

5th Sunday of Easter – 28 April 2024

The priesthood...

Last Sunday, the Church observed the Day of Prayer for Vocations. As a follow-up, I leave some words from Pope Benedict XVI in his book *A New Song for the Lord* (1996):

The most lofty and important thing a priest can do for people is first of all being what he is: a believer ... When people sense that one is there who believes, who lives with God and from God, hope becomes a reality for them as well. In many ways this person is more exposed in his faith than the others, since their faith depends on his and since, at any given time, he has to withstand the hard-ships of faith for them.

Faith is never simply there automatically; it must be lived. It leads us into conversation with God which involves speaking and listening to the same degree. Faith and prayer belong together; they cannot be separated. The time spent by a priest on prayer and listening to Scripture is never time lost to pastoral care or time withheld from others. People sense whether the work and words of their pastor spring from prayer fabricated at his desk.

Please pray that I and all priests throughout the world may be people of faith always.

Father Carlos

NOTICES:

EASTER TRIDUUM (GE'EZ RITE): This week is Holy Week for our Ethiopian Community. Anyone interested in the liturgies of Holy Thursday and Good Friday are welcome. The Easter Vigil in the Ge'ez Rite will be on Saturday, 4 May at 8pm. This is also the Holy Week of many of our Eastern Churches, both Catholic and Orthodox. We wish them a Happy and Holy Easter.

NO MASS: Due to Father Carlos being away, there will not be Mass on **Friday, 3 May, at 6pm**. Mass on Friday is available at **St. Francis', Notting Hill (W11 4NQ) at 9.30am and St Mary's, Bayswater (W2 5DJ) at Noon**. We apologise for this inconvenience.

PRIEST TRAINING FUND: Our Second Collection is for the Priest Training Fund., which supports the men preparing for the Priesthood and the ongoing formation of priests in our Diocese . We thank you for your contributions and ask that you continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and the Christian family.

NEW AUXILIARY BISHOP: Last Monday, it was announced that Pope Francis has named Monsignor James Curry as Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Westminster. Details of his Consecration will be made available soon. We congratulate him on his appointment and assure him of our prayers!

LITURGY AND CROWNING OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: We will celebrate the Blessing and Crowning of the Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Sunday, 12 May at 3.30pm.

TEA AND COFFEE: There are plans to reinstate the Tea and Coffee Mornings after the 10am Mass beginning Sunday, 12 May. If you have any ideas, or wish to volunteer, please speak with Father Carlos.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND: Brendan Metcalfe wishes to thank you for your attention and generosity for helping our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. We managed to donate £520.45 in cash and £320 via the contactless machine. Please continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land.

SAVE THE DATE: There is a Parish Mass and Celebration that will take place on Friday, 12 July 2024. Details are to follow; but please start marking the date in your diaries and calendars!

PARISH ENVELOPES: The new parish envelopes are now available for collection. Those who already have a number assigned to them will be able to collect the same numbered box. We ask parishioners to not start a new envelope number and consider a Standing Order.

NEW LITURGICAL ITEMS: If anyone wishes to help with the costs, please place your donation in an envelope marked 'New Liturgical Items'. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS: If you would like to have a Mass offered for an intention, please contact the Parish Office or speak with Father Carlos.

PAROCCHIAL VISITS: Please contact Father Carlos if you want him to come for a home visit.

PARISH COLLECTIONS: Totals for the following collections:

6/7 April: Loose: £331.11	Envelopes: £41	Contactless: £155.00
13/14 April: Loose: £312.17	Envelopes: £26	Contactless: £160.00
20/21 April: Loose: £440.64	Envelopes: £36	Contactless: £58.00

In addition, we thank you for your contribution of £87.79 for the Easter Flowers. Many thanks for your generosity!

You can now
donate with the
QR Code below:

