



1. This Sunday will be **the Sixth Sunday of Easter**. The Mass can be found on page 273 of the Parish Mass Book. **PLEASE NOTE – this coming Thursday is ASCENSION DAY, a Holyday of Obligation. We will have Masses at 6.45 am, 9.30 am and 8.00 pm**
2. **A big thank you** to everyone – parents, family, catechists and teachers, who played a part in preparing the children for their First Holy Communion, which have now concluded. Likewise, a big thank you to those who contributed to the special Masses – musicians, servers, flower arrangers and so on. The Masses were very happy occasions. Please do keep the children in your prayers, as they now continue their journey of faith.
3. Have you ever considered you may be called to the priesthood or the religious life? **Southwark Vocations** will be hosting a 60-minute webinar on Tuesday 24th May at 7pm entitled 'Here I am, send me' where different presenters will speak about discovering God's plan for each one of us. Please join us by registering for the event in advance by following the link:  
  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84384912807?pwd=UWJzSzVsY2VTaGl3c09Fa0tNbVZWZz09>
4. **On the weekend of the 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> May (Seventh Sunday of Easter) there will be a retiring collection for the 'Priest Training Fund'**. Envelopes are available in the church porch which

you can use for to Gift Aid your donation, which we very much encourage you to do if possible. Priests are essential to the life of the Church, so please do be generous in supporting this appeal. Our Archdiocese currently has six men in formation for the priesthood, and it costs £30,000 a year to sponsor each seminarian. Please support our priests of the future with a gift today!

5. The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have announced that **the Sunday Obligation to attend Mass will be restored as from Pentecost Sunday (5<sup>th</sup> June 2022)**. This obligation was suspended early in the pandemic, but its restoration means that all Catholics are once again expected to attend Mass every Sunday. Happily, a great number of our parishioners are already doing so! But the restoration of this obligation is a reminder to us all just how important and valuable our Sunday worship really is.
6. **We are planning to undertake a new parish census**, as our present records are becoming out of date. **We will be doing this on the weekend of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June. If you have a smartphone, we encourage you to bring it to Mass with you on that weekend!** If you do not have access to technology, there will be the possibility of filling out a hard copy of the census form – but we encourage everyone who can to complete it on-line, as this will save time and ensure greater accuracy.
7. **We always welcome more volunteers to be welcomers at Mass.** Please see this link - <https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/bmZNkm3d>.
8. Are you helping to care for an elderly or vulnerable person? You may be interested in THE SPLENDOUR OF CARING: Twelve stories of vulnerability, mercy, healing, forgiveness and joy by Dr Kathleen Murphy, a writer and Sister of Mercy (St Pauls, £9.99). There is a sample copy in the porch. Available from [stpauls.org.uk/the-splendour-of-caring.html](http://stpauls.org.uk/the-splendour-of-caring.html) All proceeds to Mercy Ships, Children's Eye Treatment in Africa and the homeless charity The Passage in London.
9. We would like to draw your attention to a **conference being held at St Mary's Catholic Church West Croydon on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June** from 9.45 am – 5.00 pm. The conference features internationally renowned Catholic theologian and author Dr Ralph Martin and (among others) Fr Marcus Holden – former assistant priest at Holy Ghost, parish priest of St Bede's Clapham Park and Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation and Catechesis. The conference comes highly recommended and the cost is just £22. More details on the poster and fliers in the church porch – to book call 01834 812643 or see [www.saintant.com](http://www.saintant.com)

With our prayers and blessing during this joyful Easter season,

Fr. Richard and Fr. Giovanni