

# 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)

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**Website:** [www.rcdow.org.uk/copenhagenstreet](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/copenhagenstreet)

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



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FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

10<sup>th</sup> February 2019

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## Those Same Old Banana Skins!

We work to live ... or at least, that's the idea. But as we get up, go to work go to bed, get up, go to work, go to bed, get up, go to work, go to bed .... it begins to feel that instead of working to live we are living to work. Our lives can become a pattern of chores formed by the pressures of life rather than by our own design. After years and years of doing the same things, these patterns can become a comfort zone that imprisons, confines and limits us. Before we know it, there are a whole raft of opportunities outside our comfort zone that we decide we are not capable of, or simply aren't 'us'.

Today we are reminded that we don't need to go through life slipping on the same old banana skins or beating our head against the same old brick walls. We can live life differently. We just need to be a bit braver and try that bit harder. The writer J.K. Rowling reminds us all to have the courage of our convictions. She submitted Harry Potter nine times before finally getting it accepted by Bloomsbury. "Success is failure that tried one more time!" All we need to step out of our self-made prisons is vision, belief and courage.

Today we find Peter and his fellow disciples at a low ebb. They have been fishing all night, but have caught nothing. Jesus advises them to do things a little differently. He asks them to cast their nets a little further from shore. It is heartening to see Peter knowing a moment of doubt. Jesus might be an expert when it comes to matters of faith, but what does he know about fishing? What Peter doesn't realise is that he is on the brink of a life changing experience. Fortunately for him, he trusts in Jesus despite his fleeting doubt, and follows the advice. The result is more fish than his nets can hold. Faith, courage, and a willingness to do things a little differently has brought its own rewards.

Peter James and John left their fishing nets behind them and completely changed their lives not because they were superhuman, but because Jesus had taught them to see themselves in a new light. Today's invitation is to see ourselves in a new light, get excited about the possibilities ahead, and ask God for the courage to leave behind those old banana skins!



**PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION:** The next class is on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February** in the Crypt at St John's from 6.45pm – 8.00pm. Please make every effort to be there on time!

**FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** The third part of First Communion Preparation begins on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February with a Meeting for Parents at 7:00 p.m. in the Hall. The next children's class is on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 9:45am.

**MINISTERS OF COMMUNION AND MINISTERS OF THE WORD:** Want to learn more about lay ministry in the Church? There are excellent talks at Vaughan House, Westminster, in February. Communion Ministers, Monday 25 February, 7:00 – 9:00; Readers, Thursday, 21 February, 7:00 – 9:00. Ask Sr Miriam for more information.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE:** The Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place 20<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Information and registration forms are on the notice board.

**EASTER EGGS (ALREADY?):** It is almost time to take orders for the “Really Meaningful Easter Eggs” Is there someone please who is willing to receive the orders, take the payments and distribute the eggs when they arrive? Please let Sister Miriam know.

**CAN YOU HELP? ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JUSTICE AND PEACE?** What is Justice and Peace? It’s about wanting to make a difference, witnessing to gospel values in society, not only by helping those close at hand, or sending gifts overseas, but asking why problems are arising, and whether we can speak up for change. The commission is currently working on such things as climate protection, Fairtrade, the refugee situation, and peace in the Middle East. Please consider being the parish representative for the Diocesan J & P Commission. Justice and Peace reps can maintain a parish notice board or raise awareness in the parish. Let sister Miriam know if you are interested.

**LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** Envelopes: £210.65 loose cash: £226.57  
**Thank you for your generosity.**

**REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:**

**Please remember to pray for Sr Helen Zettel SSND 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, Barbara Baggs.

<b>MASSES THIS WEEK:</b>			
<b>DATE</b>	<b>FEAST DAYS</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>INTENTION</b>
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> <i>(Parish Mass Book p.136)</i>	8.30am	In grateful thanksgiving
		11.00am	Catherine Taylor RIP (Anniv.)
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Our Lady of Lourdes	10.30am	Sarah Philbin RIP
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Weds. 13 <sup>th</sup> February	feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> <i>(Parish Mass Book p.139)</i>	8.30am	Anne & Jack Talty RIP
		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*