

# 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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**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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FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019

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## Pitfalls of a Prophet

There's an insightful saying, "An expert is someone who carries a briefcase and works two hundred miles from home." The saying finds resonance in Jesus' own words, "No prophet is accepted in his own native place." In today's reading Jesus is invited to preach back in his hometown synagogue. At first, Jesus' audience are impressed, but then they start to mutter to each other. Surely this is just the son of Joseph the carpenter! When this truth dawns on them they are enraged and drive him out of town. It doesn't matter how successful or famous or distinguished one has become, once you return home you will always be that

little runny nosed seven year old who refused to wash behind his ears.

The readings over the Epiphany season are all about human kind coming to understand who Jesus is and what he is about. In particular, the readings tell us how this understanding is communicated. Jesus was an excellent communicator, but not even he was free of prejudice. The business of communicating with others on the subject of God is not without problems and pitfalls.

There is nothing elite about being a prophet. A prophet is anyone who stands up and speaks an insightful truth. As Christians we are all required to stand up for the truth. There is plenty of injustice in the world to speak out against, but before speaking out, we are warned of the pitfalls. Today's gospel warns us of the pitfall of familiarity breeding contempt. What other pitfalls might we encounter in speaking out? It is easy for instance to imagine that everyone's faith should be the same as one's own. Might we misjudge the mood, readiness or interest of our audience? Might we be tempted to patronize, or worse, bore out listeners?

For two thousand years inspirational communicators have stood up in Jesus' wake and amplified his words. Today we are invited to choose our own words, weigh up our audience, examine the pitfalls and add our voice.



**FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** Children's classes continue next Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** the next classes for parents wishing to have their infants baptised will be on Tuesdays 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm in St John's Church, Duncan Terrace, Angel. You should please attend both sessions.

**PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION:** There will be a Mass of Enrolment for our young people next **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 12noon in St John's, Duncan Terrace**. The first 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!

**FOOD BANK:** The food bank is in need of carrier bags. If you have some extras you can bring to church next week that would be appreciated. We are grateful for your donations of food in the basket at the back of church. For the time being we have enough baked beans. Canned fruit, veg, meat, and fish are always in short supply. We are happy to welcome new volunteers. If you are interested, please talk to Sister Miriam

**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.

**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.

**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.

**LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** Envelopes: £244.75 loose cash: £287.38  
**Thank you for your generosity.**

**REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:**

**Please remember to pray for** Fr Séamus Noctor, Sr Margaret Volk SSND, Sr Mary Grace Diebolt SSND, Sr Evelyn Volk SSND & Sr Audrey Marie Mittelholtz 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 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> <i>(Parish Mass Book p.132)</i>	8.30am	Intentions of the Gleed Family
		11.00am	All our Parishioners
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	St Agatha	10.30am	Private Intention
Weds. 6 <sup>th</sup> February	St Paul Miki & Companions	10.30am	Private Intention
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	feria	10.30am	All our Parishioners
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.)

**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*