

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street

Clergy: Mgr. Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr Allan Alvarado Gil
Fr Larry Milby (retired, in residence)

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

Parish Secretary: Lisa Mulvaney **Parish Tel:** 020 7226 3277

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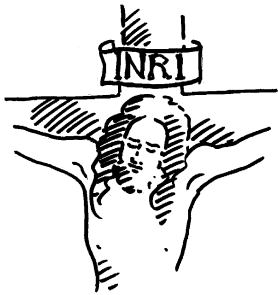
Parish Office opening times: Tuesday-Friday 10.00am -2.00pm



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

16th September 2018

Choosing Your Crosses



We like stories about Peter because he's a flawed character. He gets himself into trouble on numerous occasions by saying rash things. We like Peter because in a lot of ways he is just like each and every one of us.

Today Peter recognises Jesus as the Son of God, but he completely fails to grasp the implications. He certainly doesn't understand the necessity for Jesus to die on the cross and he tells him so. Jesus puts Peter straight. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel will save it."

Many would-be-disciples misunderstand the concept of taking up crosses. We often hear people in general conversation sighing. "... Ah well... we all have our crosses to bear...." There are difficulties in all of our lives that cannot be avoided. To try and avoid problems would be foolish. Life is just one long series of problems and challenges, and each problem overcome makes us a stronger character. However, this is not the same thing as picking up our crosses and following Christ. Living with unavoidable problems isn't the same as choosing to tackle a problem that we could easily avoid. Jesus didn't need to choose the road to Jerusalem and crucifixion, but he did. In the same way, Christians need to be pro-active about choosing their crosses. Do we choose to care for an elderly parent, or do we leave it to one of our siblings? Do we tackle racism in our street, or do we leave it to the neighbours? Do we fundraise for local charities or do we leave it to those we deem cleverer, more articulate or more energetic?

There are an estimated 2.1 billion Christians on our planet. How different the world would be if each and every one of us chose to pick up our crosses.



PARISH BARBECUE: Next Sunday, 23rd September, 12:00 - 5:30pm. Last orders and raffle draw are at 4:30pm. For very reasonable prices you can have homemade burgers, hot dogs, sausages, chicken wings and cakes. Do come and bring family and friends and get to meet some other parishioners. Pray for good weather too! Hall set up and other preparations, Saturday 22nd at 11:00.

FOOD BANK: Your donations are always welcome. There is a container at the back of church. Please note, however, that we are not able to use perishable or fresh food or bread. These tinned items are much needed: soup, beans, meat/fish, vegetables, and fruit. Cereal, pasta, rice, pasta sauce, tea, coffee and cleaning products are much needed items as well. Thank you for your continuing support.

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.

SR CHRISTINE MARY SHCJ: the sad news came this week of the recent death of Sr. Christine Mary who taught Infants in Blessed Sacrament School for many years. Please pray for the repose of her soul.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? or do you know someone who would? We have a course for those over 18 years of age who have not been baptised or have been baptised but not in a Roman Catholic Church, or who were baptised in a Roman Catholic Church but not confirmed. 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. The next course will start on October 8th this year, leading to baptism or full communion with the Roman Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil next year. **The full Schedule for the course is now available:** please contact David Lester, the RCIA Co-ordinator, preferably by email at davidlester51@btinternet.com or on 07914 055438.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Sr Christine Mary Austin SHCJ who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries are about this time, especially: Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

HEALING FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: especially Liam Buckley, 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, Evelyn Corcoran, Gerry Corcoran, Eamon Hanahoe, Mary Paditey

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 16 th Sept.	TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Parish Mass Book p.132)	8.30am	Private Intention
		11.00am	All our Parishioners
Monday 17 th Sept.	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 18 th Sept.	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Weds. 19 th Sept.	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 22 nd Sept.	<i>feria</i>	10.30am	Private Intention
Sunday 23 rd Sept.	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Parish Mass Book p.135)	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Private Intention

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