



# NEWSLETTER

Catholic Church of Mary Immaculate and St Gregory the Great



## Fourth Sunday in Lent

Year A      Week 4

### THIS WEEK



#### Sun 19th 4th Sunday of Lent

**6pm** \*: Maria Guedes (RIP)  
*(Scrutinies 2)*

**8.30am**: Huguelle Ansara-Hicter (RIP)

**10.30am**: Franco DCosta (RIP)

**6.00pm**: Karen Goode (INTS)

#### Mon 20th St Joseph

**6.00pm**: John Fernandes (RIP)

#### Tue 21st

**9.30am**: Morning Prayer

**10.00am**: Marceline Fernandes (RIP)

**10.30am**: Stations of the Cross (Church)  
*led by the Life Ascending Group*

#### Wed 22nd No Mass

#### Thurs 23rd St Turibius of Mogrovejo

**9.30am**: Morning Prayer

**10am**: Lyon Mendosa (RIP)

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

#### Fri 24th

**9.30am**: Morning Prayer (Church)

**10am**: James Lynch (RIP)

**10.30am**: Stations of the Cross (Church)

**2.00pm**: Christian Meditation (Church)

**7.30pm**: Open Heaven LONDON (Church)

#### Sat 25th THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

**11.00am**: Open Heaven LONDON (Church)

**6pm** \*: SrMaureen & Hyland Family (INTS)

#### Sun 26th 5th Sunday of Lent

**8.30am**: Elie Starcevic (RIP)

**10.30am**: Mary Hawkins (RIP)

**6.00pm**: Suzanne Greig (RIP)

### GIFT OF HOPE

*"Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.."*

As the Lord Jesus Christ approached the blind man he first awakened within him the gift of hope - the hope which God offers those who seek his help. Jesus then did something quite remarkable for the blind man, both to identify with this man's misery and to draw expectant faith in him as well. Jesus touched the man's eyes with his own spittle mixed with dirt and bid him to wash in the Pool of Siloam which was close to the Temple. What is the significance of the healing of the blind man at the Pool of Siloam? It is certainly more than just a miraculous event. It is a "sign" that points to the source of the miraculous life-giving water which Jesus offers through the gift and work of the Holy Spirit. During this Fourth week of Lent may we have a deeper thirst for the Holy Spirit to impart his renewing power of faith, vision, and healing love. The Lord Jesus is ever ready to heal us and to free us from the darkness of sin and deception. There is no sickness, whether physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual that the Lord Jesus does not identify with. Isaiah prophesied that the "Suffering Servant" would be bruised for our iniquities and by his stripes we would be healed (Isaiah 53:5). The Lord offers us freedom from spiritual blindness due to sin and he restores us to wholeness of body, mind, soul, and heart. St Augustine of Hippo, in his commentary on this Gospel passage, remarks: "If we reflect on the meaning of this miracle, we will see that the blind man is the human race ... You already know, of course, who the "One Sent" is. Unless he had been sent, none of us would have been freed from sin."

**Fr John**

### OPEN HEAVEN LONDON Programme

**This coming Friday, 24th and 25th March, our Parish welcomes John Tolo and the Godtown missionaries . Please join us for an ecumenical praise and worship gathering on Friday evening from 7.30pm. John and his team will be available on Saturday, gathering at 11am in the Church. So come along and let's ask God to bless Barnet.**

**Parish Priest:** Fr John McKenna      **Telephone:** 020 8449 3338

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## Blind Bartimaeus



### 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 JP11 Room

**Time:** From 9.30am to 10.45am

**Dates:** Saturday 25th March

### Daughters of Divine Love

This week during the Masses of 18th/19th March, we are being visited by Sr Ann of The Daughters of Divine Love; an International Congregation founded in Nigeria in 1969; they are also a member of the Missionary Sisters of England and Wales; their work includes educating, caring for and adding value to the lives of the less privileged in society.

Their Charity Home in Nigeria provides for orphans, motherless, abandoned children, street children/teenagers and children with special needs.

Their aim is always to serve the less privileged and marginalised in society. For more information visit their website [ddlenglishregion.org](http://ddlenglishregion.org) Thank you for making Sr Ann feel welcome.

# 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.com](http://barnetcatholic.com) 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](mailto:anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk)

### For Your Special Prayers

All those preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter.

### PAX CHRISTI

Thank you for your generosity during last Peace Sunday collection on 15th January 2023 (£332.89). The Parish office received a thank you card and letter acknowledging the donation.

Their prayers are with us. For more information on the work Pax Christi does please visit their website on [www.paxchristi.org.uk](http://www.paxchristi.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](mailto:howelsy@btinternet.com) or by leaving a message at the Presbytery, so music can be prepared for you. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays 22nd, 29th March from 7.45pm to 9pm and on Tuesday 4th April from 7.30pm.

### PARISH e-Newsletter Sign up

Please see below the QR code for a direct link to the e-newsletter sign-up page on our website.



### Poetry Reading

The first Poetry Reading for 2023 will be held in the Parish Hall on Friday 31st March 7.15 p.m., for a prompt start at 7.30 p.m. Come and read one of your favourite poems, or just relax with a glass of wine and hear others read theirs. Entry £3.00 to include a free glass of wine or non-alcoholic drink. All proceeds go to support the Youth S.V.P. Previous Poetry Reading held in October 2022 raised £225.00. To offer to read, or for further information, contact John Dixon: [john-s.dixon@hotmail.com](mailto:john-s.dixon@hotmail.com); 020-8440-1091.

### Annual Mass of Thanksgiving with the Cardinal

All those preparing to celebrate 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60 plus wedding anniversaries, please email the church office with your names, wedding date, full postal address, email and phone number before **31st March 2023**.

### 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:** Elvio Umberto Carnera

### Parish Staff Contact Information

Anita Hammond - Catechetical Co-ordinator: [anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk)

Jonathan Stephens - Evangelisation Co-ordinator: [jonathanstephens@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:jonathanstephens@rcdow.org.uk)

Georgina Awan - Parish Administrator: **Parish Office** - [barnet@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:barnet@rcdow.org.uk)

(office hours 10.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday; closed Wednesdays and Weekends)