



# PRECIOUS WOUNDS BULLETIN

The Five Precious Wounds Catholic Church,  
Brentfield Road, Stonebridge, London NW10 8ER

**Mass Times:** Saturdays 6 pm; Sundays 10 am  
& 12:30pm  
Monday 10 am - Tuesday 10am  
Wednesday 10 am - Thursday Closed  
Friday 10 am; **Holy Hour:** Fridays after Mass  
**Confessions:** Fridays after Mass from 10:40  
am to 11:20 am and at other times on request  
after Mass

**Website:**

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stonebridge>

**Telephone** 020 89653313

**email** [stonebridge@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stonebridge@rcdow.org.uk)

**Clergy:** Father Tony Thomas; Deacon Andrew  
Safo-Poku

**School:** Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School  
[www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk](http://www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk)

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021**

**27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## TODAY'S MASS READINGS

**First reading: Genesis 2:18-24**

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed: 'This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man.' This is why a man leaves his father and mother and

joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.'

**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 127(128)**

*May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.*

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.

You will be happy and prosper.

*May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.*

Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table.

*May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.*

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!  
May you see your children's children.  
On Israel, peace!

*May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.*

**Second reading: Hebrews 2:9-11**

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind. As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

**Gospel Acclamation: Jn17:17**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Your word is truth, O Lord:  
consecrate us in the truth.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Mark 10:2-16**

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and



the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.'

Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today we continue to read from the Gospel according to Mark. For the past three Sundays, we have been hearing Mark's reports of conversations between Jesus and his disciples. Recall that in Mark's Gospel, Jesus uses these private moments to teach his disciples in greater detail about the Kingdom of God. Beginning with today's Gospel, Jesus returns to Judea, Jewish territory, and resumes his public ministry. The first verse of chapter 10 of Mark's Gospel tells us that crowds gathered around Jesus, and he taught them, as was his custom. Immediately, the Pharisees approach Jesus to test him.

The Pharisees question Jesus about the lawfulness of divorce. Under specific conditions, divorce was an accepted practice among the Jewish people during the time of Jesus. It was regulated by the Law of Moses, as found in Deuteronomy 24:1-5. This law only permits that a husband may divorce his wife if he finds her to be indecent. This is the justification that the Pharisees reference when Jesus inquires about the commandment of Moses. In reply, Jesus quotes from the Book of Genesis and counters that God's original intention was that men and women would become one flesh in marriage. Jesus describes the teaching of Moses as a concession made to God's original intention because of human stubbornness.



In private, Jesus' disciples question him further about this teaching on divorce. It is to his disciples that Jesus lays out the implications of his teaching by explaining that remarriage after divorce is adultery. Jesus' teaching was more restrictive than the teaching of the Pharisees, which permitted remarriage. Jesus further distinguished his teaching from the cultural norms of his time by applying his words equally to men and women. Jewish culture permitted only that a husband may divorce his wife. Wives were not permitted to divorce their husband for any reason, including adultery.

At first glance, the final part of today's Gospel seems unconnected to the previous teaching about divorce. When read together, however, these passages present a strong picture of Jesus' emphasis on the importance of family. God intended for women and men to be joined together in marriage. Among the purposes of marriage is the raising of children. By welcoming children and fostering their relationship with God, parents and families bear witness to the Kingdom of God.

At the end of today's Gospel, the people were bringing their children to Jesus, and again Jesus' disciples show that they just don't get it. Recall that in the Gospel for each of the past two Sundays, Jesus has taught his disciples the value and importance of these "little ones" in the Kingdom of God. Yet in today's Gospel, the disciples try to prevent people from bringing their children to Jesus. Jesus reprimands his disciples and welcomes these children. Again Jesus offers these children as an example of the kind of complete trust and dependence upon God that ought to be the attitude of all believers. (From *Sunday Connection* by Loyola Press)

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH

### Weekday Mass times

Fr Tony is now taking his rest day each Thursday. This means there will no longer be a Thursday evening Mass. Weekday Mass times will be at 10.00am on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

### Last week's collection

Planned giving £415.50. Loose plate £277.14.

Our parish relies entirely on your donations to pay our bills. so thank you for making a difference! Many are now switching to making a standing order with their banks to make their weekly contributions. For more information, please visit our website [www.preciouswounds.com](http://www.preciouswounds.com) and follow the link to making a donation.



### Planned giving envelopes

If you contribute to the parish through the planned giving scheme, but have yet to collect your weekly envelopes, please take them home with you today. They are available at the back of church.

