

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

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



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

15th September 2019

Why Should God Care For Me?

It's easy to hear the story of the 'Prodigal Son' from afar. It's easy to disassociate ourselves from the feelings of the younger son and make the same judgments that the older brother reached. The story takes on a totally fresh significance when you imagine yourself in the prodigal son's shoes.

When we are young everything is clear cut. The difference between right and wrong is obvious and the path through life is uncomplicated. Then life begins to test our principles. Poverty encourages us to make poor choices. Fear of failure encourages us to cheat or lie. Depression causes us to eat and drink too much. Desperation leads us to gamble or steal. Pride prevents us from seeking help. Every poor choice takes us further and further away from God. Like the young man in the story we begin to feel as though we are not worthwhile. The young man does not consider that his father will welcome him back as his son. We must have felt the same way at some time or another. We must all have started to pray and then thought, "Why on earth should God listen, why on earth should he care?"

Image the joy of learning that God has never given up on us. Imagine the young man's rush of relief and joy at finding that his father had never given up waiting for him to come home. For God, forgiveness is just a part of a love that never gives up.

The 'Lost Sheep', 'the Lost Coin', 'the Lost Son'. Three stories that remind us that no one is worthless or insignificant in God's eyes. God is continually looking to bring us back to him. Today's parables are about wholeness and inclusion in a society seemingly intent on division and exclusion. Today's parables speak to us about the need to be found and carried. Today's parables are about transcending the human instinct to sit in judgement over others and to feel the joy of God the Father's reconciling love.



BAZAAR: Next Sunday, 22nd September, at 12:15 there will be a preliminary meeting about this year's pre-Christmas raffle and bazaar. Anyone willing to help with planning is welcome.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC: Do you want to become a Catholic or do you know anyone who wants to? We have a course called the RCIA for those who are 18 or older and have either not been baptised at all, or who have been baptised in a Catholic church but never confirmed, or who have been baptised in a non-Catholic church and who wish to become Catholics. The next course will start on Monday 23rd September: classes will take place every Monday from 7.30 pm for 60-90 minutes leading to baptism/reception/confirmation at the Easter Vigil on Saturday 11th April 2020. For more information, talk to one of the priests or Sister Miriam, or contact David Lester, the RCIA Co-ordinator, by email on davidlester51@btinternet.com for a full Schedule of dates.

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 22nd 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 / 020 7931 6077. Many thanks,

EVERY PENNY HELPS: We're off to a good start with "Church Care Coins" Till now we've banked £132.20! Please continue, using the jar found near the middle aisle.

REQUEST: Stafford Cunningham is asking if anyone has clothing in good condition for the elderly. He is happy to collect them. Contact him on 07507092138.

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes £180.42 loose plate £181.84
Thank you for your generosity.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS:

Please remember to pray for Anne Griffin and Nina Hillgarth 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, Jocelyn Hillgarth, Filomena Barbo, Colin Harris, Maria Carrano, May Cullen., Gordana Tancevska, Irene Bryan, Phuong Quach, Albert Boateng, 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.

| MASSES THIS WEEK: | | | |
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| DATE | FEAST DAYS | TIME | INTENTION |
| Sunday 15 th Sept. | TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p.136)</i> | 8.30am | All our Parishioners |
| | | 11.00am | Mary Moosem Lan RIP |
| Monday 16 th Sept. | SS Cornelius & Cyprian | 10.30am | Private Intention |
| Tuesday 17 th Sept | feria | 10.30am | Private Intention |
| Weds. 18 th September | feria | 10.30am | Private Intention |
| Thurs 19 th September | feria | 1.00pm | Funeral of Anne Griffin RIP |
| Saturday 21 st Sept. | St Matthew | 10.30am | Private Intention |
| Sunday 22 nd Sept. | TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>(Parish Mass Book p.140)</i> | 8.30am | All our Parishioners |
| | | 11.00am | Mary Moosem Lan 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