

NEWSLETTER

**SEVENTH
SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

The glory which you have given me, I have given to them.

If love casts out fear perfectly, as scripture says, and if fear is transformed and becomes love, then what is saved proves to be a unity, for everything is united in its affinity to the one good through the perfection which comes from the Dove.

We can deduce this from the words which follow: 'My dove, my perfect one, is only one. She is the one child of her mother, chosen by her that bore her.

The same point is made more clearly in the gospel by the Lord's own words. For when is his blessing he bequeathed all power to his disciples, in his prayer to his Father he bestowed on his followers all good gifts, and he added the greatest gift of all, that they should never be fragmented or divided by a multiplicity of choices in their judgment concerning what was right, but they should all be one, united in growth with the one and only good. And so, through the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the words of Saint Paul, they should all be clasped together in the bond of peace, and become one body and one Spirit, through the one hope to which they are called.

But it will be better to quote word for word the sacred text of the gospel: 'That they may all be one, even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be one'. The bond of this unity is glory, and that the Holy Spirit is called 'glory' no sensible man will deny if he considers the Lord's words: 'The glory which you have given me, I have given them'. He truly gave such glory to his disciples, for he said to them: 'Receive the Holy Spirit'.

When he clothed himself in human nature, Christ received the glory, which has from all ages, before the world existed; and when his human nature was thus glorified by the Holy Spirit, the glory of the Spirit could be handed on to Christ's kin,, beginning with the disciples.

This is the meaning of Christ's words: 'The glory which you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and they in me, that they become perfectly one'. Consequently it is the person who has grown from childhood to mature manhood, who has reached maturity of mind, who, in a word, has become capable of receiving the glory of the Spirit through his purity and his mastery over his passions-he it is who is the perfect dove on whom the bridegroom gazes when he says: 'My dove, my perfect one, is only one'.

St Gregory of Nyssa, On the Song of Songs

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth. O God, to whom every heart is open, every desire known and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the help of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, faithfully serve you, and worthily praise your Holy Name. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

MASS INTENTIONS

May 11th, 2024

6pm - A Miranda (Anniv)

May 12th, 2024

9am— Ints of Columban

Missionaries

11 am - J Collins (Anniv)

Friday - 17th May

9.15 am - H Kotecka (Anniv)

Confession on Saturday between 5.15-5.45 pm

or by appointment.

At present there is only one weekly mass

on Friday morning.

***FIRST COMMUNION
MASS***

Saturday, 18 May

At 10.30 am

Mission Appeal

Dear Friends, We welcome Fr. Pat O' Beirne of Columban Missionaries, who is making

a Mission Appeal this weekend

Fr. Pat is celebrating all Masses, and there is a Second Collection for the Mission.

A Prayer after Communion

Grant O Lord, we pray, that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things. We may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading— Acts 1;15-17, 20-26

Psalm 102: 1-2, 11-12, 19-20

Response v19

2nd Reading - John 4: 11-16

Gospel – John 17;11-19

1st Reading— Acts 2; 1-11

Psalm 103; 1, 24, 29-31, 34

Response cf v 30

2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 12;3-7, 12-13

John 20; 19-23

The Lord's ascension increases our faith

The Lord's resurrection filled us with joy on Easter Day; so too has his ascension into heaven in the cause of our gladness now, as we commemorate and solemnise the day on which our lowly nature was raised up in Christ above all the host of heaven, above all the ranks of the angels, beyond the height of all the heavenly powers, to the throne of God the Father. We were founded and built on this succession of divine acts, so that the wonder of God's grace might become even greater, for, though everything that seemed to move us to due reverence is removed from our sight, our faith remain constant, our hope firm and our charity warm.

This is strength which is given to great minds, this is the light of truly faithful souls, that unhesitatingly they can believe what they cannot see with the eyes of the body, and direct their longings beyond the range of their sight. How could this devotion be born in our hearts, how could anyone be justified by faith, if our salvation were to be found in those things alone which are open to our gaze?

The visible presence of our Redeemer passed over into sacraments; and so that faith might be more noble and firmer, it is grounded now not on sight but on doctrine.

The hearts of those who believe follow this doctrine by a light that comes from above. This faith, which was increased by the Lord's ascension and strengthened by the gift of the Holy Spirit, could not be dismayed by charms, by prison, by exile, by hunger, by fire, by the claws of wild beasts, or the cruel and ingenious torments of persecutors. All over the world not only men but women, young boys and gentle girls fought for this faith, even to the shedding of their blood. This faith cast out devils, drove away sickness, raised the dead.

The apostles themselves, though on many occasions they had been strengthened by our Lord's miracles and instructed by his words, still panicked at the atrociousness of his passion, and only after some hesitation accepted the truth of his resurrection. But his ascension wrought such a change in them that whatever before had been a source of fear now became a source of joy for them. They fixed their minds on Christ's godhead as he sat on his Father's right hand. The evidence of their eyes no longer held back their mental vision from contemplating this truth, that the Son descended from his Father without leaving him, and ascended from his disciples without departing from them.

For the Son of man, dearly beloved, was revealed more perfectly and more solemnly as the Son of God once he has returned to the glory of his Father's majesty, and in a mysterious way he began to be more present to them in his godhead once he had become more distant in his humanity.

The faith gained deeper understanding and by a leap of the mind began to reach out to the Son as the equal of the Father. It no longer needed contact with Christ's bodily substance, by which he is less than the Father. For though the glorified body remained a body, the faith of the believers was being drawn to touch, not with the hand of the flesh but with the understanding of the spirit, the only-begotten Son, the equal of his Father.

