

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Cricklewood

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Last Sunday's collection: £1942. Many Thanks.

The Pope's Monthly Intention. For the Pope. We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Feasts this week. Thursday. The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. Friday . St Leo the Great. Pope and Doctor. Saturday. St Martin of Tours. Bishop. Next Sunday 12th November is Remembrance Sunday. It is also World Day for the Poor.

A Day with Mary. Saturday 18th November. Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St George, London Road, Enfield.9.30 am to 5pm.Saturday 25th November. St John Fisher Church, Imperial Close, North Harrow HA2 7LW.10am to 5.30pm.

Gospel Notes. Matthew 23:1-12.The condemnation of the scribes and Pharisees by Jesus brings to mind the public discourse about the Church in recent years. This has highlighted the failures of church people to live up to the values of the gospel. This has had a negative effect on many people and on their religious practice. How do you find hope in the midst of this negative criticism?

When our actions match our words about gospel values, then our words carry more weight. Recall people whom you admired for this quality. Perhaps your own experience at times confirms this.

Our passage ends with a paradox. Those who exalt themselves will be humbled and those who humble themselves will be exalted. For Jesus the way to greatness and a full life is through service of others. When have you found the way of service brought unexpected rewards?

Requiem for Patrick Tighe on Monday 6th November at 12 noon. Your prayers for the repose of his soul and for his family in their loss.

Second collection – Sick & Retired Priests'

Today's second collection is for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. Please give generously and help ensure our sick and older priests are financially supported, having given us a lifetime of dedicated service. They have baptised us, welcomed us into the church, and offered comfort and prayer at times of sorrow. Now we have a chance to give back and ensure they have peace of mind during their senior years, when they may be facing failing health and declining mobility.

Please give generously using the envelopes in the church. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online. You may also wish to consider becoming a Patron of our Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. If so, please take a leaflet home today, for more information. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

November is the Month of the Holy Souls. We will be compiling the November Dead List as per usual. You will find some envelopes and sheets in the Church Porch. Place in the envelope the names of your deceased Parents, Relatives, Friends and all for whom you wish to pray. Holy Mass will be offered for them during the month of November.

Human beings love to remember, especially our dead on whose shoulders we stand. The ones who made sacrifices for us endured harder times and generally lived shorter lives. During November we pray for their eternal happiness and give thanks for their contribution to our lives. We also remember those whose lives were cut short and left us too soon. There are many walking, wounded by grief and loss among us. They too need to be the focus of our prayers on their journey of grief during this month. We have only a little time to please the living but all eternity to love the dead.