



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Roman Catholic Parish of Acton

This parish is served by The Spiritans - In the Archdiocese of Westminster



Parish Newsletter 3rd March 2024

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT Year B

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17 Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 Gospel: John 2:13-25

WELCOME

Welcome to everyone joining us this weekend.
If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to one of the priests after Mass.

Our Lady of Peace Prayer Group meets every Friday at 7pm in the church. All our welcome.

The Church will be open Tues to Fri, 9.00am to 5.30pm. Sat 10.00am to 8.00pm, Sun for Masses.

MASS TIMES

Monday: No Mass

Fr Patrick works at Immigration Removal Centre

Fr Jude's day off

Tuesday – Friday: 10.00am

Saturday: 7.00pm

Sunday : 9.00am, 10.30am, 12.00pm

Parish Office: Mondays 9.00am – 1.00pm

Thursdays and Fridays 10.00am—2.00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 30 minutes before week days, Sat eve and Sunday 9am Masses.

During the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament please join us in silent prayer and reflection showing complete reverence at all times.

Confessions: Saturdays 6.20pm to 6.50pm.

Weekdays: Tuesday to Friday from 9.15am to 9.55am.

You can also book an appointment with the priest for confession for a time that is convenient to you.

Rosary: The Rosary will be said every Friday after the 10am mass.

Parish Donations: WRCDT Our Lady of Lourdes

Sort code: 40-05-20 Account No. 71095692

Please use the Gift Aid Scheme (forms at back of church)

Contactless Payment: Please use payment terminals at the back of the church ready for your donations.

Parish Registration: We would like all parishioners, old and new, to fill out our new registration forms and return them to the parish office. Even if you have been a part of the parish for 30 years!

Stations of the Cross: During Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross every Wednesday after the 10am Mass and every Friday at 3pm.



Walk for the Homeless: Our confirmation group are walking from Acton to Westminster Cathedral this Saturday to raise funds for Acton Homeless Concern. This walk symbolises their commitment to serving those in need and making a positive difference in our community. By sponsoring our young people you play a vital role in supporting their journey of faith and service.

www.justgiving.com/team/actonhomelesswalk-2024

Young Adults Lent Retreat Day: with the Assumption Sisters & Fathers. This retreat for young adults (18-30 years) is on Saturday 16th March 11am – 7pm., at the Assumption Priory, Victoria Park Square, London E2 9PB (closest tube station: Bethnal Green). The programme includes talks, prayer, adoration and confessions, Stations of the Cross, faith sharing, mass and social time. Donations only. Register by emailing: tramy@assumptionreligious.org

Westminster Cathedral Choir: As part of their Lenten devotions, the Choir will perform Johann Sebastian Bach's retelling of St John Passion, on Thursday 14th March 2024 at 7.30pm at Westminster Cathedral. Parishioners have the opportunity to buy tickets at a discount of 30%, using code SJP30. www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F00602BD7A81B4F?did=sjp30

Seeking Accommodation: A parishioner (single woman, working full time) is looking for a room to rent in the local area, close to Our Lady of Lourdes. Please contact her on 07846 539552 if you can help.

Address: 5 Berrymead Gardens, Acton, W3 8AA

Office Tel: 020 8992 2014

Office Email: acton@rcdow.org.uk

Administrator: Angie Bull

Facebook Group: [ololacton](https://www.facebook.com/ololacton)

Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/acton

Parish Priest: Fr. Patrick Adusei Poku CSSp.

Email: patrickadusei-poku@rcdow.org.uk **Mobile:** 07766254987

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr. Jude Kurumeh CSSp.

Email: judekurumeh@rcdow.org.uk **Mobile:** 07438774799

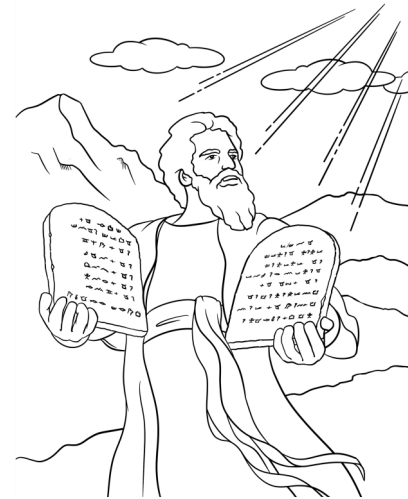
Deacon: Rev. Tito Pereira **Email:** titopereira@rcdow.org.uk

