



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, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10am.

Holy Hour: Fridays after Mass

Confessions: Fridays after Mass from 10:40 am to 11:20 am, Saturday 5:15pm - 5:45pm

Office open: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10.30am – 2.30pm

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

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Clergy: Father Tony Thomas;

Deacon Andrew Safo-Poku

School: Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School

www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (13th MARCH 2022)

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

Entrance Antiphon: Psalm 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

First reading:

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Taking Abram outside, the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can.' 'Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord,' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him.

When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 26(27):1,7-9, 13-14

The Lord is my light and my help.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?

The Lord is my light and my help.

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.

Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.'

The Lord is my light and my help.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.

The Lord is my light and my help.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord!

The Lord is my light and my help.

Second reading:

Philippians 3:17-4:1

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation: Mathew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:

'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

Communion Antiphon: Mathew 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

On the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert and temptation by the devil to the glory shown in Jesus' Transfiguration. On the first Sunday of Lent, our Gospel always tells the story of Jesus' temptation in the desert. On the second Sunday, we always hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The report of Jesus' Transfiguration is found in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The context for Luke's Transfiguration story is similar to that found in both Matthew and Mark. The Transfiguration occurs after Peter's confession that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus' prediction about his Passion. After the prediction there is a discussion of the cost of discipleship in each of these Gospels. The placement of the Transfiguration story close to Peter's confession and Jesus' prediction encourages us to examine the Transfiguration in the larger context of the Paschal Mystery.



The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples—Peter, James and John. These are among the first disciples that Jesus called in Luke's Gospel. We recently heard this Gospel at Mass, on the fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Only Luke's Gospel, which often describes Jesus at prayer, indicates that Jesus is praying as his appearance changes to bright white. Luke indicates that the three disciples were sleeping while Jesus prayed. They will be sleeping again as Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before his Passion and death.

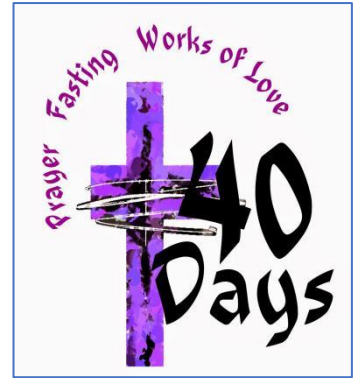
As they awake, Peter and the disciples see Jesus Transfigured and Elijah and Moses present with Jesus. Elijah and Moses, both significant figures in the history of Israel, represent Jesus' continuity with the Law and the Prophets. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospels, there is reference to conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel explains that this conversation is about Jesus' later accomplishments in Jerusalem. Luke describes this as his exodus, connecting Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection with the Israel's Exodus from Egypt.

On witnessing Jesus' Transfiguration and seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Having just awoken, perhaps Peter's offer was made in confusion. We also notice that Peter reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus “master” instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding that the disciples listen to him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism which, in Luke's Gospel, spoke directly to Jesus as God's Son.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, the disciples keep secret what they have seen. Not until they also witness his Passion and death will the disciples understand Jesus' Transfiguration. We hear this story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection even as we prepare to remember Jesus' Passion and death.

THE SEASON OF LENT

This is the Holy Season of Lent. As Cardinal Vincent said in his pastoral letter of last weekend: "...we respond to the Lord's invitation to come forward and meet him afresh. He invites us to come through the doors of the church to stand before him and receive his blessing, his mark of mercy."



NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH

This week's Mass intentions

Saturday 6.00pm – Father Antonio's intentions

Sunday 10.00am – Bela Ramos RIP, Jose Fernandes de Freitas's intentions

Sunday 12.30pm – Lorna Marie RIP (birthday)

Monday 10.00am – Fidela Zuleta's family's intentions

Tuesday 10.00am

Wednesday 10.00am – Kevin Cantwell RIP

Friday 10.00am

Fr Tony writes: as some of you know, I tested positive for Covid-19 on Wednesday this week. I will need to remain in isolation over the weekend, so am very grateful to **Fr Martin McPake** for stepping in at short notice to celebrate this weekend's Masses.

I have felt unwell but am recovering and have been very well supported. God bless you all.

Sick or housebound

Please keep in your prayers our parishioners who are sick or housebound:

Betty O'Reily (Elizabeth)

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 by phoning the parish during office hours (see above), by visiting the repository on Sunday mornings, or by taking a Mass

intention envelope and putting it through the door or the presbytery.

Last week's collection

Planned giving £184.50. Loose plate £330.22. 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 <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stonebridge/donate/> and follow the link to make a donation.

