

# FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS

## CATHOLIC CHURCH



**Parish Bulletin – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Welcome to everybody at Mass today and especially to anyone who is new or visiting. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week.**

### THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday 12th February</b> Saturday 6pm 10am 12pm	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b> Tim Sheehan RIP Carlos Villanueva Masbad RIP Medina Retz - Thanksgiving
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b> No Mass	
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b> 10am	<b>St Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop</b> John Armstrong RIP
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b> 10am	Eugene Devaney RIP
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b> 10am	Paula Ryan RIP
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b> 10am	<b>The 7 Holy Founders of Servite order</b> Ellen M Connor and John J Roache RIP
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b> Saturday 6pm 10am 12pm	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b> John Conneely RIP Vania and Myranda - Thanksgiving Iola Peter RIP Birthday

### PARISH SCHEDULE

#### Sunday Mass:

6pm Saturday (Said Mass), 10.00am (Sung Mass), 12pm (Mass with hymns)

#### Weekday Mass:

Tuesday – Friday 10.00am

#### Holy Days of Obligation:

10.00am and 7.00pm

#### Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday 10.35-11.20am and Saturday 5.00-5.45pm

#### Confessions:

Friday 10.35-11.20am and Saturday 5.15-5.45pm

#### NeoCatechumenal Way:

Wednesday evenings at 8.00pm and Saturday evenings at 8pm in the hall

#### Nigerian Friends:

Monthly on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 1.00 pm

#### Ghanaian Association:

Monthly on the last Sunday of the month at 1 pm

#### Filipino Association:

Mass on the First Sunday of the month at 3 pm

#### First Saturday Devotion – Rosary Group:

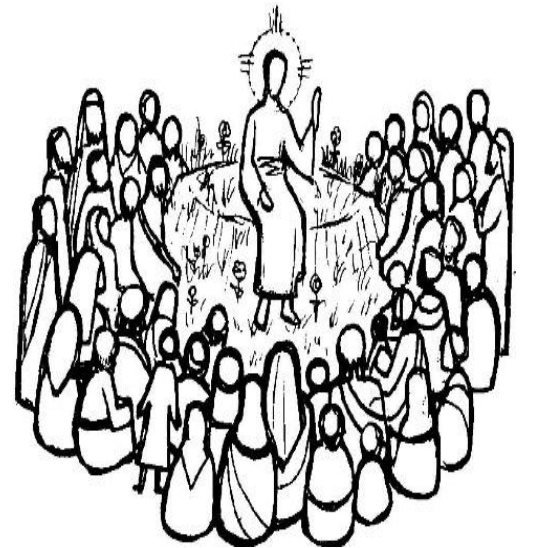
First Saturday of each month at 4.00pm in the parish hall.

#### Divine Mercy Devotion:

Third Saturday of each month at 3.00pm in the parish hall.

### GOSPEL REFLECTION

Jesus is the completion of the Law of God, given to Israel through Moses. He has come not to sweep it away but to perfect it. In this part of the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew has gathered together six instances (four this week, two next week) of the ways in which Jesus brings the Law to perfection. The first factor to notice, however, is that Jesus does not hesitate to adjust the divine Law on his own authority, for he too has divine authority. Each amendment begins with a statement of the Old Law and boldly goes on, 'But I say this to you...' . Each of the alterations has its own character. The first is about enmity, the sixth about love. About enmity, it is not enough merely to forego violent injury; we must even expel enmity from our hearts, positively seeking reconciliation, whether the offence is our fault or not. About lust, it is similarly not enough to forego acts of lust; we must not even harbour such thoughts in our hearts. About truth, it is not enough to keep a legal oath; we must be people whose every word can be relied upon. These are Jesus' demanding standards. **Have I allowed any enmity to fester? Can I solve it now?**



**Am I a person whose every word can be trusted as true?**

# TODAY’S MASS READINGS

**Entrance Antiphon:** Cf.Ps 30:3-4  
Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your  
name.

**First reading:** Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21  
If you wish, you can keep the  
commandments,  
to behave faithfully is within your power.  
He has set fire and water before you;  
put out your hand to whichever you  
prefer.  
Man has life and death before him;  
whichever a man likes better will be given  
him.  
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;  
he is almighty and all-seeing.  
His eyes are on those who fear him,  
he notes every action of man.  
He never commanded anyone to be godless,  
he has given no one permission to sin.

