

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



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NEWSLETTER for the 4th Sunday of Easter 2026

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Sat 10:30am - 11:30am at Poplar
1st Fridays - 6pm - 7pm at Poplar

Baptisms
By appointment. Usually at 12 noon on Saturdays.

Parish Office Opening
Tue - Fri 10.00am - 2.30pm



The Good Shepherd
Philippe de Champaigne

Confessions:
Sat 10:30am - 11:15am at Poplar
Sat 5.15pm - 5.45pm at Poplar
1st Fridays 6.00pm - 6.45pm at Poplar or by appointment

Marriages
Couples **must** meet with Fr Andrew **6 months** before the intended wedding, even when the wedding is taking place elsewhere.

Sat 25th Apr	4th Sunday of Easter (Vigil)	6.00pm	Poplar	The People of the Parish
Sun 26th Apr	4th Sunday of Easter	10.00am 6.00pm	Poplar * Limehouse	P. V. Paul *RIP* The People of the Parish
Mon 27th Apr	4th Week of Easter		Poplar	No Mass
Tue 28th Apr	4th Week of Easter	10.00am	Poplar Canary Wharf †	Priest's Intention No Mass
Wed 29thApr	St Catherine of Sienna		Poplar	No Mass
Thu 30th Apr	St Pius V, Pope	10.00am	Poplar	Luigi Busti *Sick*
Fri 1st May	St Joseph the Worker	10.00am	Poplar	Cancer Sufferers (St Peregrine)
Sat 2nd May	St Athanasius 5th Sunday of Easter (Vigil)	10.00am 6.00pm	Poplar Poplar	KH *Ints* The People of the Parish
Sun 3rd May	5th Sunday of Easter	10.00am 12noon	Poplar * Limehouse	The People of the Parish Telma Stephen *RIP*

*= Teas and Coffees in the Guild Room after the 10am Mass

† = Multi-Faith Prayer Room in the Churchill Place Shopping Centre between Joe the Juice and Barclays

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Susan Duhig, Ryan Pill, Bernard Harris, Sylvia Poni, Lilly Moran, Sylvia Richardson, Brenda Terry and Bob Baker who have died. And for Pat Johnson, Mary Sauntry, Lucia Calixte, Anne O'Connell, Jacqui Newson, Herbert Parillon, Emilio Campanella, Joan Russell, Robert Hageman, Camil Agius, Nita da Fide, Sarah Dodd, Anthony Gafa, Bernadette McSweeney and Sylma Simon who are ill.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES

The next course will be on **Saturday 9th May at 11.00am** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE

The next meeting for children and parents will be on **Saturday 9th May at 5.00pm** in the Guild Room at Poplar. Please let Sr Christine know in advance if you and your child will be unable to attend.

RCIA

The next group meeting will be on **Tuesday 12th May at 7.00pm** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES FOR THIS WEEK

There will be no 12.30pm Mass on Tuesday at Canary Wharf and no 10am Mass on Wednesday at Poplar.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK

This weekend there will be a second collection as you leave church in aid of the Priests' Training Fund of the Diocese, which supports the work of our seminaries at home and abroad and the training and formation they provide for our future priests. Please be as generous as you can.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The remaining Planned Giving Envelopes are still available for collection at the back of church.

LIMEHOUSE FAITH GROUP

Join us on Thursday 30th April at 7.30pm, as we start a new series, "Metanoia", filmed in the places where Jesus taught His Church the meaning and the way of metanoia. Metanoia is a transformation of the heart, a spiritual conversion. In the first episode, "Who do you way that I am?", Jesus takes his disciples to Caesarea Philippi, a place riddled with images of pagan gods and idols, and asks the disciples who people think he is. There are various answers, but the significant question is whether or not they know who Jesus is. All welcome, no need to have attended previous sessions. For information and to join, please contact Limehousefaithgroup@outlook.com

EAST END YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Meets every Tuesday from 7.00pm in the Canon Wright Room (entrance in Pekin Street), all are welcome. Next meeting Tuesday 28th April. Contact Michael for more information on ikorabs@gmail.com

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Please do read the Pastoral Letter from His Grace the Archbishop (set out opposite), also read out at Mass about Vocations to the priesthood and religious life. In this period between now and Pentecost His Grace invites us all to pray each week for priestly vocations. Please pick up one of the leaflets explaining more and setting out the intentions for each week.