Safeguarding: actonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Thank you: for giving to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal this Lent. Your generous donations of £2,183.54 given in love, will support families around the world and help them with the resources to feed their families for good. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk

Cleaner vacancy: Two cleaners who can do laundry are required for a religious house in Northfields. Five hours per day on a Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday. £14ph and 28 days annual leave, pro-rated. For further details, please call Mary on 0208 799 5010 or Email sectorhouse@mafrgb.org.uk

Know Your Faith: We hope you enjoy the new weekly Know Your Faith feature in the green box on page 3.



The Ten Commandments

Synod Meeting 1 — 15th February:

We'd like to share the summary of what was discussed at the first Synod meeting which took place on 15th February.

Q.1: How do we witness as a Parish and proclaim our faith to:

- those who have never heard of Christ;
- those who have ceased walking with Christ;
- those with whom we worship Christ (those who go to church)?

The parish currently employs a multifaceted approach to witnessing and proclaiming its faith:

Community Engagement: The involvement of various groups such as the family liaison representative, homeless centre volunteers, sacramental preparation parents, parish council, and parishioners in events like parish picnics and Carol Concerts fosters community spirit and outreach.

Communication Channels: Utilising multiple communication channels including Facebook, website, emailed newsletters, and weekly bulletins ensures effective dissemination of information and encourages participation.

Youth Involvement: Involving younger members of the congregation in ministries like readers and Eucharistic ministers, as well as engaging them through school collaborations, fosters intergenerational connectivity and ensures the continuity of faith practices.

Social Justice Initiatives: Engaging in various social justice initiatives such as Justice and Peace, Fair Trade, charity works, and prayer groups reflects the parish's commitment to living out Catholic social teachings.

Evangelisation: Incorporating evangelistic elements into marriage preparation and encouraging parishioners to invite others to parish activities and events demonstrates a proactive approach to spreading the faith.

Q.2: How should we organise ourselves as a Parish to do this more effectively?

Based on feedback and analysis, the following recommendations are proposed to enhance the effectiveness of parish witness and faith proclamation:

Buddy System: Implement a buddy system to pair newcomers with existing parishioners for personalised welcome and integration.

Strengthen Enhanced Local School Collaboration: collaboration with the local school through involvement in open days and evenings, fostering stronger ties between the parish and the school community. Parish could have a stall for parents' information informing them of what is available in the parish and to encourage weekly attendance.

Youth Engagement at Mass: Establish a weekend welcome team composed of younger parishioners to enhance youth engagement during Masses.

Improved Social Media Presence: Utilise social media platforms more effectively by creating a parish YouTube channel showcasing events and highlights, alongside regular updates on Facebook and other platforms.

Creative Design for Communication: Utilise individuals with graphic design skills to enhance the visual appeal and effectiveness of parish communication materials, including the noticeboard.

Annual or Biannual Parish Mission: Organise a parish mission once a year to rejuvenate and refocus the community on its mission and purpose.

Encouraging Weekly Mass Attendance: Incorporate a recommendation for engaged couples undergoing marriage preparation to attend weekly Mass as part of their spiritual preparation.

Conclusion to First Meeting

The parish's witness and proclamation of faith are vital aspects of its identity and mission. By implementing the recommended strategies, the parish can enhance its effectiveness in reaching both its members and the wider community, fostering a vibrant and dynamic faith community rooted in the Gospel values of love, service, and outreach.

Next week's newsletter will focus on the discussions of the second meeting.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and the issue of safeguarding our young people and vulnerable adults is one which the parish has always and will continue to take extremely seriously.

If you are concerned that a child or vulnerable adult has been harmed or is at risk of harm, in the first instance, please dial 999. Otherwise you can contact our Parish Safeguarding team.

Prayer for the sick and housebound

Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son in the Eucharist. We now place before you all our sick parishioners, at home or in hospital, and for bereaved families. As they share in this Eucharist with us, we pray that they may come to know the depth of your love for them and the joy, peace, and healing, of your presence. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Visitation: If you or someone in your family is housebound and would like a visit from a priest, please contact the parish office.