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
Psalm 118(119):1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34

They are happy who follow God’s law!

They are happy whose life is blameless,  
who follow God’s law!  
They are happy who do his will,  
seeking him with all their hearts.

They are happy who follow God’s law!

You have laid down your precepts  
to be obeyed with care.  
May my footsteps be firm  
to obey your statutes.

They are happy who follow God’s law!

Bless your servant and I shall live  
and obey your word.  
Open my eyes that I may see  
the wonders of your law.

They are happy who follow God’s law!

Teach me the demands of your statutes  
and I will keep them to the end.  
Train me to observe your law,  
to keep it with my heart.

They are happy who follow God’s law!

**Second reading:** 1 Corinthians 2:6-10  
We have a wisdom to offer those who have  
reached maturity: not a philosophy of our  
age, it is true, still less of the masters of our  
age, which are coming to their end. The  
hidden wisdom of God which we teach in  
our mysteries is the wisdom that God  
predestined to be for our glory before the  
ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the  
masters of this age have ever known, or  
they would not have crucified the Lord of  
Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the



things that no eye has seen and no ear has  
heard, things beyond the mind of man, all  
that God has prepared for those who love  
him.  
These are the very things that God has  
revealed to us through the Spirit, for the  
Spirit reaches the depths of everything,  
even the depths of God.

**Gospel Acclamation:** 1S3:9,Jn6:68  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 5:17-37  
Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Do not imagine  
that I have come to abolish the Law or the  
Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to  
complete them. I tell you solemnly, till  
heaven and earth disappear, not one dot,  
not one little stroke, shall disappear from  
the Law until its purpose is achieved.  
Therefore, the man who infringes even one  
of the least of these commandments and  
teaches others to do the same will be  
considered the least in the kingdom of  
heaven; but the man who keeps them and  
teaches them will be considered great in  
the kingdom of heaven.  
‘For I tell you, if your virtue goes no  
deeper than that of the scribes and  
Pharisees, you will never get into the  
kingdom of heaven.  
‘You have learnt how it was said to our  
ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone  
does kill he must answer for it before the  
court. But I say this to you: anyone who is  
angry with his brother will answer for it

before the court; if a man calls his brother  
“Fool” he will answer for it before the  
Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him  
“Renegade” he will answer for it in hell fire.  
So then, if you are bringing your offering to  
the altar and there remember that your  
brother has something against you, leave  
your offering there before the altar, go and  
be reconciled with your brother first, and  
then come back and present your offering.  
Come to terms with your opponent in good  
time while you are still on the way to the  
court with him, or he may hand you over to  
the judge and the judge to the officer, and  
you will be thrown into prison. I tell you  
solemnly, you will not get out till you have  
paid the last penny.  
‘You have learnt how it was said: You  
must not commit adultery. But I say this to  
you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he  
has already committed adultery with her in  
his heart. If your right eye should cause you  
to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it  
will do you less harm to lose one part of  
you than to have your whole body thrown  
into hell. And if your right hand should  
cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it  
away; for it will do you less harm to lose  
one part of you than to have your whole  
body go to hell.  
‘It has also been said: Anyone who  
divorces his wife must give her a writ of  
dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone  
who divorces his wife, except for the case  
of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and  
anyone who marries a divorced woman  
commits adultery.  
‘Again, you have learnt how it was said to  
our ancestors: You must not break your  
oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord.  
But I say this to you: do not swear at all,  
either by heaven, since that is God’s throne;  
or by the earth, since that is his footstool;  
or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the  
great king. Do not swear by your own head  
either, since you cannot turn a single hair  
white or black. All you need say is “Yes” if  
you mean yes, “No” if you mean no;  
anything more than this comes from the  
evil one.’

**Communion Antiphon:** Cf. Ps 77: 29-30  
They ate and had their fill,  
and what they craved the Lord gave them;  
they were not disappointed in what they  
craved.

# AROUND THE PARISH



## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving £517.50 Loose plate £303.75. 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.

## CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We now have 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.

## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday falls on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. There will be Masses with the imposition of ashes at 10.00am and 7.00pm.

## Palm crosses

If you have any palm crosses from last year, please do bring them back to the church. They will be burned and used for the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday. Many thanks.

## Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday during Lent, at 7.00pm, beginning on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February. (This will be preceded by our scripture study 'No Greater Love', at 6pm. See further details on back page).

## Church gardening

If any parishioners have gardening skills, and some time to offer to the parish, please speak to Fr Tony. We need some help maintaining the grounds around the church. Many thanks.

## Baptisms at Five Precious Wounds

Fr Tony writes: it is a great blessing that so many children are presented for baptism at Five Precious Wounds. 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. If they do not yet do this, they are asked to attend weekly Mass for three months before attending a baptism preparation class and setting a baptism date.

Application forms for baptism are available from the parish office and on our website

(<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stonebridge/wp-content/uploads/sites/102/2023/02/Baptism-Application-Form-2023-LATEST.docx.pdf>).

## PARISH SOCIAL EVENTS

We are delighted to share news of some forthcoming parish social events. Please put the following dates in your diary and know that all are welcome!

Sunday 7th May at 1pm - Bring and share lunch to celebrate the Coronation

Sunday 28th May at 1pm - Pentecost celebration with Filipino food

Sunday 13th August at 1pm - Annual parish festival and BBQ

Sunday 15th October at 1pm - Parish Sunday lunch

Sunday 17th December at 6pm - Parish carol concert and reception.

More information about each event will be published in due course.

## First Holy Communion classes

The First Holy Communion classes will continue today 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.

**Funeral Masses** of Late P Joseph Lawrence is on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 11:30am and Late Kathleen M Powers is on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February at 11am. Please pray for the repose of their souls. May they rest in peace.

## FAITH APPS FOR YOUR PHONE

Here are some great apps to help you develop your faith, which you may be interested in exploring:

Bible in one year • Hallow • Amen • Laudate • Universalis • The Catholic App



## Confirmation 2023

Our Confirmation preparation will take place in April and May, with the Sacrament of Confirmation being celebrated by Bishop John Sherrington in June. Please take an application form from the back of church (also available online at

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stonebridge/wp-content/uploads/sites/102/2023/02/Confirmation-Enrolment-Form-2023.docx.pdf>) and bring it to the enrolment meeting after the 12pm Mass on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.



# AROUND THE PARISH

## HOW TO CONTACT US

**Telephone:**  
0208 965 3313  
**Website:**  
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stonebridge>  
**Parish priest:**  
Fr Tony Thomas  
[tonythomas@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tonythomas@rcdow.org.uk)

**Permanent Deacon:**  
Rev. Andrew Safo Poku  
[andrewsafopoku@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:andrewsafopoku@rcdow.org.uk)  
**Parish administrator:**  
Violet D’Souza  
[stonebridge@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stonebridge@rcdow.org.uk)

**Safeguarding representative:**  
Janeen Nwosu  
[stonebridgesg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:stonebridgesg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
**Primary School**  
Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School  
[www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk](http://www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk)

The parish office is open from 10.30-2.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.  
There is an ‘Open House’ each Tuesday between 5.00pm and 6.00pm to see Fr Tony briefly without an appointment.  
The church shop (repository) is open after the 10.00am and 12.00pm Mass on Sundays.

## LENTEN SCRIPTURE STUDY – NO GREATER LOVE

During Lent, we will be running the scripture study, “No Greater Love”. Here’s what others have said about this course:

“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 the Mount of 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 as you draw closer to Jesus than you ever have before”.

No Greater Love will run for 5 weeks from Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 6pm, before Station of the Cross at 7pm.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

The Quote of the Week over the coming weeks will reflect the Church’s teaching on the importance of evangelisation.

“The command to the Twelve to go out and proclaim the Good News is also valid for all Christians, though in a different way...

the Good News of the kingdom which is coming and which has begun is meant for all people of all times. Those who have received the Good News and who have been gathered by it into the community of salvation can and must communicate and spread it”.

- Pope St Paul VI

## CHILDREN’S CORNER

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

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

ABOLISH    COMPLETE    PURPOSE  
KINGDOM    HEAVEN    VIRTUE  
ANCESTORS KILL    ANGRY  
ALTAR    THRONE    FOOTSTOOL



## TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASS

There are refreshments in the hall after the 12.00pm Mass on Sundays and after all weekday Masses.

Please join us for a friendly cuppa and chat!

## PRAYERS, PLEASE

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

**Pete Julien, Amar Atienza, 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.