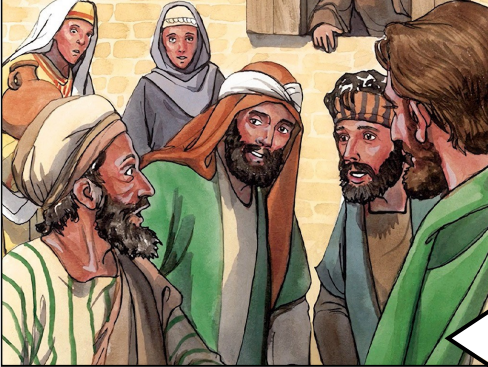


1st SEPTEMBER 2024: TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY (B)

Mass book: p126 1st Reading: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8 2nd Reading: James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27 Gospel: Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

11am Hymns	Entrance: 883 Gloria: 489	Gospel Accl. ⁿ : 820 Communion: 898	Offertory: 807 & 244b Post-Communion: 969	Memorial Accl. ⁿ : <i>We proclaim your death...</i> Recessional: 856
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The commandments of God

Christ did not come to set aside God's commandments but to fulfil them. He shows us how we are to act in order to witness to the power of God's word within us. Faith without good works is dead, and we show we are God's people by our care of those in need, rather than be adhering to human rules and traditions.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention - For the Cry of the Earth

Let us pray that each of us listen with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit.

Mass Times, Intentions & Feast Days

Sat 31 18:30	First Mass of Sunday Mass
Sun 01 09.30 11.00	✠ TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY(B) Vernon Pedlow RIP Joseph Doran RIP
Mon 02 09.30	Julian Gracey RIP (Anniversary of Birthday) Rosary
Tue 03 09.30	Saint Gregory the Great Fr Louis Fitzmaurice RIP Rosary
Wed 04 09.30	For the Clergy Rosary
Thu 05 09.30	Mrs Mary Earley RIP Rosary
Fri 06 09.30	For those who are sick Exposition
Sat 07 09.30 18:30	People of the Parish First Mass of Sunday Mass
Sun 08 09.30 11.00	✠ TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY (B) Mass Mass

Welcome Fr Melus Ezekia

We welcome Fr Melus from his parish in Zimbabwe. He will be celebrating Mass with us whilst Fr Regis is on holiday.

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.

Please Pray for the wellbeing of:

Margaret Doherty, Fr Peter Mansfield, Kathleen Edkins, Pat Travers, Patrick Watts, Tony Rawsthorne, Elisabetta de Masi and Adam Taylor.

Please Pray for those who have died recently:

Patrick and Maria Momah.

Sharing the Word

This weekend's Gospel casts Jesus in a prophetic light as one having authority to interpret God's law. Jesus' quotation from Isaiah today is ironic. In observing the law, the Pharisees honour God by ensuring that nothing unclean passes their lips. In this, however, they've turned the law inside out, making it a matter of simply performing certain external actions.

The gift of the law, which we hear God giving to Israel in today's First Reading, is fulfilled in Jesus' Gospel, which shows us the law's true meaning and purpose.

The law, fulfilled in the Gospel, is meant to form our hearts, to make us pure, able to live in the Lord's presence. The law was given that we might live and

enter into the inheritance promised to us—the kingdom of God, eternal life.

Israel, by its observance of the law, was meant to be an example to surrounding nations. As James tells us in today's Epistle, the Gospel was given to us that we might have new birth by the Word of truth. By living the Word we've received, we're to be examples of God's wisdom to those around us, the "first fruits" of a new humanity.

This means we must be "doers" of the Word, not merely hearers of it. As we sing in today's Psalm and hear again in today's Epistle, we must work for justice, taking care of our brothers and sisters and living by the truth God has placed in our hearts.

The Word given to us is a perfect gift. We should not add to it through vain and needless devotions. Nor should we subtract from it by picking and choosing which of His laws to honour. "Hear me," Jesus says in today's Gospel. Today, we're called to examine our relationship to God's law.

Is the practice of our religion a pure listening to Jesus, a humble welcoming of the Word planted in us and able to save our souls? Or are we only paying lip service?

Confirmation and First Holy Communion 2025

Application forms for Confirmation and First Holy Communion are now available. You will find the forms in a black folder which is on the table which is at the back of the church.

Confirmation and First Holy Communion 2024

Photographs from these celebrations are now available. Please see Fr Regis, or call in at the parish office when the secretary is available.

Sick & 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.

Parish Retreat



Our one-day parish retreat to Worth Abbey is on Friday 20th September 2024. Application forms are on the table at the back of the church. Please complete a form and hand in at the parish house. Please register as soon as possible as there are only 21 places left.

Fr Regis' Farewell Celebration

There will be a reception in our church hall on Sunday 29th September after 11am Mass, to celebrate Fr Regis' time with us, and to wish him well in his new parish.

We will organise a 'bring & share' with a board going up outside church for those contributing to indicate what they would like to bring.

Eucharistic Ministers and Readers

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

Let's get together for a picnic!

Family Picnic in the Park!

Saturday 7th September in Horniman Museum Gardens at 1:30pm.

You're all invited!

Second Collection

This weekend's second collection is for the Catholic Education Service who act on behalf of the Catholic Bishop's Conference to support Catholic education.

Second Collection next week

Next week we will be welcoming Fr Thaddeus Sombu who will be making an Appeal on behalf of the Spiritans.

Last Week

Offertory: Gift Aided: £121 Not Gift Aided: £438

Mass Count: Sat (36), Sun 09.30 (96), 11.00 (93)

Second Collection

Last week: None

This week: Catholic Education Service (Gift Aid)

Next Week: The Spiritans (Non Gift Aid)

Donate

Gift Aid: Tax payers, please sign up, using the white envelopes at the back of the church, so we can claim 25p for every £1 donated.

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: Mon (9^{am}-3^{pm}), Wed, Thur, Fri (9^{am}-12^{noon}) sydenham@rcaos.org.uk

Margaret Doherty

Catholic Club: 07930 889632