

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



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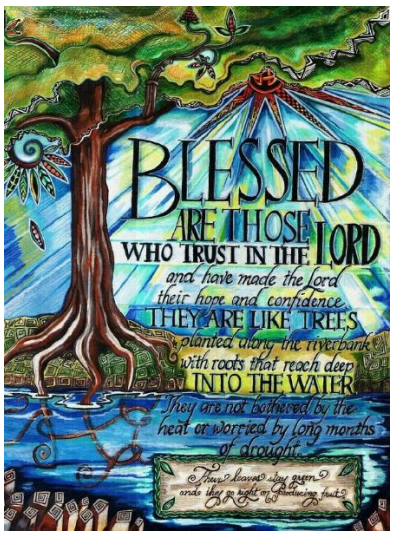
NEWSLETTER for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2025

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 12 noon on Saturdays.

Parish Office
Tue - Fri 10.00am - 2.30pm



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 15th Feb	6th Sunday (Vigil)	6.00pm	Poplar	Noel Boswell *(RIP)*
Sun 16th Feb	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am 12noon	Poplar * Limehouse	The People of the Parish John Guidotti *(RIP)*
Mon 17th Feb	Feria Week 6			No Mass
Tue 18th Feb	Feria Week 6	10.00am 12.30pm	Poplar Canary Wharf †	Michael Hill *(Ann.)* Priest's Intention
Wed 19th Feb	Feria Week 6	10.00am	Poplar	Gillian Wallace *(RIP)*
Thu 20th Feb	Feria Week 6	10.00am	Poplar	Ray & Jean Johnson *(RIP)*
Fri 21st Feb	Feria Week 6	10.00am	Poplar	Koncil Family *(Int.)*
Sat 22nd Feb	St Peter's Chair 7th Sunday (Vigil)	10.00am 6.00pm	Poplar Poplar	Peace Private Intention
Sun 23rd Feb	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am 12noon	Poplar Limehouse	The People of the Parish The People of the Parish

* = Teas and coffees in the Guild Room after Mass each Sunday, all are welcome.
† = In the multi-faith prayer room in the Churchill Place Shopping Centre between Joe the Juice and Barclays Bank

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Janet Wilson, Marianne Kilonzi, Michael Turner, Geraldine Mc Nutt, Gillian Wallace, Sue Hitchin, Noel Boswell, Ebony Caesar and Janet Jackson who have died recently. Please also pray for Ryan Balkwell, Camil Agius, Nita De Fide, Sarah Dodd, Anthony Gafa, Bernadette McSweeney, Doreen Maciejewski, Sylma Simon, Frances Samuels and Lilly Bleach who are all ill.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

The next meeting will be at 4.45pm on **Saturday 15th March** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

RCIA GROUP

The next meeting will be at 7pm on **Tuesday 4th March** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

CONFIRMATION

The next meeting will be at 7pm on **Thursday 27th February** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES

Saturday March 8th, April 12th, May 10th, and June 7th all at 11am in the Guild Room at Poplar.

TEAS AND COFFEES AFTER MASS AT POPLAR

Very many thanks to Temi who has been keeping our refreshments after mass in the Guild Room going over several months now. It would be wonderful if a few people could volunteer to help Temi with this really valuable initiative and perhaps form a rota.

HOLY YEAR - JUBILEE – JUSTICE, PEACE & HOPE DAY

Saturday 22nd Feb from 3pm. Come and find out about Caritas Westminster, CAFOD, Justice & Peace, the Jesuit Refugee Community, SPARK and others work to bring Justice, Peace and Hope to others. There will be Mass at 6pm in the church and then refreshments after Mass in the Guild Room.

OPENING THE CHURCH AT POPLAR

We need more volunteers to be in the church to welcome visitors during the day on weekdays. Please contact the office or speak to Fr Andrew if you can help.

NEIGHBOURS IN POPLAR

HEATING OR EATING? Keep an eye on your neighbours. Are they warm enough? Have they got enough food in? Keep an eye out for anyone who may be hungry, cold and lonely in this cold weather.

DRIVERS URGENTLY NEEDED on Sundays and Wednesday to deliver hot dinners to isolated elders or disabled residents across Tower Hamlets. Come to St/ Matthias Community Centre on Poplar High Street at 11,30am on either of these days, if you can spare an hour. This is such a simple and important way of demonstrating that we CARE! 0781347889 – nip65@msn.com

SUNDAY 23RD 3pm to 5.30pm, Celebration of the delivery of 54,000 hot dinners by our Neighbours in Poplar Volunteers. Please come and hear their stories and the hope and practical support they have brought to total strangers. We could do an even better job if we had more volunteers!

