

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



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NEWSLETTER for 6th Sunday of Easter 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.



From the Ascension of Christ by Fritz Von Uhde

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 4th May	6th Sunday of Easter (Vigil)	6.00pm	Poplar	Russell Tyley *(Ann.)*
Sun 5th May	6th Sunday of Easter	10.00am 12noon	Poplar Limehouse	The People of the Parish Marianna & Stanislaw Mazur – Zofia Radecka – Stanislawa Grudzien
Mon 6th May	Mon 6th Week of Easter		**Bank Holiday**	**No Mass & Office Closed**
Tue 7th May	Tue 6th Week of Easter	10.00am 12.30pm	Poplar Canary Wharf*	Frances Duhig *(Ann.)* Priest's Intention
Wed 8th May	**ASCENSION OF THE LORD (VIGIL)**	7.00pm	Limehouse	Private Intention
Thu 9th May	**ASCENSION OF THE LORD**	10.00am	Poplar	Karen Miller *(Ann.)*
Fri 10th May	Fri 6th Week of Easter	10.00am	Poplar	Ellen Burling *(Ann.)*
Sat 11th May	Sat 6th Week of Easter	10.00am	Poplar	Peace

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Alan Percival, Brigid Baker, Glennford St Prix, Merle John-Baptiste, Peter Hill and Baby Royce D' Souza who have died recently. Please also pray for Scarlett Ebio, one of the children from our First Holy Communion course who is ill, and for Polly Blossom Veitch Beackon, and Mary Jeffries, who are also ill.

BANK HOLIDAY

Monday is a Bank Holiday therefore the parish will be closed for the day.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

This Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord which is a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be a vigil mass at 7pm on Wednesday at Limehouse and mass at 10am on Thursday at Poplar. Because of the evening Vigil mass, there will no 10am Mass on Wednesday.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE

The next meeting for children and parents is on Saturday 11th May at 4.30pm or Wednesday 15th at 7.00pm in the Guild Room.

RCIA COURSE

The next meetings for the group are Tuesday 7th May and Monday 13th at 7pm in the Guild Room.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Next Sunday there will be a special collection in aid of the Catholic Communications Network.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

These are now available from the back of church. Please ensure that we have your correct address before you take your envelopes as without this we may be unable to claim gift aid.

RAFFLE

Tickets for our second raffle in aid of our Lourdes Fund (helping to pay for people to join our pilgrimage to Lourdes) are now available. Please contact either the parish office or Sr Christine if you have prizes to donate. Let's make this one even bigger than the last. The raffle will be drawn at our parish summer BBQ which is planned for Sunday 14th July – get the date in your diary. More information to follow.

PARISH AFRICA CELEBRATION

Thanks to all who made our Africa Celebration on Saturday such a success.

PARISH EUROPE AND SOUTH AMERICA CELEBRATION

The next in our series of cultural celebrations will be on Saturday 18th May from 2pm – 5pm in the Guild Room at Poplar. (There will be a planning meeting for this on Thursday 9th at 7pm in the Guild Room). Immediately after this celebration we will have the 6pm Vigil mass which will begin the celebration of Pentecost in our Parishes.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES – CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

Sunday 2nd June is the Feast of Corpus Christi. To celebrate this special day of thanksgiving for the great gift of the Eucharist which brings us together as a community we will have a Eucharistic procession after the 10am mass at Poplar (weather permitting to Church Green) followed by refreshments.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS AT POPLAR

Teas and Coffees are served after the Sunday 10am mass in the Guild Room.

NEIGHBOURS IN POPLAR

A new Dance Project for girls (over 16) and young women begins next Friday in St. Matthias Community Centre at 5.30pm. Wanted: Car Drivers and Bikers urgently needed Sundays and Wednesdays, please come to St. Matthias Community Centre on 113 Poplar High St. between 11.30am and 12noon. We can be reached on 07813478891 if more details needed.

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS			
POPLAR OFFERTORY LAST SUNDAY			
Envelopes: £202.50	Loose: £437.48	Contactless: £30	Total: £669.98
STANDING ORDERS February: £528.34 March: £513.34	Priest Training Fund	£264.65	
LIMEHOUSE OFFERTORY LAST SUNDAY			
Envelopes: £46.50	Loose: £186.28	Contactless: £70	Total: £302.78
STANDING ORDERS February: £1'317.00 March: £1'507.00	Priest Training Fund	£65.00	
Sincere thanks for your continued generosity!			

FR ANDREW WRITES

This Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, a holy day of obligation, when the Church asks those who are able to come to mass so that we can enter into the mystery of the feast together.

The Ascension of Jesus marks a kind of turning point in our continuing celebration of Easter. The Ascension itself tells us that Jesus returns to his Father but does not leave his humanity behind. Therefore, he takes our humanity into God, paving the way for all of us. Once we have marked Jesus' return to the Father at the Ascension we then turn minds to the coming of the Holy Spirit when God comes to dwell in us. So this period from Friday until Sunday 18th May when we celebrate Pentecost is a special time of increasing our longing for the Holy Spirit to come and dwell in us. On Friday we celebrated the gift of the Holy Spirit being poured out upon our young people in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Congratulations to Togun, Annabel, Precious, Shania, Safinn, Rachael, Anna, Talia, Keysha, Tivona, Ione, Ajani and Joelinda from Poplar, Aaron, Laura and Maja from Limehouse, and to 15 young people from St Edmunds who were also confirmed by Bishop Nicholas at Poplar on Friday. Thanks to all who helped to make it such a beautiful celebration! Let us pray that these young people will be truly inspired and strengthened by the Holy Spirit in their declared intention to make their own those promises made for them in baptism. And let us also really use this period before Pentecost to pray for a similar outpouring upon us all individually and upon our parish communities. You see, it is the Holy Spirit who brings us together as one and makes us into the Body of Christ.

We have also now entered into the month of May which is traditionally the month of Mary. There is no conflict at all between praying and thinking about Mary at this time and about the Holy Spirit because Mary is the one who was so filled with the Holy Spirit that she conceived the Word of God in her womb and it was Mary who was in the midst of the Apostles as they gathered in prayer on the day of Pentecost. It is as though the Holy Spirit, looking for where to strike, like lightening searching for a lightning rod, recognised Mary, knowing that where she is honoured, there are the true disciples of Jesus where the Holy Spirit can bring forth great fruit.

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 6th Sunday of Easter

First reading Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.' While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

Response to the Psalm The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.

Second reading 1 John 4:7-10

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Gospel Acclamation Jn14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' Alleluia!

Gospel John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love.
If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

Hymns for Sunday 10am at Poplar		**Hymns for Sunday 12noon at Limehouse**	
Entrance	803 - Love is his word	Entrance	794 - God is love, his the care
Offertory	920 - A new commandment	Offertory	603 - Blest are you, Lord
Communion	Ubi Caritas	Communion	643 - Gifts of bread and wine
Recessional	771 - Walk in the light	Recessional	803 - Love is his word

Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, a Holy Day of Obligation

Next Sunday is the 7th Sunday of Easter