

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



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

26th May 2019

God Knows No Orphans



There are times in our lives when we feel a sense of abandonment. We might be left with feelings of panic, despair and emptiness at the break-up of a relationship, the loss of a loved one; or when the future we thought so secure is turned on its head through job loss, financial ruin or illness. The disciples must be feeling a little like this today at the prospect of Jesus' departure.

In today's gospel, Jesus is preparing his disciples for life without his physical presence. He is teaching them how to transcend these moments of fear and uncertainty "Those who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them..." Undoubtedly, knowing we are loved helps transcend feelings of abandonment, but Jesus reminds us that love is a two way street.

Love isn't just a feeling it's a decision, and staying in God's love means making a decision to keep his words. This doesn't mean God will no longer love us if we fail to keep a commandment, but it does mean that wanting to keep his words is at the heart of our relationship. It's not about trying to live up to an impossible set of expectations; it's about developing into confident Christians in an atmosphere of love and support.

Today's gospel speaks to those who are suffering insecurity and fear. As a Christian community we have a responsibility for promoting belief in God's love and in the continued support of the Holy Spirit. In this way, when any one of us comes to grief, that belief can come to the rescue. For those who know they are loved, healing comes more quickly. There can be no abandonment in a kingdom that knows no orphans.



ASCENSION THURSDAY: 30th May is a Holyday of Obligation when we are obliged as Catholics to attend Mass. There will be one Mass here at Blessed Sacrament at 7.30pm. There will be Mass at 10.00am at St John's in Duncan Terrace.

CONFIRMATION: over thirty youngsters from local parishes including Blessed Sacrament will be Confirmed by Bishop Nicholas Hudson next Friday, 31st May at a special Mass in St John's at 7.00pm. Please keep them in your prayers

INTERNATIONAL FEAST: Will anyone willing to plan a Pentecost (9 June) International Mass and Feast please meet with Sister Miriam today at 1:00 p.m. Meanwhile, please plan ahead to be part of the celebration, wearing your national dress, bringing typical food, praying in your language, etc.

WHO CARES? RESPONDING TO THE CRY OF THE EARTH: On Wednesday, 29 May, 6:30 – 8:30 Caritas Westminster invites us to an evening of practical suggestions for how parishes can respond to the environmental crisis. It's at Vaughan House on Francis Street behind the Cathedral. See red poster on the notice board for more details.

PARISH HALL: Many parishioners and their friends and families have made use of the facilities in our hall over the past few years. Periodically we review the procedures that we use on these occasions. As a result, we have made some changes. The attached paper explains how and when our hall is used. Please read it and ask for clarifications from committee members.

HOLY WATER: If you would like to take home some Holy Water blessed at Easter, you can find it in a big container at the front right-hand side of the church under the large picture.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes £204.03 Loose plate £553.21

Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Thomas Griffin 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 Griffin, Freddie Mudd, Margaret Cross, Catherine Barnes, Hazel Hoyte, Angela Neary, Irene Cullen, Gerry Twomey, Barbara Johnson, Josephine Onwuka, Pauline Timlin, Kevin Corcoran, Patrick McShane, Margaret Walsh, Florence S Philip, Amidu (Blessing) Yamba, Evelyn Corcoran, Gerry Corcoran, Eamon Hanahoe, Mary Paditey, Kieran Vos, Bridget Ryan, Barbara Baggs, Eleanor Macauley

MASSES THIS WEEK:			
DATE	FEAST DAYS	TIME	INTENTION
Sunday 26 th May	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>(Parish Mass Book p.274)</i>	8.30am	Private Intention
		11.00am	All our Parishioners
Monday 27 th May <i>Bank Holiday</i>	St Augustine of Canterbury	10.30am	NO MASS TODAY
Tuesday 28 th May	Easter feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 29 th May	Easter feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Thursday 30 th May <i>Holyday of Obligation</i>	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD <i>(Parish Mass Book p.277)</i>	<u>7.30pm</u>	All our Parishioners
Saturday 1 st June	St Justin	10.30am	Private Intention
Sunday 2 nd June	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>(Parish Mass Book p.281)</i>	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