# St Columba’s Church, Selsdon

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**11 FEBRUARY 2024 – SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**

**THIS SUNDAY’S MASS READINGS**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

**First Reading:** Leviticus: 13:1-2. 44-46

**Responsorial Psalm:** You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

**Second Reading**: 1 Corinthians: 10:31-11:1

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark: 1:40-45

**Communion Antiphon:** They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

**THIS WEEK’S MASSES**

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| **Date** | **Mass** | **Time** | **Intention** |
| Sun 11 Feb | **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  *World Day for the Sick*  *Day for the Unemployed* | 6pm (Sat) | Juana Martinez-Malenab, RIP |
| 9am | Pro Populo |
| 10.45am | James Newton, RIP |
| Mon 12 Feb | Weekday | 10am | Brigit Chacko, RIP |
| Tues 13 Feb | Weekday – ‘Shrove Tuesday’ | 10am | Asifa & family, well-being (SVP) |
| Wed 14 Feb | **ASH WEDNESDAY**  *Day of Fasting & Abstinence* | 10am  7.30pm | Nina & Howard Freegard, RIP  Maura Jenkins, RIP |
| Thurs 15 Feb | Lenten Weekday | 10am | Holy Souls |
| Fri 16 Feb | Lenten Weekday | 10am | Mary & Liam Brophy, well-being |
| Sat 17 Feb | Lenten Weekday  *(Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order)* | 10.30am | Priest`s intention |
| Sun 18 Feb | **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT** | 6pm (Sat) | CP & Rosa Maria Fernandes, RIP |
| 9am | Pro Populo |
| 10.45am | Anthony Lawrence, RIP |

* Weekday Masses are preceded by Morning Prayer (at 9.40am). **This week there will be no Adoration after Tuesday’s Mass.** Friday’s Mass is followed by the rosary.
* There are devotions to Our Lady every Saturday morning at 10am.
* Confessions: every Saturday directly after 10.30am Mass and from 5.30-5.45pm**.**

**LENT** It starts this week on Ash Wednesday. There will be two Masses Wednesday – 10am and 7.30pm – and ashes will be blessed and imposed. It is a day of fasting and abstinence which means that all adults between the ages of 18 and 60 should fast (perhaps one main meal and a snack) and all should abstain from meat. This may help in establishing a disciplined approach to Lent where we prepare to celebrate the triumph of the Resurrection at Easter with our minds, hearts and souls renewed by self-denial, a greater devotion to prayer and acts of charity. Lent is a wonderful opportunity to reset our relationship with God by embracing the Sacraments with greater devotion.

**HOUSE GROUPS FOR LENT** Your last chance to sign up: the annual Lenten course organised by St Columba’s in cooperation with Churches Together will this year focus on discipleship and how we can learn from Jesus about prayer, possessions and power. There will be five weekly sessions in house groups. Choose the day and time convenient for you, find out more and sign up using this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdlOGVhj_dts7OFSs0gKCDBhVpci7RX8s3rS_R46ZiEOlTjwA/viewform> It may be easier to access the newsletter on the parish website and click on the link there. Alternatively contact Deacon Philip to sign up. The latest date for signing up is today (the 11th).

**NEXT WEEKEND’S READERS, BIDDING PRAYERS WRITER & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** Readers: Saturday 6pm Ken Lee, Sunday 9am Mike McFarlane, 10.45am Sita Egole. Bidding Prayers writers: Stephen & Brigid Beck. Eucharistic ministers: Saturday 6pm Deirdre & Anne, Sunday 9am Gill & Martin, 10.45am Vivien & Pat.

**BIBLE STUDY** On Ash Wednesday, Fr Julian will give a talk in the hall on Lent at about 11am (straight after Mass).

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** The collection on February 4 amounted to £480.09 of which £185.60 was gift-aided. The card-payment machines produced £109 of which £64 was gift-aided. January standing orders amounted to £1,653.17 all of which was gift-aided. Thank you for your donations.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** Mass will be celebrated in Croydon University Hospital chapel at 12 noon. All are welcome.

