

The Passage Annual Garden Party: A spectacular evening on Thursday 7th July 6pm to 9pm in the historic College Garden at Westminster Abbey. Enjoy a delicious barbeque, drinks, raffle and a silent auction. The fabulous *Endurance Steel Orchestra* will be performing live! For tickets visit <https://passage.org.uk/get-involved/events/garden-party/> or email events@passage.org.uk or T: 020 7592 1856. The Passage is a charity that offers a wide range of services, all year round, to meet the needs of homeless and vulnerable people. To find out more about their work go to www.passage.org.uk

CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal:

Millions of people have fled Ukraine to escape the conflict - leaving behind jobs, belongings and loved ones, they need shelter, food and water. CAFOD are working through local experts in Ukraine and the surrounding countries to help those fleeing the conflict to survive. Any donation you can give will make a difference to the Ukrainian people. Donations can be made on the CAFOD website [CAFOD : Donation to the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal](https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/A-prayer-for-Ukraine) or by using a CAFOD envelope (available on the table in the porch and back of the church) and placing it in the collection basket. If you are a tax payer, please consider gift aiding your donation - Gift Aid could increase the value of your gift by 25% at no extra cost to you! Please continue to pray for peace in Ukraine <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/A-prayer-for-Ukraine>

Marriage Enrichment Weekend provides the opportunity for couples to bring joy, romance and excitement back into their relationships. Join us at [St. Joseph's Pastoral Centre – Hendon, London](#) on Saturday 16th July at 9am and Sunday 17th July finishing at 4pm for a non-residential weekend. £50 per couple. Info [ME weekendHendon 16th to 17th July 2022 - World Wide Marriage Encounter England and Wales \(wwme.org.uk\)](#)

Foodbank: Your food donations are absolutely vital to give everyone referred to the Foodbank a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food. Please place your food donations in the bin in the porch. For a list of wanted items go to <https://bexley.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Church Flowers: If you would like to join a rota to look after the flowers in church, please sign the list on the noticeboard in the church porch or contact Velia Dobinson. Everyone welcome—no floral experience needed. Velia 07789 673747. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of flowers for church, please put your donation in the box on the wall at the back of the church labelled **Flowers**. Thank you.

Fire and Accidents : In the case of a fire in church or in the parish hall please evacuate the building immediately and report to the assembly point in the car park by the school fence (Assembly Point sign on fence facing the church & hall). We have installed a First Aid box in church (sacristy) and in the parish hall (kitchen) including an accident report book. Please note that any slips, trips, falls or accidents must be logged in the report book and the parish office must be notified as soon as possible.

The Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral is seeking a part-time coordinator to assume responsibility for the day-to-day running of the charity. If you have strong interpersonal and organisational skills, coupled with the ability to work on your own initiative to implement the plans and actions determined by the charity's governing Council and its subcommittees, this role may be of interest. You will be a good communicator, able to sustain engagement with our members through personal contact, written and digital channels. In addition to being able to plan and execute a range of fundraising events, you will have a keen eye for detail, enabling you to deliver the exacting level of administrative support needed for a successful membership organisation. Full details at <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/the-friends-seek-an-organising-secretary/>

Line Dancing session in the parish hall suitable for beginners to intermediate level. Every Tuesday from 12.45 to 1.45pm, £5 per session. All welcome.

Zumba Fitness is back in the parish hall every Tuesday at 6pm—7pm. You don't have to be a dancer to join. Beginners welcome. Contact Emma on 07979 330145 or www.emmalock.zumba.com



ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

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 Parish Priest: Canon Edward Perera
 website: www.saintstephens.co.uk Email: welling@rcaos.org.uk
 Secretary: Mrs. Lorraine Harris. email: adminparish@saintstephens.co.uk
 School St. Stephen's Primary School, Ruskin Avenue, Welling, Kent. DA16 3QG
 Telephone: 020 8303 9738

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Year C)	
Saturday 18th June	
5pm	Dominick Herity RIP
Sunday 19th June	
9.30am	James O’Gormon RIP
11.30am	People of the Parish
Mon 20th St Alban	
10am	Charles & Mary Cates
Tues 21st St Aloysius Gonzaga	
10am	Zoe Pereira—birthday
7pm	Novena Mass
Wed 22nd Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More	
10am	Cecil Bharathy
Thurs 23rd The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist	
10am	Donal Moriarty RIP
Fri 24th The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	
10am	John Wilson RIP (Vine)
Sat 25th The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
10am	Priest's Ints
Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 10.30am—11am and 4pm—4.30pm	
Thirteenth Sunday (Year C)	
Saturday 25th June	
5pm	Tilum Patel—birthday (G Robinson)
Sunday 26th June	
9.30am	Marie McTernan RIP—anniv (McMorrow)
11.30am	People of the Parish
Please remember in your prayers the sick and housebound; at home, in hospital or in residential care.	

