# **SACRED HEART OF JESUS - NEWSLETTER**

Parish Priest – Fr Graziano de Palma

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**For your personal use, please take this newsletter away with you**

Saturday **TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

4th  September 5pm People of the Parish

Sunday 5th September 9.30 am Wellbeing of Hazell Wilson

 5th September 11.00 am Czeslaw Stodulski R.I.P.

 12.00noon Baptisms - Olatayo Shangobiyi & Jamil Kolawole

Monday 6th September **NO MASS**

Tuesday 7th September 6pm Olive Kennedy R.I.P.

Wednesday 8th September 12.30pm Requiem Mass – James Heyes R.I.P.

Thursday 9th September 10am Fr Tom & Fr Etienne in Thanksgiving

Friday 10th September 10am Intentions of Fr Graziano

Followed by Adoration & Chaplet of the Precious Blood

Saturday **TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

11th September 4.30pm Confession

 5pm Our Lady of Good Health Velankani

Sunday 12th September 9.30am People of the Parish

 12th September 11.00am Melinda Tasi – Belated birthday wishes

 12.00noon Baptism - Adina Ozioma Chiagozie-Okerere

**Please remember to book your place at Mass by emailing the office at sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk or phoning on Fridays 9am-3pm**

**Parish News**

**THANK YOU AND WELCOME HOME**

A big thank you to Fr Etienne and Fr Tom for celebrating Mass during the month of August. It was a pleasure to welcome you to the Sacred Heart.

Also, a huge welcome back to Fr Graziano. We have all missed you! We hope you enjoyed your long awaited trip to see your family in Italy.

**NEXT FUNDRAISING EVENT**

A note for your diaries, the Parish “Bingo” night will take place on Saturday 2nd October at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. More details to follow.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

As you know the pandemic has caused disruption to many aspects of life, and most of our parish sacramental programmes have been significantly impacted. Our First Holy Communion preparations were put on hold completely during lockdown restrictions and have only recently been reintroduced to the parish calendar.

This situation has meant that we now have a number of children waiting to make their First Holy Communion, and while we are keen to offer each child a place on the preparation programme as soon as possible, I know you will appreciate we are unable to cater for all children at the same time. Thus, we are offering the older children from years 5 and 6 (as of autumn term 2021), to join the first programme commencing in September 2021, followed by year 3 and 4 children (as of autumn term 2021) to join our second programme commencing in May 2022.

Please contact the office sittingbourne@rcaos.org.uk to register your child if you have not already done so. Parents for those children already registered, and of the age to be starting September 2021 should already have been contacted. The remaining parents will be contacted in due course.

**COVID-19 MEASURES – PLEASE NOTE THAT MOST MEASURES REMAIN IN PLACE: UPDATED AS OF 16/7/2021**

* Booking for weekend Masses is still required before attending Mass by email or calling the Parish Office (Monday, Wednesday, 9am - 1pm, Friday 9am - 3pm) providing full name, contact number and email/home address. This is to follow the NHS “Track and Trace” system imposed by the Government
* Body temperature check with the help of a steward
* Proper wearing of face coverings is now personal choice, but it is strongly recommended that you continue to wear your face covering.
* Using the “ONE WAY SYSTEM” entering the main front door and leaving by the side door of the church
* Congregational singing will return in September
* Sign of the peace is omitted
* Children are not allowed to wander around the church for their own protection and other people’s safety
* Votive candles are available
* The congregation is invited to leave immediately after the Holy Mass allowing the stewards to sanitize the church
* Following the Social Distancing rule of 1 metre or more, we can now accomodate 86 people. (The seating areas have green signage). Please follow the guidance of the stewards.
* We have reintroduced bidding prayers
* The Offertory Procession is reintroduced with those involved sanitising their hands immediately before they touch the sacred vessel or other gifts
* The Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind and the Minister will continue to wear a face covering and it is permitted to announce “the Body of Christ” for each communicant. Communion is recommended to be distributed in the hands, but if people wish to receive on the tongue, then they should wait until the end of the communion line and receive then. Communion on the tongue exposes the ministers’ hands to their aerosol and inccreases the possibility of viral infections. He will have to sanitize his hands again immediately after.

# **23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B**

### Entrance Antiphon.

You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right; treat your servant in accord

with your merciful love.

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**C.** The Lord be with you

**All. And with your Spirit**

**All: I confess to almighty God**

**And you my brothers and sisters,**

**That I have greatly sinned,**

**In my thoughts and in my words,**

**In what I have done and in what I have failed to do,**

**through my fault, through my fault,**

**through my most grievous fault;**

**therefore, I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin,**

**all the Angels and Saints,**

**and you my brothers and sisters,**

**to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

**C:** Lord, have mercy. **All:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**C:** Christ have mercy**. All:** **Christ have mercy.**

**C:** Lord, have mercy. **All:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**All: Glory to God in the highest**

**And on earth peace to people of goodwill.**

**We praise you,**

**We bless you,**

**We adore you; we glorify you; we give you thanks for your great glory,**

**Lord God, heavenly King,**

**O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the father,**

**You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;**

**You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**Have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,**

**You alone are the Lord,**

**You alone are the Most High**

**Jesus Christ,**

**With the Holy Spirit,**

**In the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen**

**C:** Let us pray.

**First Reading Isaiah 35:4-7**

Say to all faint hearts,

‘Courage! Do not be afraid.

Look, your God is coming,

vengeance is coming,

the retribution of God;

he is coming to save you.’

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

the ears of the deaf unsealed,

then the lame shall leap like a deer

and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,

streams in the wasteland,

the scorched earth becomes a lake,

the parched land springs of water.

The word of the Lord.

**Psalm: 145(146):7-10**

**Response: *My soul, give praise to the Lord.***

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,

who is just to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry,

the Lord, who sets prisoners free. ***R#***

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,

who raises up those who are bowed down.

It is the Lord who loves the just,

the Lord, who protects the stranger. ***R#***

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan

but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever,

Zion’s God, from age to age. ***R#***

**Second Reading James 2:1-5**

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, ‘Come this way to the best seats’; then you tell the poor man, ‘Stand over there’ or ‘You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.’ Can’t you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The word of the Lord

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:

you have the message of eternal life.

**Alleluia!**

**Priest:** The Lord be with you

**All: And with your Spirit.**

**Priest:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to ….

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel Mark 7:31-37**

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man’s ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, ‘Ephphatha’, that is, ‘Be opened.’ And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. ‘He has done all things well,’ they said ‘he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.’

**Priest:** The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Liturgy of the Eucharist:**

C: Pray, brethren….

**All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands**

**for the praise and glory of his name**

**for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

**C**: The Lord be with you **All:** **and with your Spirit**

**C**: Lift up your hearts. **All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

**C:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **All: it is right and just.**

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Lord’s Prayer: Our** **Father**…

**C:** ……. And the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All:** **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

**C:** Behold the Lamb of God…….

**All: Lord, I am not worthy**

**that you should enter under my roof,**

**but only say the word**

**and my soul shall be healed.**

**Communion Antiphon:**

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, **Cf. Ps 41:2-3**

so my souls is yearning for you, my God;

my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

 **OR**

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; **Jn. 8:12**

whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,

but will have the light of life.

**C:** Let us Pray……….

**C:** The Lord be with you

**All: And with your Spirit.**

C:May Almighty God bless you,

The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

**Priest:** Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**