

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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

23rd December 2018



The Promise of a Lifetime

It's easy for us to take promises with a pinch of salt. Whilst growing up, we've learned that promises are easily made and easily broken. We make promises of our own with varying degrees of commitment. In short, promises are not always made to be kept, and our faith in a promise is seriously undermined. No wonder the promises we read in the bible don't always make us jump for joy.

Does a promise made to us by God carry any more weight? If we were truly convinced that God was making us a promise, then it probably would. There's a saying that goes, "We question all our beliefs, except for the ones we really believe, and those we never think to question." It seems that belief is key in getting excited about a promise. Mary obviously had no doubts; this is illustrated in her promptness to act on his commands. We might not confess to doubts, but why then do we hedge our bets. Why do we squash God into a small corner of our busy lives and get on with other things?

Mary is a perfect role model for us all. She believed in God's promise. She acted on God's commands. She didn't push God into a small corner of her life God was her life. "Blessed is she," writes Luke in today's gospel, "who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Today's gospel is an invitation for us to take God's promises to heart, to make them real in our minds, and act on them.

* CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES *

Christmas Eve 24th December: Carols and First Mass of Christmas 6.30pm

Christmas Day 25th December: Mass at 8.30 & 11.00am



To all our parishioners and visitors, we wish a blessed and peaceful Christmas
and every good thing in the New Year!

Sr Miriam, Mgr Séamus, Fr Allan & Fr Larry

CHRISTMAS EVE READERS: Those who signed up to read on Christmas Eve, please see Sister Miriam after Mass to get your reading.

CHRISTMAS EVE SOCIAL: For anyone who wants to stay for a while to socialise after the Christmas Eve Mass, there will be a Bring and Share (finger food) in the hall after Mass.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS: If you want to donate money on line to the food bank you can now do so using our parish website. Go to the website, click Foodbank and follow the directions. Thank you.

FOR YOUR DIARY: If you volunteer in the parish in any capacity, please mark Saturday 26th January 2019 in your diary for a 'thank you' social.

CONFIRMATION 2019: The Confirmation Enrolment Forms for 2019 are available at the back of the Church. Please return them before **Friday 11th January 2019**. For more details please contact Fr Allan

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes: £184.18 loose cash: £331.50
Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Terry Mahon (Maureen O'Malley's brother), Dora Best, Lady Elizabeth Uzoma Nzekwe (Valentines' mother) & Clarence Clarke **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 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, Kieran Vos, Bridget Ryan.

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 23 rd December	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>(Parish Mass Book p.90)</i>	8.30am	Helen Wyatt RIP
		11.00am	Dora Best RIP
Monday 24 th Dec.	Christmas Eve <i>(Parish Mass Book p.97)</i>	6.30pm	Private Intention
Tuesday 25 th Dec.	Christmas Day <i>(Parish Mass Book p.100)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Intentions of Jack Walsh
Wednesday 26 th Dec.	<i>St Stephen</i>	10.30am	NO MASS THIS WEEK
Saturday 29 th Dec	<i>St Thomas á Becket</i>	10.30am	All our Parishioners
Sunday 30 th Dec.	HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH <i>(Parish Mass Book p.105)</i>	8.30am	John Arthur Wyatt RIP
		11.00am	Elizabeth Uzoma Nzekwe 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