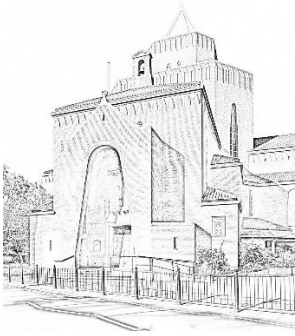


**THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF  
ST MARY & ST JOSEPH, POPLAR  
AND  
OUR LADY IMMACULATE &  
ST FREDERICK, LIMEHOUSE**



Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Bowden

Parish Administrator: Alessandro Vaglio

Clergy House, 9 Pekin Street, London E14 6EZ

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**NEWSLETTER for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2024**

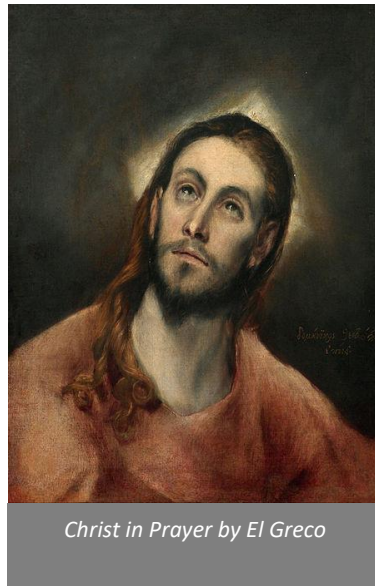
**Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament:**

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.



*Christ in Prayer by El Greco*

**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 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	Poplar	Private Intention
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am 12noon	Poplar Limehouse	For the people of the parish Clare Protane RIP
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr		Poplar	No Mass
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	St Paul Miki and companions	10.00am	Poplar Canary Wharf*	The Holy Souls No Mass
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Feria		Poplar	No Mass
Thu 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	St Josephine Bakhita		Poplar	No Mass
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Feria	10.00am	Poplar	Priest's Intention
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Our Lady of Lourdes	<b>11.00am</b>	Poplar	The Sick of the Parish

\* = 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 10<sup>th</sup> February at 4.30pm in the Guild Room. As part of their preparation for making their first holy communion, all children on the course must make their first confession. There will be two opportunities for this and children must come to one of the celebrations of the sacrament of reconciliation or confession at 6pm on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Please let Sr Christine know which one you intend to bring your child to.

### **CONFIRMATION COURSE**

The first meeting for this year's confirmation course will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February in the Guild Room at Poplar. This is a meeting for young people AND parents.

### **RCIA**

The next meeting is on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. Please pray for our candidates and catechumens especially on 17<sup>th</sup> February when they will go the Cathedral for the Rite of Election.

### **SPECIAL MASS WITH THE ANNOINTING OF THE SICK**

Next Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 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**

Every Thursday from 12noon until 3pm the Guild Room will be open as a warm hub. Please spread the word and let the parish office know if you are able to help.

### **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**

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](mailto:nip65@msn.com)

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February there will be a gathering for peace at the Hale Street Mosque. Please let Sr Christine know if you are interested in attending.

## RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

### POPLAR OFFERTORY LAST SUNDAY

Envelopes: £134.49	Loose: £576.04	Total: £710.53
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### STANDING ORDERS

November: £513.34

December: £543.34

Second Collection for Lepra: £136.36

Second Collection for Gaza 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> January: £192.76

### LIMEHOUSE OFFERTORY LAST SUNDAY

Envelopes: £95	Loose: £100.06	Total: £195.06
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### STANDING ORDERS

November: £1'507.00

December: £1'507.00

Second Collection for Lepra £89.05

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity!

### FR ANDREW WRITES

You may be aware that the Church around the world has been going through a process of reflection centred around the Synod of Bishops on Synodality. The focus of this process is to renew the mission of the Church in the world by building up communion and increasing participation.

Cardinal Vincent has asked the parishes of the diocese to gather to reflect particularly on the following questions:

1. How do we witness as a Parish and proclaim our faith to: those who have never heard of Christ; Christians who don't come to Church; Christians who do come to Church?
2. How could we organise ourselves as a parish to do this more effectively?
3. What formation, training or input might help us to proclaim our faith more effectively?
4. What are we doing now that hinders our mission and what should we start doing that we are not currently doing?

Unfortunately, we have not been given much time for this process of reflection as we are required to report back via a meeting of deans on 6<sup>th</sup> March. In order to ensure that we are able to contribute to that process in the diocese which will then feed back to Rome we will need to have a meeting this month!

**We will therefore have a meeting for Poplar Parish on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm in the Guild Room**

**and for Limehouse Parish on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 2pm in the hall.** Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings where we will reflect on the questions outlined above.

It would be great for anyone who is interested in furthering the mission of our parishes to attend (and not just the usual suspects). However, don't worry if you cannot because you can always give me your thoughts beforehand and, in any event, I intend that we should keep this reflection going in our parishes over the coming months as we seek to build up our parishes especially in the way we reach out to the world around us.

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.

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*MASS THIS SUNDAY - The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B*

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**First reading**                      Job 7:1-4,6-7

Job began to speak: "Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

**Response to the Psalm**      Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

**Second reading**                      1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

**Gospel Acclamation**              Jn8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

**Gospel**                                      Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

<b>Hymns for Sunday 10am at Poplar</b>		<b>Hymns for Sunday 12noon at Limehouse</b>	
Entrance	967 - O the love of my Lord	Entrance	475 - Gather us in
Offertory	892 - The cry of the poor	Offertory	603 - Blest are you, Lord
Communion	625 - Bread for the world	Communion	909 - Be still and know
Recessional	956 - I watch the sunrise	Recessional	325 - Christ is our King

*Next Sunday is the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B*