Office opening hours

Following her appointment as parish administrator, please contact Violet about booking Masses, obtaining duplicate certificates, placing items in the newsletter, and so on. The parish office will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10.30am until 2.30pm.

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross. Please do join us for this beautiful devotion, starting at 7.00pm. There will also be Confessions beginning at 6.15pm.

Confessions during Lent

Confession times during Lent are as follows: Friday 10.40am-11.20am and 6.15pm-6.50pm; Saturday 5.15pm-5.45pm. In addition, a priest will be

available to hear Confessions during the 10.00am and 12.30pm Masses on Sunday 3rd April.

Confirmation Candidates enrolment meeting for parents will now be on Friday 18th March 2022 at 7:45pm

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2022

This year, we celebrate 10 years of Caritas Westminster, the social action agency of the Diocese, working with parishes to restore hope, and enable people to lead a life of dignity and worth. Fund raised in this year's Cardinal's Lenten Appeal will be shared between parishes and Caritas Westminster. Please take a donation envelope. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

Lenten Course: No Greater Love

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, No Greater Love is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you. The course will run for five Fridays, beginning on 18th March, at 12.00 noon in the parish centre. A light Lenten lunch (bread, cheese, fruit) will be served. Please join us.

Walk With Me

Walk With Me is a daily Lenten companion in the form of a small booklet, with a scripture reading and reflection for each day of this holy season. It includes an introduction by our Archbishop, Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Copies of Walk with Me are now available at the back of the church. If you would like to make a donation, we suggest £1 per copy.

Novena to St. Joseph - Feast day 19th March. The Mill Hill Missionaries encourage us to pray a Novena to St. Joseph from 10th March to 18th March 2022 to honour St. Joseph and for our own intentions. To make the Novena, simply pray to St Joseph during this time. You can say your own prayer or use the following prayer at any time of the day or night for nine days.

'Almighty God, you have chosen St. Joseph to be the mainstay of Jesus and Mary, the wise and faithful servant in whom they could trust. We pray, that he may truly be the guardian of your Church; that he may inspire with confidence those who are devoted to him; that he may give security to those who work in the vineyard of your Son, and finally, that he may be a source of strength to us, who wish, like him, to dedicate ourselves to Christ's service, now and in times to come. Amen.'

Planned giving envelopes

Planned giving envelopes for the new financial year 2022-23 will soon be ready for collection. They can be collected from one of the Finance Committee members at the back of the Church after Mass on 20th and 27th March. If you can remember your envelope number, it will be helpful while collecting your envelope box.

If anyone would like to contribute their offertory through planned giving envelopes, please let us know. We can provide you with the new envelopes.

Contactless Giving

DONA is a new Diocesan scheme to make your weekly giving to the parish (and any one-off giving) much easier. It is a debit/credit card contactless payment system. We have introduced DONA in the parish. You'll see the machine on the left as you enter the main body of the church. Please do use it as you wish, especially if you choose to carry no cash. You can choose to gift-aid your donations if you are a UK taxpayer. Please note that DONA will also be available to make card payments in the repository.

Volunteers needed for counting

At the moment we have a very small and dedicated team of parishioners who meet on Monday mornings to count the previous weekend's collection. It would be great to have a few more volunteers to help them in their important work - are you able to assist? If so, please speak to Fr Tony or Deacon Andrew. Many thanks.

Tea and coffee after the 12.30pm Mass on Sundays

We are now serving teas and coffees in the parish centre after the 12.30pm Mass on Sundays. It is so important now that the pandemic is receding to find ways of building up our community once more. Please come along – all welcome! Any donations collected will be sent to **Mary's Meal** charity .



Monthly devotions

First Saturday Devotion – Rosary Group: first Saturday of each month at 4.00pm in the parish hall.

Divine Mercy Devotion – third Saturday of each month at 3.00pm in the parish hall.

Confirmation preparation

This year we have a very large number of candidates for Confirmation, due in part to the backlog caused by the pandemic. Instead of an extended programme running over several weeks, we plan instead to run two whole-day preparation classes on Saturday 2nd April and Saturday 7th May. We will be joined on these days by members of the Diocesan Youth Service outreach team, who will help to make them lively and engaging events. Please note that attendance on both days is mandatory for those wishing to be confirmed.

First Holy Communion – Year 3 and 4

The next preparation sessions for First Holy Communion for Year 3 and 4 are as follows: 20th March, 10th April (after the 10.00am Sunday Mass)

First Holy Communion – Year 5 and 6

The final two sessions is on Wednesdays 9th and 16th March. These children will make their First Holy Communion alongside the Year 3 and 4 children in May.

Open House

There will be an Open House this Tuesday between 5pm and 6pm in the church, to see Fr Tony briefly without an appointment.

