

5th NOVEMBER 2023: THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY (A)

Mass book: p149 1st Reading: Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13 Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

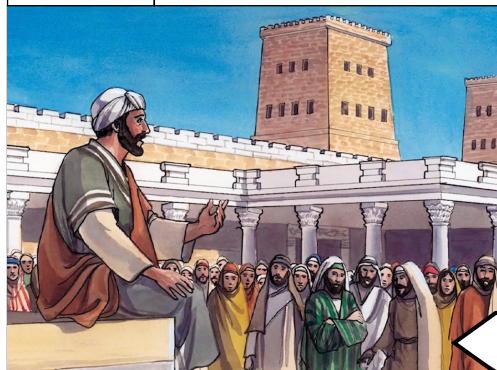
11am Mass
Hymns

Entrance: 934
Gloria: 989

Gospel Accl.ⁿ: 710
Communion: 941

Offertory: 601 & 244
Post-Communion: 814

Euch.^c Prayer: 490
Recessional: 924



Practice what you preach

The Pharisees were singled out by Jesus as being hypocrites. They were not prepared to ease the burdens of others and so became a stumbling block to the faith of many people. We proclaim the Good News not so much by what we say as by the way in which we live.

They do not practice what they preach.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of Holy Spirit.

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 04 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Wellbeing - Michael, Freddie and Ayla Magar
Sun 05 09:30 11:00	✠ THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY (A) Patrick Watts RIP People of the Parish
Mon 06 09:30	Maria Wangui De Masi RIP Rosary
Tue 07 09:30	The Dedication of the Cathedral Church of Saint George David Courtney RIP Rosary
Wed 08 09:30	Forgotten Souls in Purgatory Rosary
Thu 09 09:30	The Dedication of The Lateran Basilica Birthday Blessings & Wellbeing - Mary Hickey Rosary
Fri 10 09:30	Saint Leo the Great Susan Feore RIP Exposition
Sat 11 09:30 18:30	Saint Martin of Tours Tom Bell RIP First Mass of Sunday Kathleen Johnson RIP
Sun 12 09:30 11:00	✠ THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY (A) Thanksgiving - Franklyn & Jane For all the service staff - amazing trip to Sri Lanka

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.

Sharing the Word

First Reading

The prophet attacks the laxity and carelessness that have set in regarding morality and worship. Here he specifically takes the priests to task, berating them for not living up to their calling. Their calling was to proclaim to the people God's word of love and reconciliation. Instead, by their lack of reverence for God's name, and by showing partiality in their administration, they have eroded faith and unity among God's people.

Second Reading

Paul presents a different picture from the priests. He loved and cared for the Thessalonians like a mother. He would have been entitled to ask them to provide for his upkeep, but he did not. He supported himself through his work. He is grateful that his hard work bore fruit. The Thessalonians received the message, not as the fruit of human wisdom, but as the gift of God.

Gospel

Jesus advises the people and his disciples to follow what the Pharisees say, because of their historical authority. But he warns them against following the

example of the Pharisees because they do not practice what they preach. They increase duties of religion for others, but they do not live what is at the heart of religion: love, compassion, and justice. They look for honour and reward from people in the present rather than from God in the future.

Thank you to Fr Melus Ezekia

We thank Fr Melus for his ministry in our community. We wish him all the best as he travels on Thursday to return to his parish in Zimbabwe. We hope he will return to our community some time next year.

Confirmation: Meeting of parents and Children

There will be a meeting of the parents and the children who are preparing themselves to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, on Tuesday 7th November at 7.00pm in the presbytery.

Annual Remembrance Rosary Procession [2023]

The annual rosary procession through Hither Green Cemetery will take place on Remembrance Sunday, 12th November. We assemble from 2.15 pm at the Main Gate in Verdant Lane and begin our procession at 2.30 pm accompanied by the Bromley Band as we recite the rosary prayer on our journey to the Catholic burial area of the cemetery. Priests and deacons are available at the end of the procession to accompany you for prayers at the graves of your departed family members and friends.

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.

Passing on the Faith as Grandparents

What practical steps can we take and what sort of conversations can we have which will help anchor our grandchildren's faith? Four online sessions starting Wed Nov 8th, 7:30 – 9pm. Contact Lisette: mflse@rcaos.org.uk

Passing on the Faith for Parents

How do we start? How do we continue? What works well for children at different stages? Four online sessions starting Thurs Nov 9th, 8pm – 9:30pm. Contact Lisette: mflse@rcaos.org.uk

Archbishop's Appeal

Next weekend our second collection will be for The Archbishop's Appeal which is a Diocesan collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation,

Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2023. Every gift is welcome.

Find out more, or donate online: www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal or:



- Scan QR Code using telephone camera (left)
- Telephone weekdays 9am – 5pm: 020 7960 2504
- Cash / Cheque – please use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes at the back of church.

Thank you for your generosity of heart.

CAFOD World Gifts

CAFOD's World Gifts catalogues are at the back of the church. Please do take one.

These are a wonderful way to share the hope and joy of Christmas with our global family, and make a unique gift this Christmas time.

Last Week

Offertory: Gift Aided: £186, Not Gift Aided: £397

Mass Count: Sat (32), Sun 09.30 (125), 11.00 (71)

Second Collection

Last week: Prisoner's Sunday (£255)

This week: None

Next Week: Archbishop's Appeal (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

Standing Order: Email Treasurer for details.

Cheque: Payable to 'RCAS Sydenham'

Contact

David Simpson

Treasurer: sydenhamtreasurer@rcaos.org.uk

Steven Pearce

Secretary: weekdays 9^{am}-12^{noon}

sydenham@rcaos.org.uk

Margaret Doherty

Catholic Club: 07930 889632