DONATIONS

All donations are greatly appreciated to help support our church & parish. Thank you.

The offertory collection after the Liturgy of the Word during Mass on Saturday evening & Sunday morning is for parishioners who wish to donate with their gift aid envelopes or with loose cash. If you choose to donate via the digital plate in church, online or by standing order, please continue to do so—there is no need to change your chosen method of giving. The collection bag will also be circulated for second collections.

Donate online at <https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=236> or <https://justgiving.com/campaign/parishsupport>—please include parish name and location or click on the PayPal donate button on www.saintstephens.co.uk. To set up a standing order to make regular monthly donations see bank details below. Please consider signing up to our Gift Aid scheme. Contact the church office for more details.

NatWest Bank
 Sort Code: 51-70-14
 Account No. 39013332
 Account Name: RCAS Welling
 Please use your name as a reference (gift aiders please add your envelope number). Thank you.

Digital Collection Plates are situated at the back of the church. Making a donation is simple and quick. Press one of the donation values or Other Amount. Tap your card or phone on the card reader. For donations greater than £45, the card must be inserted. Your donation can be gift aided by completing a digital Gift Aid Declaration on the Digital Collection Plate screen (name, address and email address required) and all future donations you make using this card will automatically be recorded as a gift aid donation. A Gift Aid Declaration is required when using the Digital Collection Plate for the first time even if you are registered for Gift Aid at St Stephen's.

My dear people,

We are back again reading from the Gospel of Luke after our Easter season now in the past. We begin reading from the Gospel of Luke celebrating the Feast of The Body and Blood of Christ, better known to many as the Feast of Corpus Christi. Four of our young people will be celebrating their First Holy Communion this weekend and what a lovely day for them to celebrate their special day.

The Gospel story is so full of meaning. To begin with, there is a beautiful introduction to the Gospel text. In it Jesus performs three important actions—he welcomes the crowd, he speaks to them about the Kingdom of God and thirdly he cures those who need to be healed.

The gospel then narrates the miracle story of the multiplication of the loaves. When the bread and the fish were presented to Jesus, Jesus does four things—he raises his eyes to heaven, blesses the food, breaks it and then hands it to the disciples to distribute to the people gathered there.

These four actions are included in the Eucharistic Prayer of the Mass. Though we do not receive a piece of bread and fish like the people did, we receive the Body and Blood of the Lord.

The last sentence reminds us the great generosity of Our Lord.

As mentioned earlier, the introduction to today's Gospel, invites us to look at the different parts of the Mass—our gathering and the welcome to the Eucharist, Jesus speaking to us in the Readings of the Mass, and, healing us as we reserve the consecrated hosts for the communion to the sick.

Happy Feast Day to you all.

God Bless and love you.
Canon Edward

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) (Year C)

Scripture Insights

About Today's Solemnity

As Christians, we are called to share in Christ's life and sacrifice. On this Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, we delve into Christ's willingness to sacrifice himself for others. God becoming human in Christ was the beginning of a life devoted to others.

Scripture Insights

In the first reading, Melchizedek welcomes Abram with traditional eastern hospitality: food and drink. Sharing a meal unites host and guest in bonds like family ties, committing both parties to mutual help and support. During the meal, Melchizedek blesses both God and Abram. In the Bible, blessing is reciprocal: God blesses with favour, life, and power to give life; humans bless God, offering praise and thanks for these gifts.

In the second reading, Paul instructs the Corinthian community, struggling with internal divisions, on the meaning of the Lord's Supper. He describes Jesus giving his Body and Blood, a Jewish expression for the whole person, "for you" (1 Cor 11:24). Jesus connected the Last Supper with his death as the gift of himself for others. The instruction "Do this in remembrance of me" (11:24) means to imitate Jesus in giving life to and for others. This is how Christians are to "proclaim the death of the Lord" (11:26).

