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ourladyestarofteseagreenwich.church

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38 Hyde Vale
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OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

CATHOLIC CHURCH • GREENWICH

MARCH - DEDICATED TO SAINT JOSEPH

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

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SATURDAY 21st March

6.00pm Vigil Mass Aaron Bennett (Wellbeing)

SUNDAY 22nd March

5th SUNDAY of LENT - of the PASSION

9.00am Sung Mass Elizabeth Knill RIP
11.00am Sung mass People of the Parish

MONDAY 23rd March PASSIONTIDE FERIA

11:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12.30pm Holy Mass Parents and Brothers of Elizabeth Knill RIP

TUESDAY 24th March PASSIONTIDE FERIA

6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Holy Mass Amelia Hitchcock RIP

WEDNESDAY 25th March ANNUNCIATION of the LORD

11:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12:30pm Holy Mass William Joseph Mee RIP

THURSDAY 26th March PASSIONTIDE FERIA

11:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12.30pm Holy Mass Liz McGinley (Birthday Wellbeing)

FRIDAY 27th March PASSIONTIDE FERIA

(FRIDAY ABSTINENCE)

11:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12:30pm Holy Mass Canon Joseph O'Halloran RIP

SATURDAY 28th March PASSIONTIDE FERIA

6.00pm Vigil Mass Elaine Marshall (Wellbeing)

SUNDAY 29th March PALM SUNDAY

9.00am Sung Mass For Our Priests
11.00am Sung Mass People of the Parish

DONATIONS

Nat West Bank
Sort code: 60-09-16
Account number: 25240676
Account Name: RCAS Greenwich

*This parish is part of the RCAOS
registered Charity Number 1173050*

*Thank you for your kindness and
generosity.*

ST. URSULA'S GIRLS CONVENT SCHOOL

Head Mr O'Shaughnessy
70 Crooms Hill
SE10 8HN
Tel: 020 8858 4613

ST. JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Ms. Long
Commerell Street
SE10 9AN
Tel. 02088584182

LAST WEEK

COLLECTION
GIFT AID - £17.00
LOOSE - £442.43

ATTENDANCE
336

Confessions Saturdays at 10.00am – 10.30am and 5pm - 5.30pm. After
weekday Mass – please sit by the confessional.
Adoration One hour before every weekday mass.

Spiritual Thought

You will notice, I hope, that the statues in the church have been veiled. We have now entered a particular period in Lent called Passiontide.

While we continue our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, which marks the season, we begin to focus more on the Passion of the Lord.

Why veils? In the church we veil holy things – nuns and sisters consecrated to the Lord wear veils (the monk's hood fulfils this function too). In many churches the tabernacle is veiled to show the Lord's presence, as is the ciborium veiled after the consecration.

But our statues are holy all the time, blessed for the purpose of veneration – the Passiontide veiling is something different. Before his sacred passion Jesus began to hide himself from the people (John 11:54). They had made clear their rejection and so he hid himself, awaiting the Passover and the time of his suffering and death.

The church symbolises this by veiling the statues as if Jesus had gone away for a time. We no longer have the usual consolations of seeing the church as we are used to – this veiling is unsettling and makes familiar things seem strange.

We are also, by this veiling, invited to enter into a more interior encounter with the Lord – not based on what is familiar or visual, but interior and spiritual. Perhaps, to unite ourselves more fully with this new period, we can encourage ourselves in our Lenten observance – picking up again if we have let slip, perhaps adding more if we have been faithful. In this immediate preparation for Holy Week and the passion we can search more diligently for the face of Jesus in our own soul – and there console him for his sufferings.

Stations of the Cross

Will be walked in the church on Tuesday after the evening Mass, and on all Sunday afternoons in lent, at 4:30pm.

40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil

The vigil in Brixton will run for 12 hours a day, 8am until 8pm, seven days a week from Ash Wednesday until Palm Sunday 29th March. The vigil takes place at the corner of Brixton Hill and Brixton Water Lane, London, SW2 5BJ. For more details or to book to attend please call Gabriella on 02077231740.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

I warmly invite you to join me on this year's Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 21 to 28 August 2026. Details can be found at tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/ For more information, please contact Canon Edward Perera (edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk) or Deacon John Fogarty (johnfogarty@rcaos.org.uk) or myself, Bishop Paul Hendricks (paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk)

Lenten Raffle

After Mass, at the back of the church you'll find Maggie selling raffle tickets for her wonderful Easter hampers. Have a look and see they're worth a few tickets. All proceeds will go to our restoration fund.

Greenwich SVP Conference

Thank you so much to those who were able to join our information meeting of the SVP last Wednesday. We had more than enough new members to found the Our Ladye Star of the Sea SVP Conference. This is the first time the parish has had an SVP since 23rd May 1953! We are, rather wonderfully, following in the footsteps of our predecessors.

If you couldn't make the meeting but are still interested in joining, please see Fr Tom for an application form.

Gift Aid

Thank you to our wonderful gift-aid givers, the government give us an additional 25% on top of what is donated. Your new boxes are available in the sacristy for collection.

Church Cleaning

We are looking for volunteers to help clean the church on Saturday 28th March from 2pm. As well as the usual, we will attempt to dust the hard to reach places, and polish the Paschal Candle stand and other brasses used over the Triduum. If you have a head for heights, or some spare elbow grease, please come along and help the church look beautiful for the Sacred Triduum.

Easter Egg Decoration - Pysanky

We will be decorating egg shells for Easter on Thursday the 2nd April at 10am in the parish room. Please bring your own eggs, real or artificial (please 'blow' any real eggs before you come). Some craft material will be provided, but please bring sequins or anything else you'd like to decorate your eggs with. This is a beautiful tradition and is open to all adults and children of all ages (children must be supervised please).

Ecumenical Service of Witness

We are all invited to the (Greenwich and) Blackheath Good Friday Service of Witness on the 3rd April at 10.30 at Whitfield Mount on Blackheath. This is a service, following the Stations of the Cross, with participants from all the local Christian congregations. We will leave from OLSS at 10am, if anyone would like to walk together.

Children's Stations of the Cross

On Good Friday at 12noon we will celebrate the Stations of the Cross for children. If any children would like to be involved, reading or acting, please come to our rehearsal after the 11am Mass on Sunday 29th March.