

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



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NEWSLETTER for the 25th 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



The Labourers in the Vineyard
Domenico Fetti

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 19th Sep	25th Sunday (Vigil)	6.00pm	Poplar	The People of the Parish
Sun 20th Sep	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am 12noon	Poplar * Limehouse	Edna & Mark Hill *Ints* William Henry Phillips *Ann*
Mon 21st Sep	St Matthew			**No Mass**
Tue 22nd Sep	Feria Week 25	10.00am 12.30pm	Poplar Canary Wharf †	Albert Stoakes *Ann* Priest's Intention
Wed 23rd Sep	St Pius of Pietrelcina	10.00am	Poplar	Lillian Doyle *Ann*
Thu 24th Sep	Our Lady of Walsingham	10.00am	Poplar	Andrea Stephen *B'Day Ann*
Fri 25th Sep	Feria Week 25	10.00am	Poplar	Fr Joe Boward *Ann*
Sat 26th Sep	Saturday Memorial of BVM 26th Sunday (Vigil)	10.00am 6.00pm	Poplar Poplar	Lydie Bolou & Nael Kouame *B'day Ints* The People of the Parish
Sun 27th Sep	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00am 12noon	Poplar * Limehouse	Maria Iolanda Vaglio *Ann* Okere Family *Thanksgiving*

* = Refreshments after Mass in the Guild Room
† = Multi Faith Prayer Room in the Churchill Place Shopping Centre between Joe the Juice and Barclays

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sheila Terry, Norma Giller, Ihor Hirnyak, Pat Ryan, Trevor Delves, Charlie Agius, Theo Louison and John Hall who have died. And Robert Hageman, Jane Dooley, Jacqui Newson, Kai Aizoodin, Joan Russell, Nita da Fide, Bernadette McSweeney, Zakhyrah Eugene, Herbert Parillon, Sylma Simon, Mary Sauntry, Lucia Calixte, Emilio Campanella and Anthony Gafa who are ill.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES

The next course will be at **11.00am on Saturday 17th October** in the Guild Room at Poplar.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE

Applications for this year's First Holy Communion course are now open. Please use the forms available at the back of Church. The course is open to children who are in **year 3** at school. If your child is older please speak to Fr Andrew. All children and their parents or guardian must attend Mass every Sunday, even if this has not been your practice to date, and must commit to attending each of the meetings of the programme. **Applications close at the end of September**.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME

Applications for this year's Confirmation Programme are now open. Please use the forms available at the back of Church. This course is open to young people in **year 9** or above who are not yet 18 years old. Young people must attend Mass every Sunday and must commit to attending each of the meetings and events of the programme. Furthermore, young people will be required to begin some voluntary work in the parish or wider community as part of the programme. **Applications close at the end of September.**

COURSE FOR ADULTS BECOMING CATHOLIC

This course is known as the RCIA. Applications are now open for this year's RCIA programme. Please use the forms available at the back of Church. This programme is open to those who are over 18 years and who are either not baptised or baptised in another Christian denomination, or who have fallen away from the practice of the faith and are not confirmed and who wish to become a Catholic or to re-engage with the practice of their Catholic Faith. Applicants must attend Mass every Sunday and must commit to attending each of the meetings and events of the programme. **Applications close at the end of September**.

SCHOOL FORMS

Parents who are applying for places in Catholic Schools next year may be asked to obtain the signature of their parish priest on the school form and/or a Certificate of Catholic Practice. Please speak to Fr Andrew after Mass if this is the case. The important thing to note about these forms and certificates is that Fr Andrew is being asked to confirm that the child in question attends Mass regularly with their family. Fr Andrew can only say this where he knows it to be true. If you do indeed come to Mass regularly and you speak to Fr Andrew at Mass, he will instantly know that he can sign the form. If you email or phone the Parish Office, he may not know who you are, so the best thing is to speak to him after Mass.

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 22nd September**. Contact Michael for more information on ikorabs@gmail.com

NEIGHBOURS IN POPLAR

Calais We had a good day at the Refugee charities last Wednesday. There are regular camp evictions with families left with nothing. Big call for blankets, woolies and tents. Our next visit will be in late October.

