



NEWSLETTER



Catholic Church of Mary Immaculate and St Gregory the Great

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A Week 3

THIS WEEK



19th February 7th Sunday

6pm*: Willie Hanley (RIP)

8.30am: Monica Watson (RIP)

10.30am: Patrick & James Lynch (RIP)

6.00pm: Laura Fitzgerald (RIP)

Mon 20th

6.00pm: Ann Coggins (RIP)

7.30pm: Mission Evening (JP II Room)

Tue 21st St Peter Damian

9.30am: Morning Prayer

10.00am: Ann Coggins (RIP)

10.30am: Life Ascending Group (JP II Room)

Wed 22nd ASH WEDNESDAY

10.00am: Tim Gleeson (ann RIP)

7.30pm: Colum Giblin (RIP)

Thurs 23rd St Polycarp

9.30am: Morning Prayer

10am: Sr St Pius Calligan (INTS)

10.30am: Tea & Coffee Morning (JP II Room)

Fri 24th

9.30am: Morning Prayer (Church)

10am: Funeral of Cecilia Wilson

10.30am: Stations of the Cross (Church)

2.00pm: Christian Meditation (Church)

6.00pm: Adoration (Church)

Sat 25th

6pm*: Michael Barrett (RIP)

Sun 26th 1st Sunday of Lent

8.30am: Helen Brady (INTS)

10.30am: Nora Panczak (INTS)

6.00pm: Sr Jo Chamber SND (INTS)

THE GRACEFUL HEART

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons and daughters of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."

What makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? What makes it possible to be a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ? The answer is *grace* - treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated - with loving-kindness and mercy. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Such love and grace has power to heal and to save from destruction. The Lord Jesus Christ suffered insult, abuse, injustice, and death on a cross for our sake. Since God has been merciful towards us through the offering of his Son, Jesus Christ, we in turn are called to be merciful towards our neighbour, even those who cause us grief and harm.

How can we possibly love those who cause us harm or ill-will? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and griefs. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good.

God knows our sinfulness and weaknesses better than we do - and he assures us of his love, mercy and help. That is why he freely gives us his power, strength, and gifts so that we may not lack anything we need to do his will and to live as his sons and daughters. During this coming week may we experience the power and freedom of Christ's redeeming love and mercy. Ask the Holy Spirit to purify and transform you in the image of the Father that you may know and live in the joy and freedom of the Gospel.

Fr John

Quote from the Early Church Fathers: *You tear yourself apart by hating*, by an anonymous early author from the Greek church. "We have seen how murder is born from anger and adultery from desire. In the same way, the hatred of an enemy is destroyed by the love of friendship. Suppose you have viewed a man as an enemy, yet after a while he has been swayed by your benevolence. You will then love him as a friend. I think that Christ ordered these things not so much for our enemies as for us: not because enemies are fit to be loved by others but because we are not fit to hate anyone." Meditations may be freely reprinted for non-commercial use - please cite: copyright © 2023 Servants of the Word, source: dailyscripture.net, author Don Schwager.

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NOTICES

WELCOME

**ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT YOUR PARISH?**

Please visit the parish website on barnetcatholic.org.uk where you will find information on the parish, parish groups and much more. Information is also available in the church porch.

NEED TO TALK? If you would like to speak to Anita pastorally and in confidence, Anita is available on Tuesdays after 10am mass. Please knock on the presbytery door or email anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

Church Choir

All are welcome to join the choir to sing and play at the **Holy Week services**. If you are interested, please let Teresa O'Sullivan know by email: howelsy@btinternet.com or by leaving a message at the Presbytery, so music can be prepared for you. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March from 7.45pm to 9pm and on Tuesday 4th April from 7.30pm.

Music

Gathering: 970
Psalms: *The Lord is compassion and love*
Alleluia: *If anyone loves me he will keep my Word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.*
Offertory: 899
Communion: *Ubi caritas est vera Deus ibi est, Deus ibi est*
Communion Song: 779
Going Forth: 794

Mission Evening

A new intercessory - worship group has recently begun, the next meeting will be Monday 20th February, from 7.30pm to 9.00pm in the JP II Room.

All very welcome

St Catherine's Admissions to Nursery September 2023

Admissions are invited from families whose child attains 3 years of age between 1st September 2022 and August 2023 for Nursery intake September 2023.

Our tours take place on Thursday 9th March at 5pm. Application forms and admission arrangements can be found on the school's website or can be collected from the school office.

Final day for submission: 21st April 2023. For further information contact school office on 020 8440 4946 or email admissions@stcatherines.barnetmail.com

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers the Sick and Homebound including:

Delia Ward, Hannah Fennel, Janine Kelly, Gabriel Dempsey, Sinead Mayes, Rosemary Chester, Paul Reed, Marian Darby, Ken Quigley, Mary Geraghty, Edel O'Sullivan, Linda Quilter, Emanuele & Carlotta Brunelli, Pat Cosgrove, Bernadette Hunt, Roberto Lusignani, Elaine Brennan, Mark O'Brien, Rita Rawlings, Joe Connolly, Eric Power, Michael Keyes, Eileen Robbins, John Chuter, Margaret Greaney, Veronica Soosay, John Thompson, Lucretia Olivier-Hall, David John Hall, and Louie

Recently deceased: Steven Hunt, John Stirling-Gallacher, Walter Scott and Kathleen Flynn

Parish Staff Contact Information

Anita Hammond - Catechetical Co-ordinator: anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk
Jonathan Stephens - Evangelisation Co-ordinator: jonathanstephens@rcdow.org.uk
Georgina Awan - Parish Administrator: **Parish Office** - barnet@rcdow.org.uk
(office hours 10.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday; closed Wednesdays and Weekends)

it takes
grace
to remain
kind in
cruel
situations

Saturday RE Classes

Spring Term 2023

Classes for children at non-Catholic primary schools are welcome to come and learn about their Catholic Faith.

During the sessions we pray together, we talk, sing songs and make new friends.

Venue: The JP II Room

Time: From 9.30am to 10.45am

Dates: Saturday 25th February

Saturday 11th & 25th March

RCIA

Are you thinking about joining the Catholic Church? Would you like to share your faith with those who are considering becoming Catholics?

Next meeting: 21st February 2023

Sessions: 7.30pm - 9.00pm

Where: JP II Room

Every Tuesday

For more information contact:

David Williams via email.

davidinbarnet@hotmail.com

East and New Barnet World Day of Prayer 2023 - Annual Service



Saturday 4th March at 2.30pm

St James Church

71 East Barnet Road

EN4 8RN (app. Sainsbury's)

The theme is "I have heard about your faith" and is

organised by the Christian

Women of Taiwan.

ALL ARE WELCOME