

# THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Copenhagen Street N1 0SR

**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

**Postal Address:** 39 Duncan Terrace, Islington, London N1 8AL

**Email:** [copenhagenstreet@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:copenhagenstreet@rcdow.org.uk)

**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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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

28<sup>th</sup> July 2019

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## Does Prayer Work?



Have you ever prayed really, really, hard for something and not had that prayer granted? Have you ever looked back in life at a prayer you once made and thought thank goodness God didn't grant it? This week's gospel reading is a lesson in prayer, but more importantly, it's a lesson in having faith that God is a parent who will not let us down.

Let's face it, we pray hardest to God when we want something. We pray hardest when something seems beyond our human means and we need some kind of miracle, this often leads us to make inappropriate prayers. How many of us pray that the love of our life will notice us in the launderette? How many of us pray to win the lottery and make secret deals with God that we will donate half the winning to charity in return?

How many of us pray to God for our football team to score a winning goal in the closing minutes of a match? Worse... we lose faith when such prayers aren't answered! We find it difficult to believe that unanswered prayers might mean that God knows better or has a different purpose for us.

Perhaps Jesus' disciples shared some of our frustration when they say, "Lord teach us to pray." In response Jesus gives us a model by which to pray. It's important to recognise it as a model and not a prayer as such. Reciting a prayer is not the same as praying. The model pray Jesus gives us, 'The Lord's prayer', invites us to pray to God as our Father, acknowledging his holiness and praying with the shared commitment to have his will done on earth. We are invited to pray for our 'daily bread', in other words, for the things we genuinely need. Pray for forgiveness and promise to forgive others. Pray with persistence. Prayer is about building a relationship with God, speaking to him often throughout the day. Lastly, and most importantly we should approach God with the faith we approach a loving parent. "What father," reasons Jesus, "would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish?" or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg?" Even parents with very average parenting skills know how to give children what they need. "How much more," says Jesus, "will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"



**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 1<sup>st</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

**SISTER MIRIAM** will be unable to respond to telephone calls and emails for the next four weeks, as she will be back home in Canada on a very well-deserved break. Have a good rest Sister! Fr Séamus

**OCTOBER HOLIDAY CLUB:** Blessed Sacrament Primary School and the Caritas Food Collective will be running a new holiday club, to help children and families access nutritious, healthy food and enjoy fun activities during the holidays. The first pilot day will be on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** in the school and we will need lots of volunteers to help make it happen. There are many different roles available with something to suit everyone such as catering, running children's activities, sorting food and administration. Volunteer training will be provided. Please register your interest on the sign-up sheet at the church or contact Anna Gavurin [annagavurin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:annagavurin@rcdow.org.uk) / 020 7931 6077. Many thanks.

**EVERY PENNY HELPS:** We're off to a good start with "Church Care Coins" Till now we've banked almost £37.00. Please continue using the jar you'll see near the middle aisle.

**COPENHAGEN STREET FOODBANK:** Our foodbank now has containers at Iceland and the Co-op on the Cally to receive food donations from customers. Could anyone volunteer please to be on a rota for picking up the donated items from the stores? Please let Sr Miriam or Attracta know.

**BLESSED TANSI PILGRIMAGE:** The annual pilgrimage to Mount St. Bernard Abbey in honour of Blessed Tansi is on Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> August. Coaches leave London at 7:00 a.m. Contact Antoinette Kamara (07930184347) or Josephine Onwuka (07853862672) for details and booking.

**LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** Envelopes: £173.78 Loose plate: £202.60  
Thank you for your generosity.

**REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:**

**Please remember to pray for** Cecelia Obiogbolu (Rosemary Emencheta's sister) & Margaret Rees **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, 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, Peter McNally.

<b>MASSES THIS WEEK:</b>			
<b>DATE</b>	<b>FEAST DAYS</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>INTENTION</b>
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <i>(Parish Mass Book p.114)</i>	8.30am	All our Parishioners
		11.00am	Private Intention
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> July	St Martha	10.30am	<b><u>NO MASS TODAY</u></b>
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> July	feria	10.30am	<b><u>NO MASS TODAY</u></b>
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	St Ignatius Loyola	10.30am	<b><u>NO MASS TODAY</u></b>
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	feria	10.30am	Private Intention
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> <i>(Parish Mass Book p.117)</i>	8.30am	Private Intention
		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*