



PRECIOUS WOUNDS BULLETIN

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

Mass Times: Saturdays 6 pm;
Sundays 10 am & 12:00 noon.
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
email stonebridge@rcdow.org.uk

Clergy: Father Tony Thomas
(tonythomas@rcdow.org.uk) and
Deacon Andrew Safo-Poku
School: Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School
www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk
Nigerian Friends meet Monthly on the 2nd Sunday of
the month at 1 pm
Ghanaian Association meet Monthly on the last
Sunday of the month at 1 pm
Filipino Association: Mass on the First Sunday of the
month at 3 pm
NeoCatechumenal Way: Wednesday evenings at
8.00pm and Saturday evenings at 8pm in the hall

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (22nd January 2023)

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 95: 1, 6
O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

First reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3
In days past the Lord humbled the land of
Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to
come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea
on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.
You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence

as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing the
spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor –
these you break as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial Psalm:
Psalm 26(27):1,4,13-14

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.

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,

for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple.

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: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ.' Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel Acclamation: cf.Mt4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom and cured all kinds of sickness among the people.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

Hearing that John had been arrested, Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

'Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,
Galilee of the nations!

The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light;
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death
a light has dawned.'

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him. Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 33: 6

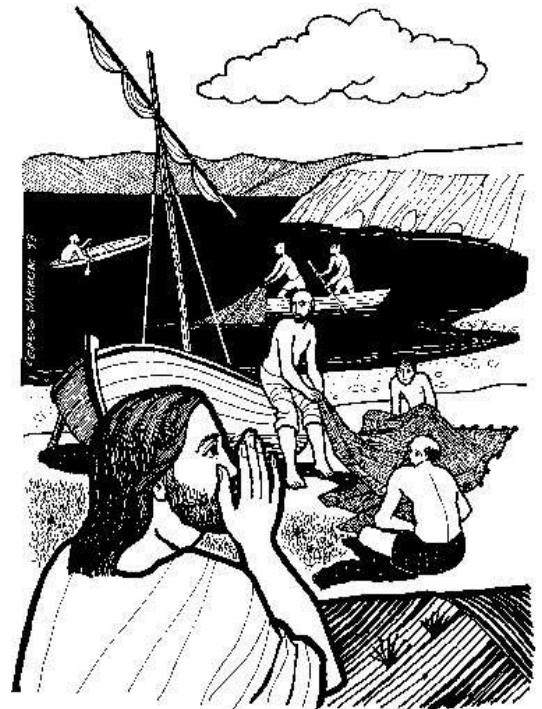
Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

This is the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Matthew first introduces us to Galilee, characteristically quoting the scriptures to show that they are being fulfilled, and in what way. Galilee is called 'Galilee of the gentiles' only in this passage, and the presence of gentiles was not a particularly notable feature of Galilee.

Archaeology shows that Jewish observance was strong in the region. Contemporary literature indicates that there was a lively tradition of prayerful charismatic rabbis with a warm devotion to the Lord. Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming the imminence of the Kingdom of God, and this will be the subject of all his activity. Then he begins to form the new Israel by calling his team together.

The Christian imagination tends to combine this scene with the scene of the Baptist in the Jordan Valley in the Gospel of John, which suggests that at least Peter and Andrew among the disciples had already some knowledge of Jesus. But today's narrative must be heard on its own, and the staggering factor is that this is the first time at any rate the sons of Zebedee have set eyes on Jesus. As he passes by, Jesus calls them, and such is the electrifying power of his charismatic personality that they simply drop everything and follow this total stranger – immediately, as the evangelist stresses each time.



Do I ever follow Jesus' call immediately and unconditionally?