### Two celebrations in October

Fr Tony writes: there are two forthcoming celebrations to put in your diaries! Firstly, on **Friday 15th October at 7.00pm**, Bishop John Sherrington will be coming to Stonebridge to celebrate a 'Mass of Induction'. At this Mass I will be formally inducted as your new parish priest. The Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the hall; please do come along.

Secondly, **Sunday 31st October** is the first anniversary of Deacon Andrew's ordination. To mark this occasion, we will celebrate with food and drink after the 12.30pm Mass. It is especially important to celebrate this anniversary, as we weren't able to throw Deacon Andrew a party on his ordination day due to Covid restrictions. Please join us to congratulate Deacon Andrew and say 'thanks' for all the work he does for us.

Please let Fr Tony or Deacon Andrew know if you can help with catering on either occasion.

### Sunday obligation

Over the summer, the bishops of England and Wales released a statement regarding the obligation for Catholics to attend Mass on Sundays. This obligation has been suspended since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, but the bishops hope it can be reinstated at the beginning of Advent (from Sunday 28th November). The full statement is on the website of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales (<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/sunday-it-is-our-day/>). The following is one of the key paragraphs:

"We are mindful of the certain fact that the Covid-19 virus is still circulating in society. Vaccines provide genuine protection against the worst effects of the virus, yet we recognise the legitimate fear on the part of some who otherwise desire to gather for Holy Mass. It is our continuing judgement, therefore, that it is not possible at the present time for all of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday thus fulfilling their duty to God. It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021. In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church".

### **Open house**

Each Tuesday Fr Tony is holding an 'open house' between 5.00pm and 6.00pm in the parish hall. During this time he will be available to meet with you without an appointment, for a quick chat or to sign forms (e.g. school forms).



### **Mass intentions**

Arranging to have a Mass celebrated for someone's intentions, or for the repose of their soul, is a great act of faith and love. If you would like to book a Mass intention, please do so at the repository on Sunday mornings, or by phoning the parish office on a weekday between 11.00am and 2.00pm. Many thanks.

### **First Holy Communion**



If your child is currently in years 3, 4 and above, please take an application form today. If your child was enrolled in 2019 and missed this year's First Holy Communions, please make sure to enrol your child again. The children's sessions will take place between 11.15am and 12.15pm in the parish hall on the following Sundays: **10th October; 17th October; 7th November; 14th November; 28th November; 5th December and 12th December**. The Christmas workshop will take place on **Saturday 18th**

**December**. Dates for sessions in the New Year will be announced in due course.

### **Confirmation**

If your child is currently in school years 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 etc., please take a fill in an application form today, even if your child was part of the classes before lockdown, so we may know if your child still wishes to receive this important sacrament. Dates for the preparation sessions will be announced in due course.

### **Tea and coffee after Mass**

Tea and coffee is served in the parish hall after each weekday Mass. Please join us if you can for a friendly chat and a cuppa!



## **The Nigerian Catholic Association of Five Precious Wounds**

As we begin to return the normal rhythms of parish life, we are happy to announce the restart of the monthly Sunday meetings for the the Nigerian Catholic Association of Five Previous Wounds Church. The first meeting will be on Sunday 10th October 2021. The time of the meeting will be immediately after the 12:30 mass in the parish hall. Please note that COVID-19 secure measures will be in place for all meetings for the foreseeable future.

### **Baptism**

If you have submitted an application for your child's baptism, you are invited to attend a baptism preparation class on **Friday 8th October** in the parish hall. The class will include a video presentation on the meaning of baptism and time for discussion. Once you have attended this class, we will be able to arrange a date for your child's baptism. If you have not yet submitted a baptism application form, please do so as soon as possible.

### **Repository**

The repository is open each Sunday at the 12.30pm Mass. Please stop by to buy candles, gifts, cards etc. If there is something you would like that is not currently in stock, Michelle may be able to order it for you. Please note that products for Christmas 2021 - and the popular statues of 'Sleeping Joseph' - should be in stock from stock from 26th September.