LONDON MARATHON

The best of luck to two of our parishioners who are running in this year's marathon, Quok from Limehouse and Harriet from Poplar who is raising money for Asthma.

NEIGHBOURS IN POPLAR

WANTED FOR CALAIS CHARITIES: Tents (2 person preferably) and sleeping bags. When police evacuate Refugees they take everything!

EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME for young people aged 18-24 year olds not in education or employment. See leaflet at back of Church. For more information, please email splashemployment01@gmail.com

TEA DANCE in Arts Pavilion Wednesday 29th. See posters!

A Pastoral Letter from His Grace, the Archbishop

Today, Good Shepherd Sunday, the whole church prays for vocations to the priesthood. We are blessed with so many wonderful priests serving in the Diocese and I ask you to join with me in praying in thanksgiving for their ministry amongst us all. Please pray, too, for those who are in formation for the Priesthood and for the staff in our seminaries who are entrusted with the important work of their formation.

The ministry of the priest is one of service. This was expressed during Holy Week in the Renewal of Priestly Promises, which took place at the Chrism Mass as our priests resolved to continue their ministry, following "Christ the head and shepherd, not seeking any gain, but moved only by zeal for souls." This spirit of service, itself a self-emptying in imitation of Christ Himself, brings with it the utmost joy for all those called by the Lord to share in His priesthood.

Priestly ministry flows, in a very particular way, from the celebration of the Eucharist. The celebration of the Eucharist is the "source and summit" of our lives. This celebration is vital for our lives, for the life of the Church and the priest is called by Christ Himself to celebrate the Eucharist with and for the People of God. From this celebration flows his ministry of servant-leadership for all those entrusted to his care - in whatever circumstance he may carry this out.

This priestly service: a response to Christ's call, rooted in His gift of the Eucharist and nourished by the Word of God and daily commitment to prayer, is a great endeavour, enabling all whom the priest serves to grow in Christian life and in the mission of the Church.

The discernment of this vocation, as Pope Leo reminds us, calls for "a relationship based on prayer and silence." Such prayer and silence require a commitment of time, but this is time that will bear great fruit. It is important for us all – in our parish communities, schools and homes – to foster time for such prayer and support those whom the Lord calls to share in His priesthood.

A diocesan resource has been produced that will assist us in this path of prayer for vocations to priesthood leading to the celebration of Pentecost.

The practice of Eucharistic Adoration is an aspect of parish life in many parts of the Diocese. Times of Adoration provide excellent opportunities for prayer for priestly vocations and I ask every parish to hold a Holy Hour each week over the next month for this intention.

The praying of the Rosary is a part of many people's lives of prayer. I invite parishes to form groups of people who will commit to praying the Rosary for vocations to priesthood, whether this be together or alone but united with others through prayer.

The call to priesthood, more often than not, comes in quiet ways: the example of a priest; the example of parents and family members as they persevere in faith; a thought about service to the Church; a renewed experience of God's presence when on retreat or at a day of prayer and celebration; a reawakening of awareness of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Above all, the call to priesthood comes through the gentle promptings of the Holy Spirit.

To those of you who sense these stirrings of the Holy Spirit, calling you to service of Christ and his Church, "pause, listen, entrust yourselves. In this way, the gift of your vocation will mature, bringing you happiness and yielding abundant fruit for the Church and the world."

With every Blessing, Yours sincerely in Christ,

Archbishop Richard Moth

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

POPLAR COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND

Envelopes: £115.30	Loose: £341.05	Contactless: £251.00	Total: £707.35
Standing Orders & Online	January: £513.34	February: £478.34	March: £513.34

LIMEHOUSE COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND

Envelopes: £30.00	Loose: £91.29	Contactless: £119.00	Total: £240.29
Standing Orders & Online	January: £1,507.00	February: £880.00	March: £1,507.00

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity!

MASS THIS SUNDAY – 4th Sunday of Easter (Year A)

First reading Acts 2:14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' So those who received his word were baptised, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Response to the Psalm The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me; he revives my soul.

He guides me along the right path, for the sake of his name. Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death, no evil would I fear, for you are with me. Your crook and your staff will give me comfort.

You have prepared a table before me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.

Second reading 1 Peter 2:20b-25

Beloved: If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia. Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn within us when you speak to us. Alleluia.

Gospel John 10:1-10

At that time: Jesus said, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.' This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So Jesus again said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.'

Next Sunday is the 5th Sunday of Eastertide (Year A)