Pope. St Leo the Great.

Our Church

Dear Friends, After a few years of pause in spending money on our premises, the Finance Committee with myself, feel that it is time to address some issues. First, we have started with lights exchange in Sanctuary as they have started to fall off due to their age. We have also replaced majority of bulbs in the church and the hall. Secondly, after 24 years of use, we want to refresh our kitchen and toilets. The kitchen has its new image already and you can see it while having your tea or coffee.

As usual, I would like to ask you for a specific donations towards our works as if we got money into this category, all your donations will stay with the parish, while when the money goes into general donations - we have to pay 30% of the total to the Diocese. If you are a Gift Aider, you can gift aid the donation and it will add an extra value.

Donation envelopes are available on the table in the lobby. You can also chose to donate on our digital plate or by bank transfer but doing it - do not forget to add; donation for electrical works or for decoration.

It all will come with a cost of eleven thousand pounds. We have collected so far **£3342** towards our works do far. Thank you for your support and generosity. Fr Christopher

Annual Parish BBQ

Our annual parish BBQ, will be on **9th June 24**, after the 11am Mass. Tickets and other information to follow nearer the time. Please put this date in your diary.



CONGRATULATION TO OUR YOUNG PARISHIONERS WHO MADE THEIR CONFIRMATION LAST FRIDAY.

LET'S KEEP THEM IN OUR PRAYERS TO SUPPORT THEIR FAITH TO DEEPEN.

At the same time we thank Asha for her work in preparing them for the Sacrament and we thank Andrew for taking the photographs.



ST.MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Nether Street

North Finchley

London N12 7NJ

Tel: 020 8446 2256

Fax: 020 8343 9598

Voluntary Aided

"An outstandingly effective School" Ofsted

Email: office@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk

Website: www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk

OPEN EVENING – TUESDAY 25TH JUNE 2024

The Open Evening for Secondary Transfer admission to St Michael's, will be held on Tuesday 25th June 2024. Guided tours will be held between 5pm and 7pm. Mr Stimpson, Headteacher, will make a short presentation at 5pm and 7pm in The Sports Hall. You can attend the presentation before or after your tour, however, **all tours must be finished before the 7pm presentation.**

There are 128 places in each year and we are historically heavily oversubscribed. The following criteria will be used when pupils are selected for entry to the School.

Catholic girls : from a Practising Catholic family
who have made their First Holy Communion in the Catholic Church

Girls who are registered as Pupil Premium with their primary school and are ranked amongst the top 200 places in the entrance test will be given priority for a maximum of 32 places, as long as they have met the Catholicity criteria and confirmation of their status has been provided by the application deadline.

The online application form is now open and can be found on the School's website <https://www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk/home/admissions/admissions-2025-26/>. It must be submitted by no later than **4pm on Tuesday 2nd July 2024**. Therefore it is imperative that you arrange to make an appointment with your Parish Priest to have your Certificate of Catholic Practice completed in sufficient time to meet the deadline.

Should you have any questions please email Admissions at

admissions@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk

Diocese of Westminster
Roman Catholic Parish of St Edmund of Abingdon, Millwall
297 Westferry Road, Millwall. E14 3RS

Telephone: 020-7987-4114; Email: millwall@rcdow.org.uk; <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/millwall/>



Fr Christopher Silva

Parish Priest,

Mrs Katherine Woznicka

Parish Administrator

The office may be contacted by phone:

Monday to Friday 9am-2pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

Mrs Diane Winship - Safeguarding Representative

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £307.00 envelopes: £389.00 contactless collection last weekend: £544.00 total: **£1240.00**

Standing orders in **in January- £3286, in February - £2589, in March - £2715,**

Priests Training Fund COLLECTION - 317.75

CHURCH PROJECT (electrical works and refurbishment of the kitchen and toilets) - £3092

As a Charity, we rely on your weekly donations. We will be grateful for your financial support. Your New offertory envelopes will be available at the end of March for collection after Mass or from the parish office. If you wish to have an offertory envelope, then give your details to the parish office, where a new box of envelopes will be made available to you. Alternatively, you could make your donation via bank transfer. The parish account is on our website.

WRCDT CHARITY NO: 233699

Thank you for your Generosity

Evangelisation and Faith

CAFOD Pilgrimage

CAFOD is organising a pilgrimage for young adults aged between 18- 40 from **Friday 12th – Sunday 14th July**, in a special way in this year of prayer and lead up to the year of Jubilee. Reconnecting with their faith through worship, prayer and journeying as a pilgrim together. The pilgrimage will include a two-night residential stay at the Frontier Centre, Irthlingborough, NN9 5UH. On the Saturday we will then be walking from Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence, Olney to The Church of the Holy Child in Bedford, a distance of approximately 13.5 miles.

For more information: [Young Adults Residential Pilgrimage \(cafod.org.uk\)](http://youngadultsresidentialpilgrimage.cafod.org.uk)

Sign-up link: [Young Adults Pilgrimage July 24 - Formstack](http://youngadultspilgrimagejuly24-formstack.cafod.org.uk)

CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers. You can also text Text **CAFODSUDAN** to **70450** to donate £10.

Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you'll be opting into hearing more from us. If you would like to donate but don't wish to hear more from us, please text **CAFODSUDANNOINFO** instead.

