuade God to be merciful; God's mercy leads us to be penitent. The prophet Joel urged the people to gather to beg God to deliver them from disaster. St Paul insists that the time to act is now. God reconciled the world to himself through Christ. When we accept God's gift of salvation, we not only are saved from sin but also become ministers of reconciliation ourselves. If we have truly embraced God's reconciliation, then we will live it. We will be patient, forgiving and peaceful. Jesus assumes that those who follow him will act uprightly and continue the traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Our own prayer, fasting and almsgiving should be done only for God to see because they express and strengthen our relationship with God. We give alms as a symbol of all that God has given us. We fast because we hunger for God, and we don't look gloomy about it because we aren't gloomy. We are living for God. Lent is therefore a time of joy and an opportunity. For spiritual renewal. We sing penitential psalms and hymns and listen to the rich stories of our faith.

### Clergy Support Fund: Second Collection Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Next week we will be holding the Clergy Support collection. The Clergy Support Fund enables the Archdiocese of Southwark to care for priests in their retirement, old age, and at their time of ill health, after their lifetime of service and devotion 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. A donation to this fund will ensure a dignified retirement for all of our priests. Please be generous today with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers. Thank you.

### Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal

On 6<sup>th</sup> February, two earthquakes – registering 7.8 and 7.5 magnitude – hit Syria and Turkey in the space of just 12 hours. Currently, there are an estimated 36,000+ people dead along with widespread devastation. Emergency support is required. Our second collection this week will go toward helping those in need.

### Eucharistic Ministers and Readers

The next Rota is available now in the porch for those who have not received it via email.

### First Holy Communion Programme 2022-23

We meet in the hall on Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Mar at 10am for, Chapter 9: Do this in memory of me.

### Confirmation Programme 2022-23

We meet in the parish house on Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Feb at 5pm for, Session Eight: Confirmation.

### Growing in Faith Together

SycamOre is an online course exploring our Catholic faith and suitable for individuals and couples alike. It runs throughout Lent, with weekly one-hour sessions on Tuesday evenings from 8-9pm starting on February 28<sup>th</sup>. For more details or to register, visit <https://rcaos.org.uk/news-events/events/growing-in-faith-supporting-engaged-and-married-couples/>

### Celebrate Parenting for Faith

A new online course for those with babies and toddlers, 5 weeks from February 23 – March 23. 8pm, 45 mins. <https://www.celebratetrust.org/>

### Join CAFOD on the Lenten Journey 2023

Ash Wednesday is fast approaching and CAFOD invites you to join them as we seek to make space and time to draw closer to God and our global family through reflection and prayer this Lent. Each day in their emails they will share a reflection on one of the readings of the day, stories of our global family, a prayer and a suggested action you might like to take as we prepare for Easter. Join us on this journey by signing up for the daily emails: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar>.

Last Week

*Offertory:* Gift Aided: £222, Not Gift Aided: £351

*Mass Count:* Sat (58), Sun 09.30 (92), 11.00 (94)

Second Collection

*Last week:* SYRIA-TURKEY EARTHQUAKE APPEAL (£822)

*This week:* SYRIA-TURKEY EARTHQUAKE APPEAL (NON GIFT AID)

*Next Week:* CLERGY SUPPORT FUND (GIFT AID)

Donate

*Gift Aid:* Tax payers, please sign up, so we can claim 25p for every £1 donated. Email Treasurer for details.

*Card:* Card Machine in Church Foyer or [www.olspn.church](http://www.olspn.church)

*Standing Order:* Email Treasurer for details.

*Cheque:* Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

Contact

*David Simpson*, Treasurer: [sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk)

*Steven Pearce*, Secretary: weekdays 9<sup>am</sup>-12<sup>noon</sup>

[sydenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:sydenham@rcaos.org.uk)

*Margaret Doherty*, Catholic Club: 07930 889632