

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Cricklewood

35 Cricklewood Lane, London, NW2 1HR

www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/cricklewood

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Last week's collection £1418. Many Thanks.

Message from Mary's Meals. We would like to thank everyone in the parish for their wonderful generosity. We spoke at the end of Mass last weekend and were delighted by the total given- a terrific £1356.68. This will feed 70 children one good meal every school day for a whole year. However our Double the Love campaign means all donations (up to £1.5 million before 31st January 2023) will be matched so the parish effectively doubles the number of children being fed from 70 to 140. God bless you all and please keep Mary's Meals in your prayers.

Next Sunday 5th February is Racial Justice Sunday. Racial Justice Collection.

Requiem on Wednesday 1st February for Frank Fahy at 12noon. Reception on Tuesday 31st January at 6pm. Your prayers for the repose of his soul and for his family in their loss.

Prayers for the Dead. Frank Fahy, Eugenia Toon, Richard Karl Koller, Mary Lane (former parishioner and employee at St Agnes School).

Confirmation. Meeting on Saturday 4th February at 11am in the Parish Centre.

Feasts this week. Tuesday St John Bosco, Priest. Thursday. The Presentation of the Lord. Friday. First Friday. Ss Laurence, Dunstan and Theodore, Archbishops of Canterbury. Also St Blaise. The Blessing of throats will be given at Mass. Exposition and Benediction until 1pm.

Prayer to St John Bosco, patron of youth. Teacher in the ways of God, Your dedication to empowering the needy inspires us still. Help us to work for a better world, where the young are given a chance to flourish, where the poor's dream for justice can come through, and where God's compassion is shown to be real. Intercede for me as I bring my needs to you and to our Heavenly Mother, the Help of Christians. St John Bosco, pray for us.

Thought for the Day. The five principles of a Catholic School :1. The Catholic School treats every individual human person as a child of God called to share in God's own life forever. 2. It takes its inspiration from the ministry of Christ. 3. It participates in the mission of the Church within the surrounding culture in which it lives and breathes. 4. It is an inclusive community ideally built on love and formed by the interaction and collaboration of its various components: students, parents, teachers, non-teaching staff and members of the Board.

Gospel. Matthew 5:1-12. We are told that Jesus fixed his eyes on the disciples before speaking. It suggests that he was about to say something that he really wanted them to take in. Surprisingly he then tells them it is no bad thing for us to be poor or hungry. You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless till they rest in you as St Augustine put it. Jesus said Blessed are you who weep which is not an encouragement to be miserable. Rather it is an affirmation of the importance of loving relationships in life. We are blessed to have such people in our lives, but there may also be pain. Jesus said that his followers would be open to opposition and ridicule because of him- and they are blessed when this happens.

CAFOD are looking for people to become volunteers here in the Westminster diocese. Could you help us raise awareness about our work across the developing world tackling poverty and injustice. Find out by joining our meeting on Wednesday 1st February at CAFOD Volunteer Centre, 29 Bramley Road, N14 4HE 2.30 to 4.30pm. Please contact Tony on 0208 449 6970.

Parish Volunteers needed. Readers, Ministers (especially to the sick) Collectors, Counters, Cleaners, Servers, Musicians and Singers, Finance Committee members, Catechists.