

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 (home: 020 7837 8378)

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



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8th October 2017

The Cornerstone

What happens when we forget that our lives are a gift from God? What happens when we forget that human-kind is God's creation? What happens when we forget that the planet we live on belongs to God? Today's parable describes a land owner who leaves tenants in charge of his vineyard. But at harvest time the tenants refuse to pay their rent, failing to recognise the landowner's authority and killing the servants and even the son who are sent for the rent. The tenants appear to have forgotten that the vineyard belongs to the landowner. The tenants had come to believe that they could make up their own rules. They had forgotten that they were accountable. They had certainly forgotten that they had been given responsibilities and entrusted with stewardship.

God is still master of the 'vineyard', and we are the new tenants to whom the welfare of the vineyard has been passed on. The parable was originally targeted at the Pharisees, but for us too, the parable demands some degree of self-examination. We might think of ourselves as good people, but like the first tenants, do we constantly fight shy of accountability? Over the years we each develop our own individual code of conduct. Perhaps we begin to feel that as long as we are living by some kind of moral code we no longer need to be accountable. We begin to imagine that 'being accountable', is just for those who go round getting things wrong. Living by self-made standards is all well and good, but if we do this are we in danger of forgetting about the very high standards that God has set for us.

What happens when we forget that Christ is our cornerstone? When we make up our own rules with little thought for Jesus' teachings, the chances are we will fall a long way short of what God expects. Today's invitation is to raise the bar, step up to the mark, and recognise Christ as our cornerstone.

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PARISH NEWS

FIRST COMMUNION REGISTRATION: If you wish to prepare your child (Year 3 or older) for First Confession and First Communion this year, you will find by the notice board a letter with more information and a registration form which is due by tomorrow!

OCTOBER PRAYER: On Wednesday 11 October, there will be Rosary and prayer time, entrusting ourselves, our families, parish and world to Mary's care.

COMMUNION MINISTERS: Meeting in Church immediately after Mass today.

CAFOD HARVEST FAST: Today you will hear about CAFOD's work in El Salvador. Please take a Fast Day envelope with you after Mass and consider fasting and praying in solidarity with the poor next Friday. (We've postponed it by a week.) Please return the Fast Day envelope with your donation next Sunday and put it in the box that will be provided. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

PARISH VOLUNTEERS' PARTY: Saturday, 14 October, 7:00 p.m. in hall.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER: if you are applying for a place in a Catholic Secondary School for next year you will need to have a Certificate of Catholic Practice signed by a Priest. Fr Séamus and Fr David will be available to do this here in the Church at the following times:

Monday 16th October 3.30 – 5.00pm
Saturday 21st October 11.00am – 12.30pm

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Saturday, 2 December, 2017. Preliminary Meeting for anyone interested in helping with planning, next Sunday, 15 October after the 11:00 Mass in the hall (after you have had your tea).

FOOD BANK: There is a possibility that we could host food distribution on a weekly basis. If this were to happen, volunteers who could be available in the day-time, once a week, would be needed. If you are interested, please give your contact details to Sister Miriam.

HEALTH AND SAFETY: Is there someone with experience in Health and Safety who is willing to assist in reviewing H&S in the parish? Please let Father Séamus know. Thank you.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes £276.50 loose plate £224.68
Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Eugene Mariner (Jacky's husband) who died recently 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 Alice Clancy, Doreen Clayton, Tom Hunt, Sophia O'Donnell, Monica Smith (O'Leary), 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, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Anne & Thomas Griffin, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Josephine Onwuka (knee surgery), Ellen Hunt & Raymond Willoughby

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 8 th October	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p.137)</i>	8.30am	Noel McDowell RIP & Tommy Fallon RIP
		11.00am	Intentions of Nerie Cea
Monday 9 th October	<i>Blessed John Henry Newman</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 10 th October	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 11 th Oct	<i>Pope St John XXIII</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 14 th October	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Eugene Mariner RIP
Sunday 15 th October	TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p.140)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Thomas & Bridie Fallon RIP

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