

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



HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

30th December 2018

Growing in Love



When we hear stories about the Holy Family we are struck by the normality of Jesus' upbringing. Mary and Joseph behave like any parents of today. Secondly, we are struck by the love and tenderness that surrounds Jesus in his early years. The fact that he was born in a stable and grew up with no great wealth doesn't seem to matter. What matters is that Jesus grew up knowing that Mary and Joseph loved and cared for him.

Jesus would have been brought up in a Jewish tradition, and he would not have been expected to challenge this tradition. What is interesting for us to learn is, that by the tender age of twelve Jesus was developing a sense of who he really was. When Jesus causes his parents much distress by becoming separated from them to stay in the temple listening to the teachers, he tells Mary and Joseph, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be busy with my Father's affairs?"

Mary and Joseph don't quite understand what he means, but we are told, "Mary stored all these things in her heart." She had faith in her son, and she allowed him to become the individual she always knew he was.

It's not easy to let go and allow your child to be his or her own person, especially if you see them making all sorts of mistakes. Today's gospel is a lesson in parenting. Surround your children with love and caring. Pass down all the good Christian traditions you yourself have learned, then have faith and allow your child to be the person they need to be.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Very best wishes to you all for the Year of Our Lord 2019 which stretches ahead of us.
Sincere thanks also for your many kind Christmas cards and gifts.

All really appreciated by:

Sr Miriam, Sr Paulette, Mgr Séamus, Fr Allan & Fr Larry

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME: Part Two of the First Communion programme begins on Sunday the 13th January at 9:45 with the first children's class held in the Church hall and followed by attendance at the 11:00 Mass with parent(s). On Thursday, 17th January, 7:00 p.m. there is an important Parent Meeting.

FIRST COMMUNION PRAYER PARTNERS: If you are willing to be a prayer partner for one of the children who will be preparing for First Communion this year, please sign the paper on the table by the organ. Thank you.

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: £178.16 loose cash: £198.55

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 30 th Dec.	HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (Parish Mass Book p.105)	8.30am 11.00am	John Arthur Wyatt RIP Elizabeth Uzoma Nzekwe RIP
Monday 31 st Dec.	<i>7th Day in the Octave of Christmas</i>	10.30am	NO MASS THIS WEEK
Tuesday 1 st January 2019	Mary Mother of God (Parish Mass Book p.109)	10.30am	Intentions of Bridie Harrington
Wednesday 2 nd Jan.	<i>St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen</i>	10.30am	NO MASS THIS WEEK
Saturday 5 th January	<i>Christmas feria</i>	10.30am	Intentions of Cynthia King
Sunday 6 th January	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Parish Mass Book p.115)	8.30am 11.00am	All our Parishioners Dora Best 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