ACTON HOMELESS CONCERN

0208 992 5768

admin@actonhomelessconcern.org

Acton Homeless Concern is our parish's local charity that provides basic needs, services, support and advice for homeless and disadvantaged people and anyone in need. **All are welcome.** We provide hot meals, groceries, housing and medical support, counselling, legal advice and referral services for drug and alcohol misuse.

Emmaus House (1 Berrymead Gardens) Emmaus House serves lunch from 11.45am, Monday - Friday.

The Damien Centre (Church Road) The Damien Centre serves breakfast from 9am and a light meal available between 2-6pm, Monday - Friday.

How you can help: We are always in need of volunteers to help and serve food and clothes. Or if you have another skill or area of expertise to help our clients then please do get in touch. Clothing and financial donations are always gratefully received.

KNOW YOUR FAITH

Who made you? God made me.

Why did God make you? God made me to know Him, love Him, and serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him forever in the next.

To whose image and likeness did God make you? God made me to His own image and likeness.

Is this likeness to God in your body or in your soul? This likeness to God is chiefly in my soul.



A Day with Mary: A day of instruction, devotion and intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. For the next meeting visit: adaywithmary.org



SACRAMENTS IN OUR PARISH

BAPTISM for babies and infants: Please attend one of the weekend Masses and speak with Fr. Patrick or Fr. Jude afterwards, then speak to the parish office to begin the process.

MARRIAGE Preparation & Support: If you are thinking about getting married please get in touch with a priest very early in the process. Couples are required to give 6 months notice of marriage – whether it is taking place here or abroad. Please do not leave it to last minute. Call the parish office to arrange a meeting with the priest if you are preparing for marriage or if you are a married couple would like or need support.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Journey in Faith: Are You Interested in Becoming a Catholic? Would you like to become Catholic, you are very welcome to join the RCIA programme, the process by which adults become Catholic. Likewise, any Catholic interested in learning more about the Faith is welcome to join too. Meetings are on Thursdays at 7pm in the Parish Hall.



We are a Fairtrade Parish. Please consider buying Fairtrade products when you are making donations for the church hall. Making the small switch to Fairtrade supports producers in protecting the future of some of our most-loved food and the planet.

The church is open for the following Services and for private prayer and confessions

Saturday 2nd March	6.30-6.55pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Private Prayer	
Mass of Sunday	7.00pm	Peter Hermans	R.I.P.
Sunday 3rd March	8.30-8.55am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Private Prayer	
Third Sunday of Lent	9.00am	Catherine Olobayo Marianinha Dias & Francisco Fernandes	Birthday Intention Death Anniversary
	10.30am	Eileen Scanlon John, Brigitte and Thelma Fernandes	1st Death Anniversary Death Anniversary
	12.00noon	Ann Hyland Ireneo and Amelia Ramirez	Birthday Anniversary R.I.P.
Monday 4th March	_____	No Mass	
Tuesday 5th March	9.30-9.55am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Private Prayer	
	10.00am	Tito Arnaldo Pereira Bridget McGuinness	Death Anniversary Birthday Intention
Wednesday 6th March	9.30-9.55am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Private Prayer	
	10.00am	Peter O'Malley	R.I.P.
	10.30am	Stations of the Cross	
Thursday 7th March	9.30-9.55am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Private Prayer	
	10.00am	For all the sick parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes	
Friday 8th March	9.30-9.55am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Private Prayer	
	10.00am	Ellen O'Brien	Death Anniversary
	3.00pm	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 9th March	6.30-6.55pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Private Prayer	
Mass of Sunday	7.00pm	Dan McKenna Patricia Uzoka & Family	10th Death Anniversary Special Intentions
Sunday 10th March	9.30-9.55am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Private Prayer	
Fourth Sunday of Lent	9.00am	Alex Muggins	R.I.P.
	10.30am	Mathew Fernandes, Agostinho da Cunha and Alberto da Cunha Bridget Lawlor	Death Anniversary Death Anniversary
	12.00noon	Ann Hyland	R.I.P.

Mass Intentions: If you would like someone to be prayed for during Mass please write down the details in an envelope with a donation (Suggestion £10 per Mass) and drop it into the office. All Mass intentions are published in the newsletter.

Celebrations: Please let us know if you are celebrating a special anniversary or birthday so we can pray for you as a community.