CANARY WHARF IT WORKSHOP Thursday 27th between 1.30 and 3pm. If you are interested in getting a WhatsApp, Community Instagram or Facebook etc. going. See Sr. Christine if you are interested. Leaflets on table back of Church.

ST MATTHIAS FOOD BANK is open every Tuesday morning from 10am to 12noon

A DEVELOPER'S APPLICATION to build a massive hotel on the junction of East India Dock Rd and Westferry has recently been submitted. There is already a new Premier Inn just around the corner! It's Social Housing we need, not more Hotels!

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS			
POPLAR OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND			
Envelopes £154.40	Loose £677.80	Contactless £242.55	Total £1,074.75
STANDING ORDERS AND ONLINE November £713.34	December £548.34	January £713.34	
LIMEHOUSE OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND			
Envelopes £30.00	Loose £80.46	Contactless £137.00	Total £247.46
STANDING ORDERS AND ONLINE November £1,507.00	December £1,237.00	January £1,507.00	
Sincere thanks for your continued generosity!			

FR ANDREW WRITES

Our readings this weekend are all about trust and hope. Jeremiah warns us against trusting in man. Not that he thinks we should be suspicious of one another, but rather that, as we travel together along the journey of life, we should trust in God. Like Jeremiah our psalm compares the person who trusts in God to a tree planted near flowing water and thereby flourishing. Trust is closely related to hope. We trust in God because we hope in his promises. Trusting in God by hoping in his promises puts all our lives into a proper perspective, specifically the perspective of eternal life. That is why Jesus can say to his disciples that we are blessed even though we may be poor, hungry, sad or even persecuted and hated because…our reward will be great in heaven. The point is not that this life is unimportant or just something to be endured but rather that by living with our hearts and minds focussed on God and on eternal life with him we are neither distracted by passing goods nor defeated by passing trials but that we journey together in hope. So we are truly 'Pilgrims of Hope' which is the theme of this Holy Year.

Lets really enter into this Holy Year with the aim of sharing that hope that sustains us with all those around us. Here are some dates for diaries. These are all events that will be held at Poplar for the whole Eastern Area of the Diocese. So please put the dates in diaries and spread the word.

Saturday **22nd February** from 3pm – **Justice, Peace and Hope Day**
Wednesday **26th March**, 7pm – Eastern Area Holy Year **Lenten Reconciliation Service**
Saturday **31st May** from 2pm – Eastern Area **Jubilee for Youth**
Sunday **22nd June**, afternoon – Eastern Area Holy Year **Eucharistic Procession**
Sunday **6th July**, afternoon – Eastern Area **Jubilee for Families and Children**, with BBQ and games
Saturday **13th September** at 4pm – Eastern Area **Jubilee for the sick, mass with anointing**
Saturday **18th October** – Eastern Area Holy Year **Day for Catechists**
It is hoped that the Cardinal may come to give us a talk on the Holy Year for the Eastern Area in October
Saturday **15th November** at 11am – Eastern Area Holy Year **Mass for deceased loved ones**

Please look out for more information on all of these events as the year continues.

Please do come along to the **Justice, Peace and Hope day next Saturday in the Guild Room at Poplar beginning at 3pm**. There will be stalls and presentations by Caritas, CAFOD, Jesuit Refugee Service, SPARK and others. This will be a great opportunity to find out more about the work of these organisations and how you might become involved in bringing hope to those who need it most.

May God bless you all, especially in this Holy Year of Jubilee
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 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

First reading Jeremiah 17:5-8

Thus says the Lord: 'Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. 'Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.'

Response to the Psalm Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

Blessed indeed is the man who
follows not the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the path with sinners,
nor abides in the company of
scorners, but whose delight is the law
of the Lord, and who ponders his law
day and night.

He is like a tree that is planted
beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season,
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper.

Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they, like winnowed chaff,
shall be driven away by the wind.
For the Lord knows the way of the
righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Second reading 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Brothers and Sisters: If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 6:23ab

Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and leap for joy, says the Lord, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 6:17, 20-26

At that time: Jesus came down with the Twelve and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon. And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and spurn your name as evil on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.'