

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 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



The Ascension

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 24th May	6th Sunday of Easter (Vigil)	6.00pm	Poplar	Linda Modest *Int.*
Sun 25th May	6th Sunday of Easter	10.00am 12noon	Poplar * Limehouse	Elena Busti *RIP* The People of the Parish
Mon 26th May	St Philip Neri			No Mass
Tue 27th May	St Augustine of Canterbury	10.00am 12.30pm	Poplar Canary Wharf †	Private Intention Private Intention
Wed 28th May	**The Ascension (Vigil)**	**7.00pm**	Limehouse	The People of the Parish
Thu 29th May	**The Ascension**	**10.00am**	Poplar	John Peter & Savitha *Int.*
Fri 30th May	6th Week of Eastertide	10.00am	Poplar	Priest's Intention
Sat 31st May	Visitation of the BVM 7th Sunday of Easter (Vigil)	10.00am 6.00pm	Poplar Poplar	Peace Aaron Stephen *Int.*
Sun 1st June	7th Sunday of Easter	10.00am 12noon	Poplar Limehouse	Eustacio & Matilde Lizarondo *Int.* The People of the Parish

*= Teas and Coffees in Guild Room after the 10am Sunday Mass every week
†= Multi-Faith Prayer Room in the Churchill Place Shopping Mall between Joe the Juice and Barclays

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Stanley Thomas-Edwin, Elena Busti, John Skeels, Fr Don Anderson MAfr, Sr Ellen McCarthy, Betty Lambert, Lucy Lee, Marie Perpie, Ebony Caesar and Pope Francis who have died. And for Susan Connor, Eileen Groves, Val Lawrence, Pat Ruddle, Rosie Salmon, Camil Agius, Nita De Fide, Sarah Dodd, Anthony Gafa, Bernadette McSweeney, Doreen Maciejewski, Sylma Simon and Frances Samuels who are ill.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES

The next course is **Saturday June 7th at 11am** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

The next meeting will be at **4.45pm on Saturday 7th June** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

RCIA

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 27th May at 7pm** in the Guild Room.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Next weekend there will be a second collection for the Catholic Communications Network.

POPLAR PARISH EVENTS PLANNING MEETING

There will be a meeting to discuss some of the events planned for the Poplar Parish over the summer. Anyone with ideas or gifts to share is welcome to come along. **7pm Wednesday 4th June in the Guild Room.**

LIMEHOUSE FAITH GROUP

Next episode of "The Wild Goose" series, on Thursday 29th May, at 7.30pm: 'Gifts of the Holy Spirit'. The greatest gift of the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit; from which flow other gifts, such as wisdom, counsel, love and others which are less familiar (healing, prophecy, tongues). Whatever our experience, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for all of us. Everyone welcome, no need to have attended previous sessions. Email Flo for more information: florence.preux@hotmail.co.uk

FORTHCOMING FUNERALS

Lucy Lee at **10am on Thursday 5th June** at St Mary & St Joseph's, Poplar.

Kelly Parks at **10am on Thursday 19th June** at St Mary & St Joseph's, Poplar.

OPENING THE CHURCH AT POPLAR

We still need more volunteers to be in the church to welcome visitors during the day on weekdays. Can you spare 1 hour one day during the week? Speak to Fr Andrew or contact the Parish Office.

NEIGHBOURS IN POPLAR

HELP! Summer weather is here and some of our Dinner Deliveroo Angels need to get a break! Some of these Delivery Angels have been walking, driving and cycling to Elders around the Borough for over five years! That really is something to be proud of! They deserve a break but cannot have one unless someone comes forward to help. The pay is good: (heaven and bringing joy to someone who needs it) … Please contact Sr. Christine if you can help in some way.

PETITION TO OUR MPs see sheets at back of Church. Are they working for You as they promised when you voted them in????

CHRISP ST MARKET CONSULTATION (once again): Thursdays in the Market, between 10.30am and 1.30pm and on Saturday 31st in the Shoe Zone. Please have your say, homes, shops … FOR WHOM????

CALAIS Our next visit to the Refugee Centres in Calais will be on Monday June 9th, if you would like to come let Sr. Christine know.

"ISLAND OF STRANGERS!" All invited to a celebration of Pentecost and Eid-ul-Adha on Tuesday June 10th in Queen Victoria Seafarers Rest (Emery Hall) at 6pm. Strangers are friends we've not met yet!

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS			
POPLAR OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND			
Envelopes £129.45	Loose £338.33	Contactless £377.00	Total £844.78
STANDING ORDERS & ONLINE February £743.34 March £713.34 April: £743.34			
LIMEHOUSE OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND			
Envelopes £25.00	Loose £166.50	Contactless £166.00	Total £357.50
STANDING ORDERS & ONLINE February £1,507.00 March £1,507.00 April: £1,507.00			
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 8th June when we celebrate Pentecost is a special time of increasing our longing for the Holy Spirit to come and dwell in us.

We are also still in 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.

As it happens, the last episode of the Wild Goose series which is being watched by the Limehouse Faith Group was all about Mary and the Holy Spirit. It was a really good episode and led to a great discussion. This group is open to people from both of our parishes and new members are very welcome to attend. See the notice opposite for Flo's email and for more information.

Because Thursday is a Holy Day of Obligation there is an extra opportunity to attend mass. As well as the usual 10am mass on Thursday, there will be an evening Mass on **Wednesday at 7pm at Limehouse** which will be the Vigil Mass of the Ascension and which will satisfy the obligation to attend mass. There will be no mass on Thursday evening so that people can go to the Faith group instead.

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 – 6TH Sunday of Easter (Year C)

First reading Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

In those days: Some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, 'Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.' And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the Apostles and the elders about this question. Then it seemed good to the Apostles and the elders, with the whole Church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers and sisters, with the following letter: 'The brothers, both the Apostles and the elders, to the brothers and sisters who are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings. Since we have heard that some persons have gone out from us and troubled you with words, unsettling your minds, although we gave them no instructions, it has seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will tell you the same things by word of mouth. For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.'

Response to the Psalm Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

May God be gracious and bless us and let his face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your salvation.

Let the nations be glad and shout for joy, with uprightness you rule the peoples;
you guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing that all the ends of the earth may revere him.

Second reading Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

The angel carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed — on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb. And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Gospel Acclamation John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia.
If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him. Alleluia.

Gospel John 14:23-29

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me. 'These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I will come to you." If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe.'

Next Sunday is the Seventh Sunday of Easter