

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



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8th July 2018

Closed Minds



Hands up did your older brothers and sisters try to teach you things as a child only to be met with protests, scoffs and yawns? It was only when your parents stepped in and paid up front for an expensive tutor that you would finally sit up and pay attention. It seems that we disregard as unimportant what is right under our noses. The next-door neighbour might speak words of great wisdom to us over the garden fence, but unless the same words were boomed at us from a cloud or a mountaintop we would barely heed them. The old adage that 'familiarity breeds contempt' is certainly a true one.

When Jesus returned to his hometown to preach, he was treated with similar disregard. When the Nazarenes heard him speaking they could not take him seriously because they could remember all too well his humble origins. Wasn't he just a carpenter ... Mary's son? They closed their minds against Jesus, and because their minds were closed, Jesus could not work any great deed that day.

Of course, there is more to this story than Jesus being rejected in his hometown. This is a story about how we too can ignore or reject God. This is a story about the stumbling blocks we encounter in our faith. Perhaps our pet stumbling block might be our unwillingness to listen to others in the belief that we know best. Our stumbling block might be a reluctance to ask for help, fearing that this might be a sign of weakness. Our stumbling block might be the inability to recognise the voice of God in our day-to-day surroundings. Could God be talking to us through a partner, through our children, parents or friends? Where will the next prophet come from, the other side of the globe or the other side of the street? The trick is, not to rule anything out. God is less likely to work wonders in a closed mind.



FR DAVID'S LEAVING GIFT: now that Fr David is away on leave it would be good to arrange the traditional 'goodbye' collection for him! If you would like to give something towards this, please place the money in an envelope marked 'For Fr David' and place it in the offertory collection bag at Mass. He is away until the end of July but will then be here for August while I am on annual leave. Thanks! *Fr Séamus*

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL: Raffle tickets are available after Mass to support Blessed Sacrament School. The Draw will be made at their Summer Fete next Friday, 13th July. To obtain your tickets please see Nerie after the 11:00 Mass and Sister Miriam after the 8:30. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Here's a way to keep cool – think Christmas! Could parishioners interested in preliminary planning for the bazaar please plan to meet after the 11:00 Mass next Sunday. Main questions: How early to begin selling raffle tickets? how to get good prizes for raffle? and any new ideas.

NEW CATECHISTS: We need Catechists to help prepare our young people for the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation. If you think you might like to exercise this very important ministry in the parish, please let either Fr Séamus or Sister Miriam know. Thanks

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT? We have a course called the RCIA Course which prepares those aged 18 and over for becoming Catholics. The next one will start at the end of September this year. The course is offered at Duncan Terrace for Blessed Sacrament and St. John's together and is led by David Lester with assistance from the priests and Sister Miriam. For more information and to receive a copy of the schedule when available, please contact David Lester by email: davidlester51@btinternet.com or by phone 07914 055 438 or have a word with Sr Miriam or Fr Séamus. They will be happy to answer any questions you have.

FOOD BANK: We continue to rely on your support through volunteering on Thursdays or helping us to expand our support base. Food donations are welcome. What is most needed is listed on the box at the back of church. We cannot make use of perishable items. Thank you.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes £166.40 Loose £241.06 Monthly Standing Orders for June £600.00 **Thank you for your generosity.**

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for those who have 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 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, Nora Moran, Maria Carrano, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, Anne & Thomas Griffin, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Ellen Hunt, Hazel Hoyte, Angela Neary, Irene Cullen, Gerry Twomey, Barbara Johnson, Josephine Onwuka, Pauline Timlin, Kevin Corcoran, Patrick McShane, Margaret Walsh, Russell Blanco, Florence S Philip, Amidu (Blessing) Yamba.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 8 th July	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p 103)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Private Intention
Monday 9 th July	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 10 th July	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Weds. 11 th July	<i>St Benedict</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 14 th July	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Sunday 15 th July	FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p 106)</i>	8.30am	Private Intention
		11.00am	All our Parishioners

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