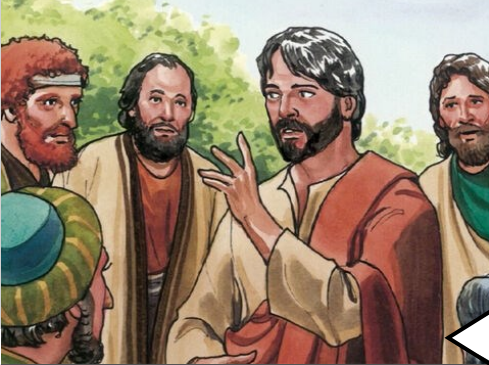


## 03<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023: TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY (A)

Mass book page: 122    1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Jeremiah 20: 7-9    2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 12: 1-2    Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

11am Mass Hymns	Entrance: 821 Gloria: 489	Gospel Accl. <sup>n</sup> : 820 Communion: Hymn Sheet	Offertory: 814 Post-Communion: 808	Euch. <sup>c</sup> Prayer: 490 Recessional: 924
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### Take up your cross

Christ tells us to take up our cross daily and follow him. It is apparently losing out lives that we will find them in a newer, deeper way, and then we shall be rewarded according to our behaviour. This will never be easy, but it is the only path to real holiness and happiness.

If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself.

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

#### Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 02 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Mary June Killelay RIP
Sun 03 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY (A)</b> Wellbeing for Anna Gerard & Vincent Baker Wellbeing for Doreen Joseph (84 <sup>th</sup> Birthday)
Mon 04 09.30	Fr Louis Fitzmaurice RIP Rosary
Tue 05 09.30	Stella Gracey RIP Rosary
Wed 06 09.30	Wellbeing for Erika Goldson Rosary
Thu 07 09.30	Vernon Pedlow RIP Rosary
Fri 08 09.30	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Daniel & Ellen Sullivan RIP Exposition
Sat 09 09.30 18:30	People of the Parish First Mass of Sunday Pietno RIP
Sun 10 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY (A)</b> Mass Phillip & Augustina Fihosy RIP

#### Sharing the Word

##### First Reading

Jeremiah feels overwhelmed by the demands of a task that has brought him nothing but insult and derision. He has come to his wits end. He wants to give up. He feels that God has tricked him into accepting the task. But despite all this, he cannot quit because he feels a fire burning inside him.

##### Second Reading

St Paul urges the Romans not to model themselves on the people around them, but to live a life in keeping with their redeemed status. If they do this their whole lives will become a living sacrifice pleasing to God.

##### Gospel

We have here the first prediction of the Passion of Jesus. Peter gladly received the revelation of Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. But now he rejected out of hand the apparently contradictory revelation of a suffering Messiah. He had expected to follow a political Messiah.

The cross symbolises the sufferings, persecutions and struggles that every follower of Christ is bound to encounter. Peter represents the typical Christian, for whom the cross is a stumbling block.

We see the faithfulness of Jesus and the faithfulness demanded of those who would follow him.

### Forthcoming events

We are all invited to a service to pray for the victims of abuse. The service will be held at St George's Cathedral on 27<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm.

### First Holy Communion and Confirmation for 2024

The application forms for FHC and Confirmation are now available. Please collect the appropriate form from the folder which is on the table at the back of the church. And remember, we will not take more than 20 candidates for confirmation.

### Readers at the Weekday Masses

Mass attendance during the week is very encouraging. Now I am inviting all the people who come to Mass to participate in the Mass as Readers. And so, if you would like to read at any Mass, you need to get onto the sanctuary before the Mass begins and sit on the chair reserved for readers. The person who usually takes the reading on that particular day will know that there is a reader and so they will not come up to the lectern for the reading.

### I was hungry and you gave me food to eat.

The number of people coming to the presbytery to ask for food has been rising. There are many people who are finding it difficult to provide food for themselves and their dependents because of the current financial difficulties. I have been taking these people to the supermarket and asking them to pick up some food items and I would pay for them. I have referred some people to the Knights of St Columba who have always assisted. I would like that we respond to this challenge together as a parish. It is not convenient to keep food hampers at the parish. I am kindly asking you to contribute to our poor box. We will use that money to buy food for people who knock on the door to the presbytery. I will not get tired of going with them to the supermarket so they can pick up food items they will eat. This is an urgent appeal.

### Sick and Housebound

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.

### Prayer Requests

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. Please send an email to: [regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk).

### Forthcoming Diocesan Events

**The Commission for Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation for the Archdiocese of Southwark – Autumn Assembly – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September –**  
[justiceandpeace@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:justiceandpeace@rcaos.org.uk)

**Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion in Our Parishes, Schools and Communities Seminar – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October –**  
[racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk).

### Education Sunday

Next weekend our second collection will be for the Catholic Education Service (CES) who act on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to support Catholic Education.

They have a strong and positive working relationship with the British and Welsh governments, sharing the aims of high academic standards for all, and increased parental choice. Catholic schools make up 10% of the national total of maintained schools. There are over 2,000 Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England and Wales educating over 800,000 students. The Catholic Church and the Church of England together provide one-third of all the schools in the country. The CES is the chief negotiating and advisory body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic education, and it also provides financial assistance for school transport in rural areas.

Last Week

*Offertory:* Gift Aided: £201, Not Gift Aided: £349

*Mass Count:* Sat (36), Sun 09.30 (98), 11.00 (82)

Second Collection

*Last week:* None

*This week:* None

*Next Week:* Education Sunday (Gift Aid-Diocese)

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