

## 01<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY (A)

Mass book page: 134 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Ezekiel 18: 25-28 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 2: 1-11 Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

11am Mass Hymns	Entrance: Hymn Sheet Gloria: 989	Gospel Accl. <sup>n</sup> : 820 Communion: 908	Offertory: 762 Post-Communion: 749	Euch. <sup>c</sup> Prayer: 490 Recessional: 353
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### Christ came to forgive sinners

We are all in need of God's forgiveness and it was for this reason that Christ came, humbling himself to accept death on the cross. When we renounce sin we will truly live. We are all called to put the needs of others before our own, and never to take our place in God's kingdom for granted.

He thought better of it and went. Tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you.

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

#### Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 30	18:30	First Mass of Sunday Susan Feore RIP
Sun 01	09.30	✠ TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY (A) Wellbeing - Sylvia Lakey 11.00 Birthday Blessings - Genevieve Abeydeera
Mon 02	09.30	The Holy Guardian Angels Thurasingham Bastiampillai RIP Rosary
Tue 03	09.30	Birthday Blessings - Elisabeth De Masi Rosary
Wed 04	09.30	Saint Francis of Assisi Birthday Blessings - Geraldine Hibbert Rosary
Thu 05	09.30	Birthday Blessings - Zachariah Maduaka Rosary
Fri 06	09.30	Wellbeing - Michael, Freddie & Ayla Magar Exposition
Sat 07	09.30	Our Lady of the Rosary People of the Parish 18:30 First Mass of Sunday Mary McDonagh RIP
Sun 08	09.30	✠ TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY (A) Eufrasia Rubaya RIP 11.00 James & Laura's Engagement

#### 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).

#### Sharing the Word

**First Reading** Here the prophet is responding to an objection that God is unjust because he punishes or rewards the individual for his own actions instead of allowing him to rely on the institution of Israel and the promises made to the nation. The prophet declares that each individual is responsible for his/her own actions, and will be judged accordingly. But he goes on to state that repentance will win the individual pardon and life

**Second Reading** Paul says that self-seeking and rivalry have no place in the Christian community. We must imitate Christ who humbled himself to the point of accepting death, the most shameful kind of death - death on a cross. God rewarded his obedience and humility by 'raising him on high and giving him a name, which is above all other names.' The self-emptying and self-abasement of Christ should serve as a model for every Christian.

**Gospel** In today's Gospel the focus is on the refusal of the religious leaders to repent and believe in Jesus. Their unbelief is contrasted with the belief of tax collectors and prostitutes. This is pressed home (in the parable of the two sons. The religious leaders were

meant to see themselves in the second son. They promised to work for God but failed to do so, and so have excluded themselves from the kingdom.

The first son represents sinners. They originally chose to go their own way but then repented and took God's way, and so entered the kingdom. Repentance is a necessary disposition for entry into the kingdom.

This parable was meant to defend Jesus's invitation of sinners and outcasts to the kingdom, in the face of sneers of the religious establishment. It also illustrates the difference between saying and doing.

### RCIA Course 2023/24

Adults who regularly come to our church for mass and who are interested in becoming a Catholic, are welcome to join the RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Anybody interested should contact Fr Regis.

### 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.

### 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.

### Local Forthcoming Events

Formation day: **Called to Pray**: for Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, will be held on Sat 21<sup>st</sup> October at Bishop Thomas Grant School.

### Other Forthcoming Events

**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).

### Coffee Morning After 9.30am Mass

We regret, contrary to our previous notice, there will NOT be a coffee morning after 9.30 Mass on 1<sup>st</sup> October. However, there WILL be a COFFEE MORNING after 9.30 Mass on SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER.

This will cover both the October and the November coffee mornings!

Normal service will resume with a coffee morning on SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER.

## CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal

6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dr Nasha's mobile medical clinic gets life-saving help to where it's needed most, fast – so when her team arrived in Meera's village in Pakistan after it had been destroyed by flooding, Meera rushed to the clinic to get her children the treatment they needed.

Please donate generously to CAFOD so more families can get the expert help they need.



Attached to this week's newsletter is an envelope which will be collected at next week's Masses, or you can give online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk), or scan the QR code on the left with your phone's camera.

If you Gift Aid, or are a UK tax payer, please gift aid your donation.

## SPECIAL PRAYERS for the SOULS of the FAITHFUL DEPARTED

During October you are invited to bring lists of departed loved ones, whom we will remember at Masses throughout November.

There is a yellow box on the table at the back of the Church to receive the names you wish remembered.

Last Week

**Offertory:** Gift Aided: £212, Not Gift Aided: £341

**Mass Count:** Sat (46), Sun 09.30 (90), 11.00 (110)

Second Collection

**Last week: For those of our community in need (£386)**

**This week: None**

**Next Week: CAFOD Harvest Fast Day (Envelopes)**

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