

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr David Lucuy
Fr Larry Milby

Pastoral Assistant: Sister Miriam Bruder SSND (020 7837 8378)

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Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

12th March 2017

Life's Highs and Lows

Today we find Peter James and John grappling with the news that Jesus is destined to be put to death in Jerusalem, and they become deeply demoralised. The disciples are picturing a future that is hopeless and they are left with feelings of helplessness and fear. To rid his disciples of these defeatist feelings, Jesus needs to replace their defeatist thoughts. Jesus replaces the defeatist thoughts with a motivational vision. When the disciples see Jesus transfigured with dazzling light and God's voice booming from the clouds, it is to give them a glimpse of what is to come. This isn't about replacing reality with pretty thoughts; it's about pushing through a pain barrier and being able to see something better on the other side.

If we were to be honest we'd all love to have a motivational mountain top experience ... a glimpse of God to help us through our daily monotonous existence. We'd all love to see clear signs of God working in our lives. A little cynical voice tells us it isn't going to happen! Motivational experiences can happen unexpectedly, in any place and at any time, yet the truth is that most of us soldier on with no such experience. Could it be that we are simply not open to such an experience? Can we expect to hear from God if we are rarely thinking about him? Can we really expect God to change our lives if we are not open to change? Can we be guided by God if we don't believe we need guidance? Can we find motivation if we're not seeking it? Is it possible to see God's opportunities in our lives if we are not looking for opportunities? Can we catch a glimpse of God if we're not looking?

To change our lives, we first need to sit down and visualise how different life could be if we could only let God in. We need to visualise breaking through our pain barriers to create our own highs.

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CAFOD LENT FAST DAY: There will be a retiring collection at the end of Mass today.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER & REFLECTION DURING THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT

Seniors' Gathering: Come and join your peers in prayer, reflection and socialising, Wednesday, 15th March 2:00 p.m. in the church hall.

Exploring Prayer and Faith: Wednesday, 15th March, 7:00 p.m. Join with others to learn about and experience aspects of Catholic spirituality and teaching.

Mass and Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 7:00pm. Opportunity for private confession after Stations.

For your Diary: Parish Retreat Day, Saturday, 8th April, 10:30 – 3:30

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: there is a very important meeting for parents on Tuesday, 14 March, 7:00 p.m. in the hall. Children's class, Sunday, 9:45am.

CONFIRMATION: the next session is on Monday 13th March from 7.00 -8.30pm and will take place in the Crypt of St John the Evangelist Church in Duncan Terrace, Angel.

ANNUAL MASS IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY: will take place on Saturday 3rd June at 3pm in Westminster Cathedral. If any couple in the parish is celebrating a significant anniversary this year – that would be 25, 40, 50 or more years! – and you would like to attend this special Mass, please let Sr Miriam or one of the priests know. Thank you.

WEB SITE: Check out the parish website at www.rcdow.org.uk/copenhagenstreet the site now includes the newsletter and much more. If you Google Blessed Sacrament, don't go to the "Catholic Directory" site as it is outdated.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: For 2017/18 will be available in a couple of weeks. If you do not wish to continue giving by envelope or would like to switch to a monthly standing order, please e-mail the office. If anyone would like a box of envelopes, please provide the office with your full name and address and contact number. Thanks.

SCHOOL VOUCHERS: Please collect school vouchers and bring them for our school. There is a basket for them by the Crucifix at the Church entrance.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS: Envelopes £235.70, loose plate £270.94
Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for those who have died recently: Barbara McKenzie, and for all those whose anniversaries are about this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

HEALING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: especially Leny Tirado, Mary Payne, Alice Clancy, Doreen Clayton, Tom Hunt, Sophia O'Donnell, Monica Smith (O'Leary), Eugene Mariner, Cassie Robinson, Tessa Charlton, Michael Hehir, Emmanuel Tala, Mary Wallace, Nina & Jocelyn Hillgarth, Filomena Barbo, Colin Harris, Margaret Phillips, Peggy Walsh., Nora Moran, Maria Carrano, Teresa Finnigan, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach , Albert Boateng, Anne Griffin, baby Freddie Mudd.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 12 th March	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (Mass Book p.155)	8.30am	Nell Ward RIP
		11.00am	Maureen McLoughlin RIP
Monday 13 th March	<i>Lent feria</i>	10.30am	Liam O'Farrell RIP
Tuesday 14 th March	<i>Lent feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 15 th March	<i>Lent feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Friday 17 th March	<i>St Patrick</i>	7.00pm	Private Intention
Saturday 18 th March	<i>Lent feria</i>	10.30am	All our Parishioners
Sunday 19 th March	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Mass Book p.158)	8.30am	Carmel Finnerty RIP
		11.00am	Jack Walsh RIP (Anniv.)

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 10.30am, Sunday 8.30am & 11.00am

Confessions: Sunday 8am-8.20am: 10.30am – 10.50am

Weekday Mass at St John the Evangelist Monday - Friday at 10.00am - All welcome

Confessions at St John's on Saturday 10.30-11.15am and 5.15-5.45pm

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A Parish of the Westminster Roman Catholic Diocese Trustee, Charity no. 233699