**PARISH ACTIVITIES** This week, we have Gill’s Keep Fit on Monday (the 12th) at 10:45-11:45am (020 8651 4076); Sue’s Yoga Class on Thursday at 7-8pm (suenelligan@yahoo.co.uk); and the Art Group on Friday at 10:30am-1:30pm (020 8651 0863). Newcomers and beginners are all welcome.

**BIG BAND CONCERT** The South London Concert Band are returning to give us another scintillating performance: in the church next Sunday (the 18th) at 3pm. It will definitely get your feet tapping! Refreshments will be served in the interval in the hall. There is no charge but a collection for charity will be taken at the end.

**CLIMATE ACTION** On Ash Wednesday a 24/7, ten-day vigil will start outside Parliament and Downing Street. The demand is for climate and environmental justice for all. It will be preceded by an inter-denominational service at St John’s, Waterloo, at 12.30pm and conclude with a service outside Downing Street on the 24th. Details: https://christianclimateaction.org/2023/12/08/join-us-for-the-no-faith-in-fossil-fuels-lent-vigil-for-climate-justice-14-24-february-2024/

**PETITION** The future of the Interfaith Network, which fosters dialogue and respect between different faiths, is threatened by Government cuts. To sign a petition in protest at the cuts visit <https://chng.it/QxBt2XK2vk>

**FOOD BANK** Currently needed are: tinned veg, jars of pasta sauce (tomato), milk, jam, fruit, savoury snacks, tinned meat, juice (cordial), shampoo and cleaning products. Many thanks to those who have donated items.

# AID FOR PALESTINIANS There will be a talk and various items from Palestine, many hand carved, on sale at all Sunday Masses over the weekend of February 24/25. Money raised will go to help the beleaguered people of Palestine.

**HELPING UKRAINE** Caritas and St John of God Hospitaller Services work to provide help for those fleeing the ongoing conflict, including the hosting programme which has been extended to March. Further details are on the noticeboard (together with prayer cards) or visit [www.sjog-homesforukraine.uk](http://www.sjog-homesforukraine.uk)

**FIRE RISK** We need urgently to declutter the crypt. Could all those with items stored there please contact the parish secretary, Margaret Molloy, on [selsdon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:selsdon@rcaos.org.uk) without delay. In future it will only be possible to store a limited number of items in the crypt. If anyone is seeking voluntary work experience, such as the DofE scheme for example, we would be happy to sign this decluttering task off as part of that.

**CLERGY SUPPORT FUND** A second collection to support needy priests will be taken next Sunday (17th/18th). Donation envelopes are available now in the church. To donate online visit: <https://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF>

**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND NEEDY** Rob Adams, Jean-Claude Anthony, Alice Barclay, Maria Baretto, Rene Barrett, John Belli, Florinda & Simon Cardoso, Maureen Coffey, Joan D`Souza, Vera de Souza, Una Dunne, Irena Dziewulak, Eowen Egan, Bernardo, Manuel & Maria Fernandes, Judy Freegard, Joan Hammett, Lucy Kirby, Tony Melvin, Veronica Moor, Jill & Jim O`Donnell, Vivian Okehie, Shirley Pitts, Pedrinha Ramos, Elida Scasso, Margit Symons, Sean Walsh, Jacqueline Wheatley, Elizabeth Williamson. There are a number of people, related to parishioners, for whom we pray as well: Patrick Acholonu, Margaret Bolton, Ann Brennan, Mike Goodwin, Albert Khayyat, Christopher Onyeachom, Jonathan Raki, Michael Skinner, Pat Taylor, David Wallace, Linda & Michael Watson and Magdalene Wong.

**OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM** Itconsists of Safeguarding Officer Gill Tomei T:07787 824592

E:[selsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:selsdonsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk) and Safeguarding Representative Richard Mills T:07956 531540

E:[selsdonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:selsdonsg3@safeguardrcaos.org.uk) For information, help and advice or if you have concerns about a possible Safeguarding issue involving children or vulnerable adults please see the posters in the church porch and hall.