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.

Tea and coffee after weekday Mass Teas and coffees are once again be served in the parish centre after each weekday Mass. Do join us if you can for a friendly chat and a cuppa!

Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony: Westminster Cathedral, on 14 May 2022. Archbishop Vincent is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and every year over 60th) anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give the following details to the Fr Tony or Violet, our administrator: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

Sick and housebound

We plan to introduce a list of sick and housebound in our newsletter, so that we can remember them in prayer. Please give the names of anyone you would like mentioned in the newsletter to Fr Tony or Violet, our administrator.

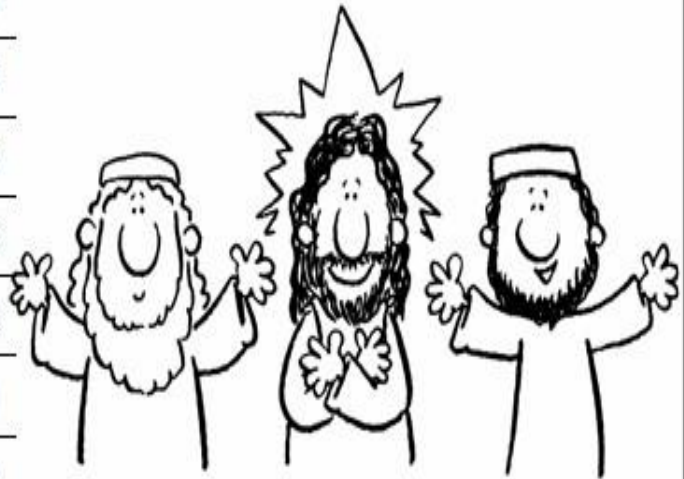
CHILDREN'S CORNER



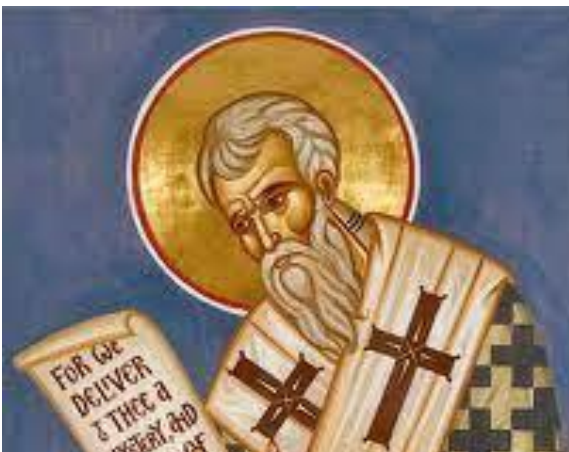
This wordsearch is inspired by today's Gospel.
How many hidden words can you find?

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PETER JOHN JAMES MOUNTAIN
PRAY ASPECT FACE BRILLIANT
MOSES ELIJAH GLORY LIGHTNING
SLEEP TENTS VOICE LISTEN



QUOTE OF THE WEEK



*Since Christ himself has said,
“This is my Body”, who shall
dare to doubt that it is his
Body?*

St Cyril of Jerusalem, whose feast day
falls this Friday

THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

Sunday 13th March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18 'God enters into a Covenant with Abraham, the man of faith'

Philippians 3:17-4:1 'Our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes Christ to transfigure us'

Luke 9:28-36 'Jesus is transfigured before them'

Monday 14th March

Daniel 9:4-10 'Yours is the integrity, Lord; ours the shame'

Luke 6:36-38 'Grant pardon, and you will be pardoned'



Tuesday 15th March

Isaiah 1:10, 16-20 'Cease to do evil; learn to do good'

Mathew 23:1-12 'They do not practice what they preach'

Wednesday 16th March

Jeremiah 18:18-20 'My enemies are digging a pit for me'

Mathew 20:17-28 'They will condemn the Son of Man to death'

Thursday 17th March St. Patrick, Bishop, Missionary

Jeremiah 1:4-9 'Go and say whatever I command you and do not fear'

Acts 13:46-49 'Since you have rejected the word of God, we must turn to the pagans'

Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 'Your peace will rest on that man'

Friday 18th March St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor

Genesis 37: 3-4, 12-13, 17-28 'Let us kill him: then we shall see what becomes of his dreams'

Mathew 21:33-43, 45-46 'This is the landlord's heir: come, let us kill him'

Saturday 19th March St. Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Samuel 7:4-5, 12-14, 16 'The Lord will give him the throne of his ancestor David'

Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22 'Abraham hoped, and he believed'

Mathew 1:16, 18-21, 24 'How Jesus Christ came to be born'