

## 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024: FIFTH SUNDAY (B)

Mass book: p134 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Job 7: 1-4, 6-7 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23 Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39

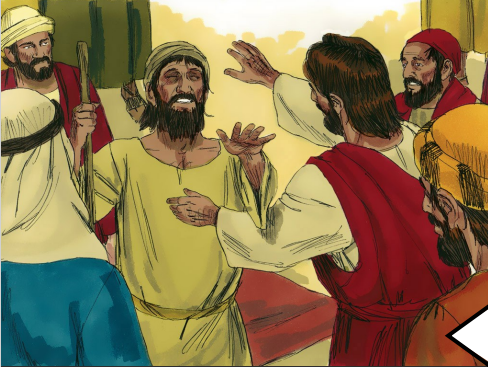
11am Mass  
Hymns

Entrance: 694  
Gloria: 489

Gospel Accl.<sup>n</sup>: 820  
Communion: 625

Offertory: 433  
Post-Communion: 932

Euch.<sup>c</sup> Prayer: 490  
Recessional: 966



### Looking for Christ

Jesus Christ gives meaning to our lives. Without him life can seem no better than hired drudgery, but with his Spirit in us, all our service of others is done for love. This is a service that brings perfect freedom. The world needs Christ, and it is our calling to bring him to everyone.

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For the Terminally Ill

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

#### Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 03 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Wellbeing - Bridie Horgan
Sun 04 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>FIFTH SUNDAY (B)</b> Johanna Watts RIP Roy Stephen George, Lea, Stephanie and Edward Blades and deceased members of the family RIP
Mon 05 09.30	Saint ‡ Agatha Birthday Blessing - John Mark Oluwadamilare Rosary
Tue 06 09.30	Saints Paul Miki and Companions Bernie Maher RIP Rosary
Wed 07 09.30	Howard Cherry RIP and his family Rosary
Thu 08 09.30	Wellbeing - Senthuran Rasendram Rosary
Fri 09 09.30	Rose Duah & Pauline Salmon RIP Exposition
Sat 10 09.30 18:30	Saint Scholastica People of the Parish First Mass of Sunday Bernie Maher RIP
Sun 11 09.30 11.00	✠ <b>SIXTH SUNDAY (B)</b> Doffou Nobert Ede RIP The homeless

#### Prayer Requests

If you request for yourself or an immediate family member to be listed in the Parish Newsletter. Please send an email to: [regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:regisrubaya@rcaos.org.uk).

#### Please Pray for those who have died recently:

Pamela Hilton, Bernard Bensted, and Catherine McSweeney.

#### Sharing the Word

##### First Reading

Job wrestled with the problem of why the innocent should suffer. The common explanation was that suffering was a punishment for sin. But Job is a good man and he suffers greatly. The reading is a brief extract from Job's anguished response. His suffering causes him to take a gloomy view of life. He sees life as fleeting and filled with drudgery and anxiety. At the time the Jews had a very vague notion of the afterlife.

##### Second Reading

Paul declares his dedication to preaching the Gospel. He preaches because he cannot resist the overwhelming power of Christ who called him to be an apostle. Paul proud of his freedom as a Roman citizen is however prepared to become a slave of all for the sake of the Gospel.

##### Gospel

The two main components of Jesus' ministry were teaching and healing. Here the emphasis is on healing. Jesus demonstrated his power over demons and

sickness. He did not accept that suffering was a punishment from God. Jesus did not respond to the question, 'why suffering?', but he responded to actual suffering. Suffering became an opportunity for him to show what God is like. He revealed the compassion of God in the face of human suffering. But in the midst of this frantic activity, he found it necessary to escape to a lonely place to pray.

### World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer service will be held this year at Perry Rise Baptist Church in Forest Hill at 11am on Friday 1 March. The service this year is prepared by Christian women in Palestine (before the present crisis there) and is being organised by Churches Together in Sydenham and Forest Hill.

### Jubilee Year 2025

The Holy Father has proclaimed the year 2025 a Jubilee year."

Jubilee has always been an event of great spiritual ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church. Ever since 1300 when Boniface VIII instituted the first Holy Year – initially celebrated every hundred years, then, following its biblical precedent, every fifty year, and finally every twenty-five years. God's holy and faithful people has experienced this celebration as a special gift of grace, characterized by forgiveness of and in particular by the indulgence, which is full expression of God's mercy.

Last Sunday 21 January, Pope Francis announced the start of a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee year. In his Angelus address, the pope said that a Year of Prayer starting on January 21 will be "a year dedicated to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer in one's personal life, in the life of the Church and in the world."

### SPUC

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children wishes to recruit a full-time Administration Assistant (35 hours p.m.). The position will be based at SPUC's Kennington office (SE 11) and the duties will include: Responding to supporter enquiries by post, email and telephone. Packing and despatch of materials. Data entry and general support to SPUC's administration and finance departments with day-to-day tasks.

For a full job description and application form, please contact Lucille McQuade on 020 7091 7091 or [lucillemacquade@spuc.org.uk](mailto:lucillemacquade@spuc.org.uk). Closing date for applications is 9 February 2024.

### 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 them Holy Communion.

### First Holy Communion Programme 2023-24

We next meet in the hall on Sun 25<sup>th</sup> February at 10am for, Chapter 8: Fruit of the vine.

### Confirmation Programme 2023-24

We next meet in the parish house on Sat 24<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm for, Session Seven: The Sacraments.

### Coffee Morning

Coffee morning in the parish house will be after 9.30am Mass on 4<sup>nd</sup> February. Do come in for a cuppa, biscuit and a chat.

### CAFOD

The Church relies on people getting involved. Our parish, our community, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? Which aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish? CAFOD are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, inspiring our church to help build a better world or by visiting our local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the area? Could you support local volunteers or share your admin or people skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support are provided. See [cafod.org.uk/Volunteer](http://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer) for more information or get in touch with [southwark@cafod.org.uk](mailto:southwark@cafod.org.uk) Or could you take part in The Big Lent Walk? [cafod.org.uk/walk](http://cafod.org.uk/walk)

Last Week

*Offertory:* Gift Aided: £176, Not Gift Aided: £466

*Mass Count:* Sat (48), Sun 09.30 (106), 11.00 (102)

Second Collection

*Last week:* **Racial Justice Sunday (£250)**

*This week:* **None**

*Next Week:* **SPUC White Flower Appeal (Gift Aid via website)**

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