

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
Sister Christine Frost FCJ: nip65@msn.com
T: 020 7987 4523 E: Poplar@rcdow.org.uk | Limehouse@rcdow.org.uk
W: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/poplar | https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/limehouse

NEWSLETTER for 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time 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



St Thomas More,
Hans Holbein the Younger

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 20th June	12th Sunday (Vigil)	6.00pm	Poplar	The People of the Parish
Sun 21st June	12th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am 12noon	Poplar * Limehouse	Tom Lyddon *Ann* Telma Stephen *RIP*
Mon 22nd June	Ss John Fisher & Thomas More			**No Mass**
Tue 23rd June	Feria Week 12	10.00am 12.30pm	Poplar Canary Wharf†	Frank McGuigan *RIP* Priest's Intention
Wed 24th June	Nativity of St John the Baptist	10.00am	Poplar	Private Intention
Thu 25th June	Funeral of Theo Louison	**11.30am**	Poplar	Theo Louison *RIP*
Fri 26th June	Feria Week 12			**No Mass**
Sat 27th June	St John Southworth Ss Peter & Paul (Vigil)	10.00am 6.00pm	Poplar Poplar	Peace The People of the Parish
Sun 28th June	Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul	10.00am 12noon	Poplar * Limehouse	Monthi Mascarenhas *RIP* Francis K L Woo *Ann*

*= 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

Patricia Johnston (Pat Ryan), Theo Louison, Trevor Delves, Camil Agius, Eileen Morrison, Michael Hall, Joanne O'Neill, Ella Fulgence, Anne O'Connell, Susan Duhig and Ryan Pill who have died. And Anita Denteh, Pat Johnson, Mary Sauntry, Lucia Calixte, Jacqui Newson, Herbert Parillon, Emilio Campanella, Joan Russell, Robert Hageman, 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 11th July at 11.00am** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

PETER'S PENCE

Next weekend we will have a second special collection for Peter's Pence in support of the charitable works of our Holy Father.

MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS

Next Saturday at the 6pm Vigil Mass at Poplar we will celebrate the great gift that we experience each year in our two parishes of new people coming to faith. All those who have completed the RCIA in recent years are invited to come along and give thanks and to come along to the Guild Room afterwards for a party.

MULTI-CULTURAL SOCIAL EVENING

At 7pm (after the 6pm Vigil Mass) on Saturday 4th July in the Guild Room at Poplar there will be a Multi-cultural social evening. We are so fortunate to have parishioners from every corner of the globe, so come along and celebrate our diversity, bring food, flags, dresses, music and have some fun!

POPLAR PARISH BBQ

On Sunday 12th July in Church Green, Canton Street, opposite the church from 4pm we will have our annual parish BBQ at Poplar. There will be fun for all the family and a chance to celebrate our community together.

FORTHCOMING FUNERALS

The funeral of Patricia Johnston (Pat Ryan) 10.30 on Tuesday 23rd June at the East London Crematorium.
The funeral of Theo Louison will take place at 11.30am on Thursday 25th June at Poplar.

LIMEHOUSE FAITH GROUP

Join us on Thursday 25th June at 7.30pm, for episode 9 of "Metanoia": 'This Teaching is Hard'. In the scriptures, Jesus says some things that can be hard for us to accept. The temptation with Our Lord's teaching is to emphasize the things we like and ignore the things that challenge us. But it is important to be obedient and humble in the face of these "hard teachings." 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 23rd June**. Contact Michael for more information on ikorabs@gmail.com

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS

The Sanctuary Lamp at Limehouse burns this week in memory of Telma Stephen.

NEIGHBOURS IN POPLAR

SUNDAY AFTERNOON 4pm-7pm, music and good food in St Matthias as we celebrate our Afro Caribbean friends and neighbours. All welcome.
CAR BOOT SALE next Sunday 1pm to 5pm on the Cottage St. Green (off Poplar High St.)
CALAIS July 1st, bags and tents much needed.
JOB FAIR July 8th. We are looking for people willing to offer some time supporting/coaching people after the event. If interested email nip65@msn.com

FR ANDREW WRITES

This Monday is the feast of Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, two great English martyrs who provide us with an example of unwavering integrity. Their heroic deaths invite us to examine where our ultimate loyalties lie when worldly pressures clash with the truth of the Gospel.

St John Fisher was a theologian, bishop, and the Chancellor of Cambridge University. St Thomas More was a devoted husband, father of four, brilliant lawyer, and the Lord Chancellor of England. When King Henry VIII demanded that his subjects sign the Oath of Supremacy—declaring him the supreme head of the Church in England—almost every leader in the realm agreed in order to preserve their status, wealth, and safety. John Fisher stood as the only bishop in England to refuse. Thomas More chose a quiet, principled silence, resigning his post rather than violating his conscience. Both paid the ultimate price, being imprisoned in the Tower of London and ultimately beheaded in the summer of 1535. In a world that frequently asks us to compromise our values for the sake of fitting in or getting ahead, Fisher and More remind us that our conscience is a sacred space where we meet God. Thomas More famously proclaimed on the scaffold that he died "the king's good servant, but God's first." He loved his country and served his king faithfully, but he knew that earthly allegiances must never eclipse our devotion to Christ. John Fisher echoed this deep internal clarity, noting during his trials, "Their consciences must save them, and mine must save me." They did not judge others, but they absolutely refused to compromise their own souls for an easy life. What is most striking about their final months is not their suffering, but their supernatural joy. Both men viewed their impending executions as a victory rather than a defeat, famously describing their march to the scaffold as akin to walking toward a wedding feast. Because they had their hearts and minds firmly set on eternal life, they knew that a temporary earthly loss was an eternal heavenly gain.

We might ask ourselves: In what areas of my life am I tempted to compromise my values just to keep the peace or please others? Am I willing to stand firmly by the truth, even when it means standing completely alone? Challenging questions! Of course, Ss John Fisher and Thomas More can now intercede for us and so we do well to ask for their prayers that we might find the courage and integrity we need.

May God bless you all

Fr Andrew

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

POPLAR COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND

Envelopes: £103.37	Loose: £367.20	Contactless: £189.00	Total: £659.57
Standing Orders & Online	March: £513.34	April: £628.35	May: £513.34

LIMEHOUSE COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND

Envelopes: £57.00	Loose: £164.20	Contactless: £105.00	Total: £326.20
Standing Orders & Online	March: £1,507.00	April: £1,180.00	May: £1,507.00

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity!

MASS THIS SUNDAY – 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

First reading Jeremiah 20:10-13

Jeremiah said: I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! 'Denounce him! Let us denounce him!' say all my close friends, watching for my fall. 'Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him.' But the Lord is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonour will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause. Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.

Response to the Psalm In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord.

It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame has covered my face.
To my own kin I have become an
outcast, a stranger to the children of
my mother.
Zeal for your house consumes me,
and taunts against you fall on me.

But I pray to you, O Lord, at an
acceptable time. In your great mercy,
answer me, O God, with your faithful
salvation. Lord, answer, for your
mercy is kind;
in your great compassion, turn
towards me.

The poor when they see it will be
glad, and God-seeking hearts will
revive; for the Lord attends to the
needy, and does not spurn his own
in their chains. Let the heavens
and the earth give him praise,
the seas and everything that moves
in them.

Second reading Romans 5:12-15

Brothers and Sisters: Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned — for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for many.

Gospel Acclamation John 15:26b, 27a

Alleluia, alleluia. The Spirit of truth will bear witness about me, says the Lord, and you also will bear witness. Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 10:26-33

At that time: Jesus instructed his Apostles: 'Have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father knowing. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.'

Next Sunday is the Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul