

# FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS

# CATHOLIC CHURCH



**Parish Bulletin – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent – 26<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 26<sup>th</sup> February</b> Saturday 6pm 10am 12pm <b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b> No Mass <b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b> 10am <b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b> 10am <b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b> 10am <b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b> 10am <b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b> Saturday 6pm 10am 12pm	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> Ann Obi - RIP Anniversary Bhargava Family’s Intentions Ann Obi - RIP Anniversary <b>St Gregory of Narek, Abbot &amp; Doctor</b>   Annelie Shotwell Jacintho (B’d day Tnks) <b>St David, Bishop</b> Suzanne Marie - Thanksgiving  Kenneth Douglas Brown - Intentions  Michael Gary Marshall - Intentions <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> Donald Treacy - RIP People of the Parish Patrick Gunning - RIP Month’s mind
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## 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

By putting this scene at the beginning of Lent, the Church shows that it sees Lent as a period of testing. Matthew sees this period in the wilderness as the testing of God’s Son, just as the People of God (Israel – God’s son, whom he brought out of Egypt) was tested for forty years in the desert. We may also see it as the time when Jesus reflected on the mode of his mission. His mission was to bring the Kingship of God to a new realisation: how should he do this? The Tempter suggests false ways, which Jesus rejects one after another, each time using a word from scripture, the Word of God. He rejects the idea of the Messiah merely producing the luxury of the plenteous messianic banquet (stones into food). He rejects the idea of a startling personal miracle which none could gainsay (the leap from the Temple). He rejects the suggestion of entering into league with the Tempter’s own values of pride and dominion (rule over the world). At the same time Jesus shows himself to be the Second Moses, the founder of a new People of God: like Moses, he spends forty days and forty nights fasting; like Moses he is taken up onto a high mountain, from where he can see not merely all the territory of the Holy Land, but all the kingdoms of the earth.



What temptation do you find hardest to resist?

What helps you to resist temptation

# TODAY'S MASS READINGS

## Entrance Antiphon: Ps 90: 15-16

When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will deliver him and give him glory,  
I will grant him length of days.

## First reading: Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

Now the serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

## Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 50(51):3-6,12-14,17

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

My offences truly I know them;

my sin is always before me  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

## Second reading: Romans 5:12-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

## Gospel Acclamation: Mt4:4

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
Man does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth  
of God.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

## Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone  
but on every word that comes from the mouth  
of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,  
and they will support you on their hands  
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,  
and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

## Communion Antiphon: Mt 4: 4

One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes forth from the  
mouth of God.



### LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving £310.50 Loose plate £475.29. 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.

### 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





# AROUND THE PARISH

## 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 5:30pm in the presbytery, to see Fr Tony briefly without an appointment.

## 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. (From 3<sup>rd</sup> March 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>).

## First Holy Communion classes

The next children's classes are on Sundays 5<sup>th</sup> March, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 19<sup>th</sup> March and 26<sup>th</sup> March 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

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.

## 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.

**Novena to St. Joseph - Feast day 19<sup>th</sup> March.** The Mill Hill Missionaries encourage us to pray a Novena to St. Joseph from 10<sup>th</sup> March to 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

***'Lord Jesus, I desire to share in your mission to the poor and the marginalised. May Saint Joseph's example of gentle love and service inspire and guide me to protect the weak and vulnerable, to find meaning and value in my work, joy in my service of others; always humble and open to do your will. Strengthen my faith and trust in you, Lord God; help me to face life's difficulties; keep me serene and trusting at the hour of my death. St. Joseph: Pray for us.'***

## 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

You'll see our contactless giving machine on the right 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.

## CAFOD - Family Fast Day

CAFOD's Family Fast Day this Lent is on Friday 3 March 2023. By fasting on the day or by having a simple meal please donate to CAFOD. There will be a second collection on the weekend of 4/5<sup>th</sup> March after Mass. You can donate online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>. More information on the noticeboard.

**Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony: Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 2:30pm.** The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2020. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

## Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023

Funds raised by the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal this year will be shared between Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. The effects of the pandemic, followed by the cost of living crisis, are still making daily life harder for all. The Church continues to respond, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. And for those who can't give financially, your time is a priceless commodity - please see the posters on how you can volunteer in the diocese and help those in need. Please take a donation envelope, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

## Volunteering

This Lent, do you feel called to offer the gift of time? Please speak to the parish priest, contact the parish office or fill in the form on <https://www.caritasvs.org.uk/parish-volunteering.php> to find out how you can help in the parish. Thank you!

# 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.

## REPOSITORY - HELP PLEASE!

We are very grateful to Michelle Atayan who, as many of you know, has been running our repository (the shop at the back of our church) single-handedly for some time now. Many people value having this facility. However, for it to remain viable, we need more volunteers. If you think you can spare some time to help run the repository, please speak to Fr Tony or Deacon Andrew.

## 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 this 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 Third Millennium brings the urgent challenge of the new evangelization. True, it is not easy to proclaim the Gospel in a world which claims not to need God. Yet we are bound by the compelling words of St Paul: ‘Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel’

- Pope St John Paul II

## CHILDREN’S CORNER

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

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

WILDERNESS

TEMPTED

DEVIL

FASTED

FORTY

HUNGRY

STONES

LOAVES

ANGELS

FOOT

SATAN

WORSHIP



## 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, Walda Baptist.**

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