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PARISH

This week's Mass intentions

Saturday 6.00pm - Frank Gilmore - RIP
Sunday 10.00am - People of the Parish
Sunday 12 Noon - Michael Cosgove - RIP
Tuesday 10.00am - Josemarie David Marshall -
Special Intentions
Wednesday 10.00am - Gregory Howard Marshall -
RIP Anniversary
Thursday 10.00am - Celina Parr - RIP
Friday 10.00am - Carlos Chuck Bismark - RIP
Saturday 6.00pm - Mary Ann & Patrick Flanagan -
RIP Anniversary
Sunday 10.00am - People of the Parish
Sunday 12 Noon - Francisco Quinones - RIP
Anniversary

Last week's collection

Planned giving £382.05 Loose plate £408.29. 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 making a donation.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

From the beginning of February, there will be an extra period of Adoration each week, between 5.00pm and 5.45pm on Saturdays. This is in addition to the Adoration which takes place after the 10.00am Mass on Fridays. All are welcome to come and worship Jesus present on our altar.

Open House There will be an Open House this Tuesday between 5pm and 6pm in the

presbytery, to see Fr .Tony briefly without an appointment.

The Alpha Course in Stonebridge

Fr Tony writes: As some of you know, I didn't grow up as a practising Christian, but came to faith when I took an Alpha Course 20 years ago. Alpha changed my life! It runs over several weeks and is a space where anyone – believers or non-believers alike – can come together to chat about faith, life and God in a friendly, open and informal setting. This week at Five Precious Wounds we have begun a trial Alpha Course with a small number of parishioners. In due course, all being well, I would love to run an Alpha to which the whole parish will be invited. Please do pray for God's blessing on this new initiative; that, through it, parishioners may have a deeper experience of the Father's love and a renewed friendship with Jesus Christ.

New parish noticeboard

Many thanks once again to the family of the late Jean Edinborough, who have donated our new parish noticeboard. It looks fantastic, and we are very grateful.

Baptism preparation classes

Parents wishing to have their children baptised should attend a class on one of the following dates: 7th February, 18th April, 6th June. Classes begin at 7.30pm and take place in the hall. Please let Fr Tony know if you would like to attend (tonythomas@rcdow.org.uk).

The Church calls Baptism '...the basis of the whole Christian life [and] the gateway to life in the Spirit' (CCC 1212). As a sign of the importance of this sacrament, parents who wish

to have their children baptised should be attending Mass on a weekly basis.

Congratulations to our newly baptised children

Congratulations to Melanie Silva Carmo, and Naryah Carmo Shettleworth, who were baptised here yesterday (Saturday 21st January). We are delighted to welcome you as the newest members of our parish!

First Holy Communion classes: The First Holy Communion classes will continue today 22nd January, and thereafter 29th January, 5th February, and 12th February, at 10.45am. Attendance at Mass is important at any time, but especially as we prepare our youngsters for their First Holy Communion. This year, we are asking parents of First Holy Communion children to sign a register of attendance at Sunday Mass. This will be available at the back of church during the 6.00pm (Saturday) and 10.00am and 12.00pm (Sunday) Masses. Please do sign this register; your presence at Mass with your child will be a great support to them at this important stage in their faith journey.

Confirmation 2023

Confirmation enrolment will take place early in the New Year, with the preparation classes and the celebration of the sacrament taking place in the Spring.

Second collection – White Flower Appeal

There will be second collection on the weekend of 4th /5th February on behalf of the SPUC White Flower appeal. SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable, and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GPs are concerned that the Government's "pills by post" scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to condemn this abhorrent tragedy. A speaker from

the charity will speak for a short while at the end of Masses. Please support this appeal as generously as you can.

Christmas Crib:

There is still time (until Candlemas on 2nd February) to visit the Christmas Crib, now with the arrival of the three Kings. Do please take the opportunity to look at our beautiful crib, and maybe for a moment before it, offer a prayer. All Crib offerings (donations) made will, as usual, be sent to the Catholic Children's Society, for their important work with children. Thank you for supporting the Society.

Thinking about becoming a Catholic?

If you are a non-Catholic thinking about exploring the Catholic faith - or if you are an adult who was baptised but never confirmed - then please consider joining our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) programme. The RCIA is an introduction to Catholic Christianity which can lead to the reception of the sacraments of Baptism and/or Confirmation. Fr Tony is hoping to start an RCIA programme in the autumn - please speak to him if you are interested.

Sick or housebound Please keep in your prayers our parishioners who are sick or housebound: Betty O'Reilly (Elizabeth), Eileen Dowd, Marcella Frawley.

Please give the names of any sick or housebound you would like mentioned in the newsletter to Fr Tony or Violet, our administrator.

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.

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.

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.

Tea and coffee after Mass

Please join us in the hall for refreshments after the 12.00pm Mass on Sundays and after all weekday Masses.

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.

School Information

Our Lady of Lourdes Nursery

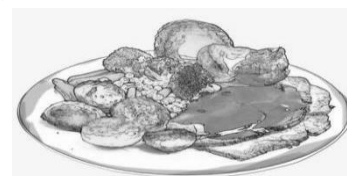
in the midst of a busy community, Our Lady of Lourdes is an oasis of calm that provides a fantastic learning environment for your child to develop. Our wonderfully spacious and colourful learning environment has the most up-to-date facilities to encourage your child's development. Our staff are highly qualified, dedicated and caring, with a wealth of experience in delivering early years education. We provide a free hot lunch for all full-time children. We offer fun packed activities across the week to develop skills and understanding through play.

SUNDAY LUNCH - 22ND JANUARY

Please join us today for our first social event of 2023! We are hosting a Sunday lunch in the hall after the 12.00pm Mass: a traditional roast followed by desert. Tickets are £15 per person (excluding wine) and there will, of course, be a raffle! You can reserve a ticket through the office or by calling

June on 0208 9613332.

Please come - all welcome!



CHILDREN'S CORNER



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

M	I	W	E	R	D	N	A	P	M
S	U	L	E	D	E	B	E	Z	E
E	J	A	M	E	S	T	N	E	U
E	A	E	N	I	E	H		B	A
D	E	E	A	R	O	J	H	U	N
E	M	L	R	J	E	N	A	L	R
B	S	I	M	O	N	P	I	U	E
E	I	L	A	T	H	P	A	N	P
Z	N	A	D	R	O	J	S	C	A
N	U	G	U	B	E	Z	I	N	C

GALILEE	CAPERNAUM	ZEBULUN
NAPHTALI	JORDAN	ISAIAH
SIMON	PETER	ANDREW
JAMES	ZEBEDEE	JOHN



QUOTE OF THE WEEK



The Conversion of Saint Paul

"This man is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites"

- Acts 9:15

THIS WEEK'S LITURGY

Sunday 22nd January 2023

Isaiah 8:23-9:3 'In Galilee of the nations the people has seen a great light'

1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17 'Make up the differences between you instead of disagreeing among yourselves'

Matthew 4:12-23 'He went and settled in Capernaum: in this way the prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled'

Monday 23rd January

Hebrews 9:15,24-28 'Christ offers himself only once to take on the faults of many'

Mark 3:22-30 'A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand'

Tuesday 24th January - Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor

Hebrews 10:1-10 'Christ's self-offering sanctifies us'

Mark 3:31-35 'Who are my mother and my brothers? Those that do the will of God'

Wednesday 25th January - The Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle

Acts 22:3-16 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?'

Mark 16:15-18 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News'

Thursday 26th January - Saint Timothy and Titus, Bishops

2 Timothy 1:1-8 'Fan into a flame the gift God gave you'

Mark 4:21-25 'A lamp is to be put on a lampstand. The amount you measure out is the amount you will be given'



Friday 27th January - Saint Angela Merici, Virgin

Hebrews 10:32-39 'We are the sort who keep faithful'

Mark 4:26-34 'The kingdom of God is a mustard seed growing into the biggest shrub of all'

Saturday 28th January - Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest

Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19 'Abraham looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God'

Mark 4:35-41 'Even the wind and the sea obey him'