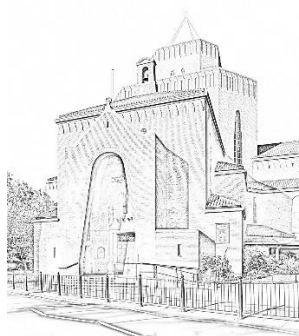


**THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
ST MARY & ST JOSEPH, POPLAR
AND
OUR LADY IMMACULATE &
ST FREDERICK, LIMEHOUSE**



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NEWSLETTER for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2024

**Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament:**

Saturday 10:30am - 11:30am
at Poplar

First Fridays 6.00pm - 7.00pm
at Poplar

Baptisms

By appointment. Usually at
1pm on Saturdays. See the
newsletter for details of the
baptism preparation course.



*"Le possédé dans la Synagogue" by
James Tissot*

Confessions:

Saturday 10:30am - 11:15am
at Poplar

Saturday 5.15pm - 5.45pm
at Poplar

1st Fridays 6.00pm - 6.45pm
at Poplar

or by appointment

Marriages

Six months 'notice is
normally required.

Sat 27 th Jan	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	Poplar	Priest's intention
Sun 28 th Jan	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am	Poplar	For the people of the parish
		12noon	Limehouse	For the people of the parish
Mon 29 th Jan	Feria			No Mass
Tue 30 th Jan	Feria	10.00am	Poplar	Baby Royce D'Souza <i>Ints</i>
		12.30pm	Canary Wharf*	Private intention
Wed 31 st Jan	St John Bosco	10.00am	Poplar	The youth of the parish
Thu 1 st Feb	Feria	10.00am	Poplar	Priest's intention
Fri 2 nd Feb	The Presentation of the Lord	10.00am	Poplar	For all the sick
Sat 3 rd Feb	Ss Laurence, Dunstan & Theodore, bishops	10.00am	Poplar	Peace in Gaza and Israel

* = In the multi-faith prayer room in the Churchill Place Shopping Centre opposite the post office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those of our parishes who are sick, whether at home, in hospital or hospice. Those who have died recently, especially Margaret Kelly, Paudian Marimuthu, Clare Veronica Protane and Marietta Ben and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE

The next meeting for children and parents is on Saturday 10th February at 4.30pm in the Guild Room.

CONFIRMATION COURSE

The first meeting for this year's confirmation course will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 15th February in the Guild Room at Poplar. This is a meeting for young people AND parents who will receive an email shortly with more information.

RCIA

The next meeting is on Monday 12th February at 7pm.

SANCTUARY LAMPS

The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week for Mary Markins at Poplar and for a private intention at Limehouse

SPECIAL MASS WITH THE ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

On Saturday 10th February at 11am in Poplar we will have a special mass with the anointing of the sick. We hope this will be source of strength and comfort to those who are sick or elderly. There will also be refreshments in the Guild Room after mass. Please contact the parish office if you know of anyone who might like to come but who will need help with transport or if you are willing to help on the day.

POLISH COMMUNITY GATHERING

On Saturday 9th March there will be a Polish Community gathering from 1pm to 4pm in the Guild Room.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

The Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 19th – 26th July this year. If you are interested in joining a group from our two parishes on this pilgrimage then please give your name(s), email and phone number(s) and age(s) to the parish office.

WARM HUB

From Thursday 1st February the Guild Room will be opened each week as a warm hub. Please let the parish office know if you are able to help.

LEPRA APPEAL – SECOND COLLECTION FOR WORLD LEPROSY DAY

This weekend 27th/28th January there is a second collection for World Leprosy Day.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

This Friday is the first Friday of the month so there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession from 6pm at Poplar.

HELP NEEDED AT CLERGY HOUSE

We currently have a lot of items that need clearing from the cellar of Clergy House. We have been quoted an eye watering amount from a company to clear this. If you have a car and would be willing to help by taking items to the tip, that would help us to get through it without paying too much money.

NEIGHBOURS IN POPLAR

MSF: Thank you to all who contributed to the fundraising for Gaza last weekend.

Wanted: Car Drivers and Bikers urgently needed to help us get our dinners out hot to recipients on the Isle of Dogs and in E1, 2 and 3. Sundays and Wednesdays, come to St. Matthias Community Centre on 113 Poplar High St. between 11.30am and 12noon. The pay is good (in Heaven!). We need you. Please email nip65@msn.com

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

POPLAR OFFERTORY LAST SUNDAY

Envelopes: £119.07	Loose: £403.27	Total: £522.34
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STANDING ORDERS

November: £513.34

December: £543.34

LIMEHOUSE OFFERTORY LAST SUNDAY

Envelopes: £310.00	Loose: £172.67	Total: £482.67
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STANDING ORDERS

November: £1'507.00

December: £1'507.00

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity!

FR ANDREW WRITES

This Friday is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which finally draws the Christmas cycle to a close and after which we will therefore remove our cribs. Since the Feast of the Epiphany, although we have been in Ordinary Time, our readings at mass have really been part of that same theme of the manifestation of Our Lord, not so much as a child, but in terms of the beginning of his public ministry, being pointed out by John the Baptist, calling his first disciples and beginning to make an impression with his authoritative teaching and power (as in this Sunday's Gospel).

Friday's feast takes us briefly back to Our Lord's childhood and marks the occasion when Jesus was presented in the Temple. So this is again, in one sense, about the revealing or manifestation of Jesus. Having been revealed to wise men and, by extension, the whole world at Epiphany, when he is brought into the Temple by Mary and Joseph, he is being presented to his heavenly Father in the Temple and therefore in the context of the history and religion of Israel. But as we would expect, what happens now in Jesus marks a change, the beginning of something entirely new.

The Jewish law required that every first-born male child must be brought to the Temple in Jerusalem in order to be redeemed or bought back from God by the offering of sacrifice. This was because when God saved the first-born male children of the Israelites from death at the time of the first Passover in Egypt he declared that those children were henceforth dedicated as His possession. Of course when Jesus is brought to the Temple he is not so much being bought back from God but rather made over wholly to God because he is most truly the first-born Son of God himself whom He has sent to redeem or buy back humanity by His death and resurrection.

This is why Simeon proclaims that the child Jesus whom he holds in his arms is salvation that he and all of Israel have been awaiting and a light for the whole world.

And it is because of this song of Simeon that we will, in accordance with ancient tradition, enter our temple, our church here on Friday holding candles and bless the candles that we will use throughout the year, which remind us always of the hope and joy which Jesus brings to our lives and to the whole world.

May God bless you all.

Fr Andrew

Items for the Newsletter should be given to Fr Andrew or Alessandro at the parish office by Wednesday evening for inclusion the following weekend.

MASS THIS SUNDAY - The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

First reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

Response to the Psalm O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Second reading 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Hymns for Sunday 10am at Poplar		Hymns for Sunday 12noon at Limehouse	
Entrance	721 - O Lord, my God	Entrance	887 - Thou whose almighty word
Offertory	720 - Be still for the presence of the Lord	Offertory	747 - The Light of Christ
Communion	956 - I watch the sunrise	Communion	720 - Be still for the presence of the Lord
Recessional	744 - Christ is the world's light	Recessional	762 - At the name of Jesus

Next Sunday is the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B