### **Altar servers**

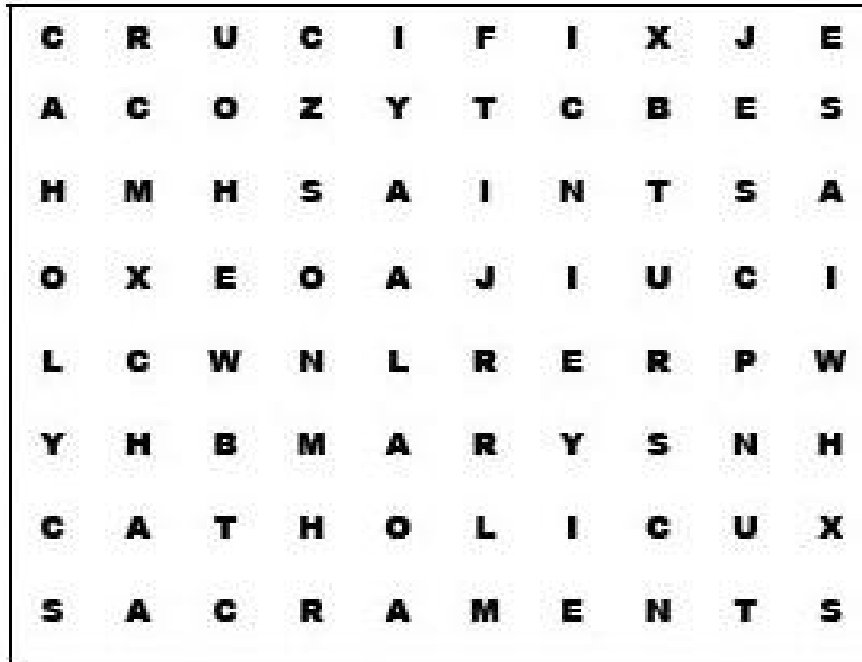
We are once again able to recruit new and old servers for Mass. If you would like your child to serve at the Mass, please give your child's details to Deacon Andrew after Mass. We expect a high standard from our servers. Children must wear black shoes and are expected to arrive 30 minutes before Mass begins to go through training each Sunday.

## **A message from Ms Halpin (interim Headteacher of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Nursery & Primary School) regarding admissions 2022-2023**

I would like to extend a warm invite to all parents seeking a Nursery or Primary School place for September 2022. We are a small, unique one form entry school hidden within an oasis of green with pupils from Nursery to Year 6. Our pupils are a delight, with happy smiling faces and a true zest for learning. We have a wonderful team of dedicated, nurturing staff who understand the importance of guiding our children on their faith journey through the teachings of Jesus Christ, and instilling the many fruits of the Holy Spirit including 'Love', 'Peace' and 'Kindness'. Within our inclusive and challenging curriculum, we aim to educate our children to the highest standards, and equip them with 21st Century skills in preparation for the next phase of their education and beyond. For further information, or if you would like to come and visit us, please contact our school office on 0208 961 5037. Please note we have a small number of places currently available in our Nursery setting.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Find words relating to our Catholic faith in this Wordsearch.



Amen

Catholic

Crucifix

Holy

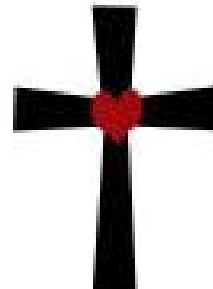
Jesus

Mary

Rosary

Sacraments

Saints



## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**"Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received - only what you have given: a full heart, enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage" - St Francis of Assisi, (1181 - 1226)**

whose feast day falls on Monday.

He lived a life of perfect evangelical poverty, living by begging and only then accepting the worst food that people could give. He preached to all the love of God and the love of the created world; because, having renounced everything, he celebrated everything he had received, seen, or heard.



# THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

**Sunday 3rd October - 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Genesis 2:18-24** A man and his wife become one body

**Hebrews 2:9-11** By God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind

**Mark 10:2-16** Jesus' teaching on the sanctity of marriage

**Monday 4th October - St Francis of Assisi**

**Jonah 1:1-2:1,11** Jonah flees from his call

**Luke 10:25-37** The good Samaritan

**Tuesday 5th October**

**Jonah 3:1-10** The Ninevites repent

**Luke 10:38-42** Martha works; Mary listens

**Wednesday 6th October**

**Jonah 4:1-11** Jonah is angry at God's mercy

**Luke 1:1-4** How to pray

**Thursday 7th October - Our Lady of the Rosary**

**Malachi 3:13-20** The sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays

**Luke 11:5-13** Ask, and it will be given to you

**Friday 8th October**

**Joel 1:13-15,2:1-2** The day of the Lord is coming

**Luke 11:15-26** The finger of God has overtaken you

**Saturday 9th October - St John Henry Newman**

**1 Corinthians 2:10-16** The Spirit reaches even the depths of God

**Matthew 13:47-52** The fishermen collect the good fish and throw away those that are  
no use

