



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>

Telephone 020 89653313

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Clergy: Father Tony Thomas;
Deacon Andrew Safo-Poku

School: Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School
www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (3rd APRIL 2022)

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

Entrance Antiphon: Psalm 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is
faithless.

From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

First reading:

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.

The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 125(126)

*What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we
were glad.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.

*What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we
were glad.*

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.

*What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we
were glad.*

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.

*What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.*

Second reading:

Philippians 3:8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation: Joel 12:12-13

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks –

come back to me with all your heart,
for I am all tenderness and compassion.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel: John 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and do not sin any more.'

Communion Antiphon:

Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Why this reading from John in the middle of the Year of Luke? All the other gospels during this Lenten season have been from Luke. The answer is that it is an independent, floating story which does not even fit into the Gospel of John. In early manuscripts of the gospels this story moves around and is found in various places before it becomes anchored as an example of Jesus' teachings just after he says, 'Our Law does not allow us to pass judgement on anyone without first giving them a hearing' (John 7:51). It is appropriate for this Year of Luke because the tone of the story and the theme of welcome for the repentant sinner are both thoroughly Lukan, a theme which is constantly stressed in Luke's Gospel (for example, in the Parable of the Prodigal Son). What did Jesus write on the ground, or was it that he was just doodling to allow the accusers time to reflect on their self-righteousness? The latter is certainly one of the main concerns of St Luke's Gospel, where it is made clear that you cannot be a follower of Christ without first admitting your sinfulness: when Peter meets Jesus, he tells Jesus to go away, because he (Peter) is a sinner; Zacchaeus recognises that he is a sinner and promises to make multiple restitution for his embezzlements; the woman at the supper weeps for her sins at Jesus' feet. Why do you think Jesus wrote on the ground? Do I find myself judging others too quickly and too often?



NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH

This week's Mass intentions

Saturday 6.00pm - Honey & Domingo Loja - RIP

Sunday 10.00am Stella & Paul Cullen - RIP

Anniversary

Sunday 12.30pm All the faithful departed of our parish

Monday 10.00am James Smith - RIP

Tuesday 10.00am Diorno - Family Intention

Wednesday 10.00am Magdeline D'Souza - RIP

Anniversary

Friday 10am Tim Sheehan - Intention

Sick or housebound

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

Betty O'Reilly (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 £344.00 Loose plate £414.06 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.

Palm Sunday

Next Sunday, 10th April, is Palm Sunday. We will begin the 10.00am and 12.30pm Masses with a procession from the car park. Please join us there if you are able.

Holy week and Easter service times

From this weekend, a booklet is available with details of our Holy Week and Easter service times. Please take a copy with you as you leave the church.

Confessions

Today, 3rd April, a priest will be available during the 10.00am and 12.30pm Masses to hear Confessions. The priest will be Fr Francis, the new Filipino chaplain. Please do avail yourself of this opportunity, as going to Confession is an excellent way to prepare for Easter.

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.

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.

Volunteers needed to prepare the church for Easter

From 10.00am on Holy Saturday (16th April) we will be cleaning, polishing and arranging flowers in church in preparation for the Easter celebrations. Please let Fr Tony or Deacon Andrew know if you are able to help. Many hands make light work!

Walsingham Pilgrimage

If you would like to join the Annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Walsingham on 26.06.22, please contact June on 02089613332; or Cecil on 02084596880.

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.

Catholic Universe newspaper

The Catholic Universe delivers the news to you weekly, direct into your inbox. A quarterly subscription costs just £20. Would you like to subscribe, or give a subscription to someone who deserves one? To subscribe, or to purchase a subscription as a gift, simply phone Michelle on [0743 661 7650](tel:07436617650) or email sales@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Planned giving envelopes

Planned giving envelopes for the new financial year 2022-23 are ready for collection. They can be collected from one of the Finance Committee members at the back of the Church after mass on today. If you can remember your envelope Number, it will be helpful while collecting your envelope box. If anyone would like to contribute their offering through planned giving envelopes, please let us know. We can provide you with the new envelopes.