Wednesday 23rd September Lansbury Festival Tea Dance in St. Matthias Community Centre. Tickets are now available.

Saturday 17th October Talk on "Poplar and the Blitz" at 2pm at St Matthias Community Centre. In WW2, Londoners were subjected night after night to heavy bombing during the Blitz. How did they handle this experience and deal with the grief of losing homes and loved ones? With a specific focus on the East End of London, Danny Wells will explore the impact of the bombing on these communities.

LIMEHOUSE CHURCH OPENING

The church is open for private prayer every Friday 8am-8.30am. If you would like to volunteer to help keep our church open during the week, please speak to Fr Andrew.

LIMEHOUSE SOCIAL

Straight after the 12noon Mass this Sunday 20th September, we will have a social get-together with food and drinks. This is a great opportunity to reconnect with the community after the summer, during which many people have been away. It is also an opportunity to find out what's going on in the Parish.

LIMEHOUSE FAITH GROUP

The Faith group is resuming its regular 7.30pm Thursday evening meetings. For the next few months the group will be reading and reflecting on the readings from the Mass of the previous Sunday. This is a great way to deepen your knowledge of the scripture and your participation in the Mass while getting to know other parishioners. All are welcome. Please contact Limehousefaithgroup@outlook.com

ADOREMUS 2026

Sr Anouska with the FCJ Young Adult Network is gathering a group of young adults (those aged 18-35) who want to attend the Adoremus event on **Saturday 10th October** in London. Adoremus 2026 in London has a programme of events that starts at 10.30am St George's Cathedral in Southwark (near Waterloo Station) and ends with adoration at Westminster Cathedral near Victoria Station. If you are interested in attending Adoremus 2026 with Sr Anouska and the FCJ Young Adult Network, send Sr Anouska a message on +447353797192.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM APPEAL

This weekend there will be a special second collection for Evangelii Gaudium Day, previously known as Home Mission Sunday, in support of the work of evangelisation through sharing the joy of the Gospel.

FR ANDREW WRITES

On Thursday, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham. This devotion began in 1061 when a Norfolk noblewoman named Richeldis de Faverches was granted three visions by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary took her in spirit to Nazareth and showed her the exact place where the Annunciation occurred. She asked Richeldis to build a replica of the Holy House at Walsingham in Norfolk, as a perpetual memorial to the joy of the Incarnation. For centuries, Walsingham became known as "England's Nazareth," drawing pilgrims from across the Christian world to ponder the mystery of God becoming man. At the heart of the message of Walsingham is a focus on the hidden, everyday life of the Holy Family. The Holy House represents the ordinary space where Mary said her "Yes," where Jesus grew in wisdom, and where Joseph worked quietly. It reminds us that our relationship with God is forged in the routine of our daily lives, our homes, and our families. It is a wonderful thing when families come together regularly, however briefly, to pray. Have you thought about having a little focus of prayer in the heart of the home? A cross or a statue or picture around which you might all gather to pray and to say your own yes to God's plan of love. May God bless you all.

Fr Andrew

RECENT FINANCIAL NEWS

POPLAR COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND

Envelopes: £172.00	Loose: £299.03	Contactless: £133.00	Total: £604.03
Standing Orders & Online	June: £543.34	July: £2,915.14	August: £543.34

LIMEHOUSE COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND

Envelopes: £32.00	Loose: £168.80	Contactless: £180.00	Total: £380.80
Standing Orders & Online	June: 1,507.00	July: £2,250.00	August: £1,507.00

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity!

MASS THIS SUNDAY – The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

First reading Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Response to the Psalm The Lord is close to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
The Lord is great and highly to be praised;
his greatness cannot be measured.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The Lord is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.

Second reading Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Brothers and Sisters: Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Cf. Acts 16:14b

Alleluia, alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of your Son. Alleluia

Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, "You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you." So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, "Why do you stand here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You go into the vineyard too." 'And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first." And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" So the last will be first, and the first last.'

Next Sunday is the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)