

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Cricklewood

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Last Sunday's collection: £1851. Many Thanks.

Over the next weeks there will be a number of appeals, not least because of the situation in Palestine. More details later.

Requiem Mass for Cornelius Morley on Thursday 23rd November at 1pm. Reception into Church on Wednesday 22nd November at 7pm. Your prayers for the repose of his soul and for his family in their loss.

Parish Christmas Party on Sunday 17th December in the Hall. People will be asked to sign up to indicate attendance.

Feasts this week. Tuesday. The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Wednesday. St Cecilia. Virgin and Martyr. Thursday St Columban. Abbot. Friday. St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions.

Next Sunday is the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. It will be the last Sunday of this liturgical year before we move into Advent.

Gospel Notes. Matthew 23:14-30. A gift is given in love, to be enjoyed, treasured, and used. Through fear, one servant failed to recognise the loving trust being shown to him and buried the talent. When have you found that overcoming fear helped you to make the most of opportunities in life?

On the level of our own personal life, faith is not given to us to be locked away but to be shared. We share it when we believe in its value, trust it and use it, bringing it into the experience we have in daily life. Can you recall times when times when relying on your faith has brought you rewards?

We can fall into the trap of seeing our own personal gifts and talents as our own personal possession so that we can do with them what we like, rather than share them as gifts so that they can be multiplied. What is your experience of hoarding or sharing your own gifts?

When did you feel most alive?

Pope Francis in his letter The Joy of the Gospel speaks about being bold and creative in the task of rethinking the goals, structures, styles and methods of evangelisation in the parish. He says the important thing is not to walk alone but to rely on each other as brothers and sisters. A real challenge for the parish no doubt.

The Pope's Monthly Intention. 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.

Prayer on St Columban Feast Day. 23rd November. O Blessed Columban, who in your zeal to follow Christ left your homeland as a wanderer and spent your life in suffering and exile. Help and protect, we humbly ask you, the missionaries of our day who have devoted their lives to preaching the Gospel throughout the world. Obtain for them, we ask you, that same wisdom and fortitude by which you overcame the dangers, which beset your path. Assist and protect us to live for God's glory that when our pilgrimage is over, we may share with you in the joy of our heavenly home, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friends of the Holy Land presents The London Welsh Male Choir Charity Concert in support of Christians in the Holy Land on Thursday 14th December 7.30pm at Our Lady of Victories Church, 235a Kensington High Street, London W8 6SA. Ticket details. Check in Church Porch.

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.