Train to Teach at Salvatorian College

Are you a graduate with a good degree and strong communication skills? Funded secondary teacher training opportunities are available at Salvatorian College from September 2022. Enjoy exceptional new facilities, a calm and orderly atmosphere, and polite, responsive students. Starting salaries of £30k+ available on qualification. Please send an

email to recruitment@salvatorian.harrow.sch.uk for more information.

Ukraine Support

CAFOD has launched Ukraine-Humanitarian-Appeal to transfer the funds directly to Caritas Ukraine and Poland. The link is below:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Ukraine-Humanitarian-Appeal>

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! We will initially trial this during the month of February, and will continue if we get a good response. 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. The first took place yesterday (2nd April) and the next will be on 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 is on 10th April (after the 10.00am Sunday Mass)

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!

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.

Lent Retreat for Young Adults (aged 18-30s) with the Assumption Sisters on **Saturday 2nd April 2022** in Kensington. Young people are invited for a day retreat (10.30am-6.30pm) to prepare for Holy Week and Easter, with talks, workshops, prayer, Stations of the Cross, time for confessions and mass. Venue: Milleret House, 23 Kensington Square W8 5HN. Donations only. **Register** by emailing: tramy@assumptionreligious.org

Message from Ms Halpin – Headteacher of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Nursery & Primary School – Admissions 2022-2023

I would like to extend a warm invite to all parents seeking a Nursery place for September 2022. We are a small, unique one form entry school hidden within an oasis of green trees and shrubbery. Our Nursery children are a delight, with happy smiling faces and a true zest for learning through play, exploring and being active. As play is one of the most important ways in which young children gain essential knowledge and skills we provide our children with engaging and challenging experiences through a balance of adult led activities and a well-resourced provision which allows children to initiate their own activities. For further information, or if you would like to come and visit our wonderful school, please contact our school office on 0208 961 5037. Please note that we currently have limited places available for this year's intake.

CHILDREN'S CORNER



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

E	T	N	M	E	D	N	O	C	T
Y	Y	I	Y	L	Q	O	F	E	H
T	A	R	A	U	H	I	S	D	R
H	D	W	E	S	H	T	A	E	O
G	N	O	A	T	O	S	A	T	W
U	U	M	D	N	L	E	S	E	O
A	O	A	I	A	Y	U	U	I	D
C	R	N	W	A	W	Q	D	Q	N
N	G	K	A	E	R	B	Y	A	D
E	N	O	T	S	T	S	R	I	F

DAYBREAK

WOMAN

CAUGHT

ADULTERY

LAW

CONDEMN

DEATH

STONING

TEST

GROUND

QUESTION

FIRST



QUOTE OF THE WEEK



“Holy Week is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with him is shown in times of difficulty”

Pope Francis

THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

Sunday 3rd April FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Isaiah 43:16-21 'See, I am doing a new deed, and I will give my chosen people drink'

Philippians 3:8-14 'I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ'

John 8:1-11 'Let the one among you who has not sinned be the first to throw a stone'

Monday 4th April

Daniel 13: 1-9,15-17,19-30,33-62 'Susannah and the elders'

John 8:12-20 'I am the light of the world'

Tuesday 5th April

Number 21:4-9 'If anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked up at the bronze serpent, and lived'

John 8:21-30 'When you have lifted up the Son of Man then you will know that I am He'



Wednesday 6th April

Daniel 3:14-20,24-25,28 'God has sent his angel to rescue his servants'

John 8:31-42 'If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed'

Thursday 7th April

Genesis 17:3-9 'Abraham, the father of a multitude of nations'

John 8:51-59 'Your father Abraham saw my Day and was glad'

Friday 8th April

Jeremiah 20:10-13 'He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men'

John 10:31-42 'They wanted to stone Jesus, but he eluded them'

Saturday 9th April

Ezekiel 37:21-28 'I will bring them home and make them one nation'

John 11:45-56 'Jesus was to die to gather together the scattered children of God'