

PARISH OF ST CHARLES BORROMEIO
8 OGLE STREET, LONDON W1W 6HS



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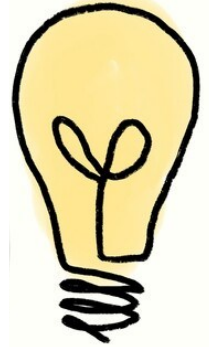
Neocatechumenate: Michael Anderson 07956281186
Confessions: Tues to Fri at 12 noon before Mass
Masses: Tues to Fri 12:30pm
Thu 6pm
Sat 8:15pm & Sun 9am & 11am

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2026

"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again?" Mt 5:13



"You are the light of the world... Your light must shine." Mt 5:14.16



At the homily for the Mass of thanksgiving for his ministry in our diocese, Cardinal Vincent Nichols gave us this lovely quotation from St Ignatius:

"Do what you can calmly and gently. Do not be disturbed by the rest but leave to God's providence what you cannot manage yourself. God is well pleased with the earnestness and moderate anxiety with which you attend to your obligations. He is not pleased with that anxiety which afflicts the soul because He wishes our limitations and weaknesses to seek the support of His strength, with trust that in His goodness He will supply what is lacking in our weakness and shortcomings... Keep your soul in peace."

He also requested, *"Please pray for me that I may have the radical trust in the Lord that was asked of the disciples as they set out on their new mission."*

We give thanks for the Cardinal's ministry among us.

Mass Schedule	
Sat 7 th Feb	8:15pm The Neocatechumenate
Sun 8 th Feb FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9am Pro Populo 11am Jeremy Siow RIP
Mon 9 th Feb	NO MASS
Tue 10 th Feb St Scholastica	12:30pm Mr Ulter wellbeing
Wed 11 th Feb Our Lady of Lourdes	12:30pm Noel Muscat RIP
Thu 12 th Feb	12:30pm Mrs Harris wellbeing 6pm Mrs Forsyte wellbeing
Fri 13 th Feb	12:30pm Mrs Thycose wellbeing

Life In The Spirit Seminar Thurs
7pm to 9pm.

THE LIVING WORD

Searching the Scriptures, finding life!

Bible Study followed by Exposition, Vespers and Benediction.

Sunday 15 Feb
4:30 to 6:30pm

Everyone is welcome!

Non-perishable, in-date food for the **Foodbank** is gratefully welcome.



St Josephine Bakhita Feast Day: 8 February

When she was 8 years old, she was captured by slave traders. For the next 12 years she was a slave to various masters. Some hurt her, cut her and whipped her. More than a hundred scars covered her body.

She was eventually taken to Italy where she converted, was baptised and became a religious sister renowned for her gentleness, cheerfulness and holiness.

Asked by an Italian student of Bologna what would she do *"were she, by pure chance, to come across her kidnappers,"* Bakhita replied without the least hesitation:

"If I were to meet the slave-merchants who kidnapped me and even those who tortured me, I would kneel and kiss their hands. If what happened to me had never taken place, how could I have become a Christian and a religious?"

Everyone is invited to hear our new **Archbishop elect Richard Moth** preaching for the first time to our diocese at **5.30pm on Friday 13 February** at the Solemn Vespers to be celebrated at **Westminster Cathedral** prior to his installation on Saturday 14 February. Please keep the new Archbishop in your prayers.

Join our WhatsApp group for Sunday's hymns



Have you been born again?



Beloved,

Have you been born again?

Jesus said, "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (see John 3:3). Have you been born again?

If you are baptised, the right answer to this question is: "Yes. I was born again by water and the Holy Spirit at my baptism."

A few verses later, Jesus explains that the new birth is "by water and the Spirit" (John 3:5). That he is referring to baptism is made even clearer when we consider that at his own baptism by water the Holy Spirit descended on him. (See Matthew 3:16, Mark 1:10, Luke 3:22 and John 1:32.)

Water represents death. We die if we are immersed in it for too long. The death of Jesus grants us the new life of the undying Spirit. So, yes, we were born again at baptism but are we aware of this?

Is our mentality, our world view and therefore our behaviour born from an awareness of the awesome greatness of the mystery that took place at our baptism? Do we realise that at our baptism God chose us to belong to him in time and eternity and pledged to offer us all the help we needed to live as his children? Do we realise that God not only cleansed us from sin on account of the death of his Son but also justified us on account of his resurrection, that is, granted us the Spirit that destroys death and the power to live a life of holiness and justice through him? (See Romans 4:25.)

Last week I had the opportunity to attend the funeral of Fr Edward (Teave) Carol who served as assistant priest at Ogle Street from 1980 to 1984.

As his coffin lay over the baptismal font, the priest preaching the homily referred to Fr Teave's awareness of the gift of his baptism as the awareness of being a sinner deeply loved by God.

The Christian is a sinner. Yes. A person doomed to live for himself or herself and seek himself or herself in everything. And yet, a sinner deeply loved by God and for that reason freed to live for God, to seek God's glory, to do works that honour God and that can transform him or her into the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Have you been born again? Or better still, are you living the new life that was infused into you at your baptism?

The Church is here to help you to do that. You only need to ask for help.

Fr Oscar.