In feeding the multitude, Jesus demonstrates that their authority lies in service, a lesson he teaches explicitly at the Last Supper (Lk 22:24-27). Only in Luke's version of this story are the Twelve

asked to help prepare for the multitude's meal ("Give them some food yourselves"; Lk 9:13). They are to assist Jesus, the host, who is among them as "one who serves (Lk 22:28). These two accounts of supper and multiplication include the early Eucharistic formula - "took," "blessed," "broke," "gave" - which reveals the meaning of meals with Jesus.

Reflections

- Today's solemnity invites us to reflect on the sacredness of the Eucharist. The Body and Blood of Christ is broken and poured out for us each time we celebrate Mass—what an incredible gift! As the opening collect says, today we pray that we may "revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption.
- How can you make an extra effort to revere the Eucharist this week? Ideas include visiting an isolated neighbour, donating food, and spending time in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

LTP Sourcebook 2022

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy

Communion: We would like to invite all Eucharistic ministers to attend a meeting on Monday 20th June at 7pm in church to discuss ministering at our weekend Masses (*Saturday 5pm (vigil), Sunday 9.30am & 11.30am*). For the time being, Holy Communion is to be distributed to the faithful under one kind only (i.e. the Sacred Host).

Today there is a second collection for **Day for Life**. This is the day in the Church's life dedicated to celebrating the sacredness of life. The proceeds from this collection provide core funding for the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and to assist other life related activities supported by the Church, usually by means of grants made to support Catholic charities working in the particular field determined by the theme of the year.

A Day With Mary on Saturday 25th June at Our Lady Help of Christians, Mottingham Road SE9 4ST 10am to 5.15pm. For full details of the day please see the poster in the porch or go to www adaywithmary.org. All welcome to attend. Please bring a packed lunch—tea/coffee provided.

Deepdene Club: Open every Monday term time between 10am - 12pm in St Stephen's parish hall. All seniors are welcome to join.

The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is a two-year online course for all in Southwark who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy. The course will commence on 8th October 2022 with an online introduction and the cost will be £365 per year. The full cost of the course, payable over 2 years is £730. In addition, registration must be completed in advance and there is a non-refundable registration fee of £50. All of the details of the course, including how to apply, costs, dates and content are available on the website <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert> If you would like any further information on the ArchCert please contact the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis on 202 8672 7684 or email mailto:archcert@rcaos.org.uk

Children's Liturgy: Video of the week's Gospel reading, a reflection and a final prayer. Go to [Celebrate | Following Your Faith | Children's Liturgy \(rpbooks.co.uk\)](http://Celebrate | Following Your Faith | Children's Liturgy (rpbooks.co.uk))

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

The Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place between 19th and 26th August. We are sad that, like most Lourdes pilgrimages this year, we have not been able to include pilgrims who need medical support. At the same time, we are delighted to be returning to Lourdes after two years of absence. Details are available at www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/catholic-association. Southwark contacts: Canon Edward Perera (edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk) and Bishop Paul Hendricks (paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk).

The Rosary will be said before every weekday morning Mass. Please join us and arrive half an hour before Mass to participate in these prayers for peace, particularly for Ukraine.

With sadness we announce the death of Dennis Cocklin who died on Thursday (16th). Please remember Mark and the family in your prayers. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

Afternoon Tea Party for Senior Citizens at St Catherine's Catholic School on Thursday 7th July 1.30pm – 3pm. RSVP 01322 556333. Watling Street, Bexleyheath, DA6 7QJ. All welcome.

The Friars Summer Fayre is on Sunday 26th June 11am – 4.30pm. Adults £4.50 Under 16s free. Fun for all the family. Birds of prey displays, cream teas, BBQ, beer tent, pimms & prosecco tent, craft & gift stalls, children's games & rides, live music & more. Mass at 5pm. Aylesford, Kent ME20 7BX.

Dates for the Summer Diary 2022:

Spark in the Park 25th – 29th July Danson Park (near the playground) 1pm-4.30pm & 7pm-9pm.

Free event <https://www.facebook.com/SPARKBexley>

Lark in the Park 29th July – 2nd August at Sidcup Place & around town. <http://larksidcup.com/>

The Bexley Crisis Cafe is a safe and friendly place that you can come to if you need support and advice in a crisis. It is a place where you can access mental health support and advice from mental health and wellbeing workers. The café is open from 6pm to 10pm everyday at Mind in Bexley 2a Devonshire Road, Bexleyheath DA6 8DS.