

FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Parish Bulletin – 2nd Sunday of Lent – 5th March 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

Sunday 5th March Saturday 6pm 10am 12pm Monday 6th March No Mass Tuesday 7th March 10am Wednesday 8th March 10am Thursday 9th March 10am Friday 10th March 10am Sunday 12th March Saturday 6pm 10am 12pm	2nd Sunday of Lent Donald Treacy - RIP People of the Parish Patrick Gunning - RIP Month’s mind Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs Chrissie Carr - RIP St John of God, Religious Peggy Clancy - RIP Anniversary St Frances of Rome, Religious Kim Foley - RIP Jack, Ellen, Michael & Patrick Queally RIP 3rd Sunday of Lent John Douglas - RIP People of the Parish Lorna Maire - 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

Each year on this second Sunday of Lent we read the account of the Transfiguration. It was the moment when the disciples were shown the divinity of Jesus on the Holy Mountain. The scene is reminiscent of Moses’ encounter with God on Sinai, when his face, too, shone like the sun. Moses and Elijah are present because they are the two Old Testament figures who experienced the presence of God on the Holy Mountain.



With his usual impetuous generosity Peter attempts to ‘freeze’ the moment. The public declaration of Jesus as God’s Son at the Baptism is repeated, but with the addition that Jesus is the authorized divine teacher; Matthew is alert to the implications for the Church of the presence of Christ as Teacher. The cloud is also a symbol of God’s presence, to which the human response can only be to fall to the ground in fear and reverence. The awesome moment of revelation cannot, however, last, and Jesus brings his disciples back to the dire realities before them with the reminder that his death must precede the revelation of his glory at the Resurrection. Until they have experienced the limitless generosity of his death, and the vindication by God of this love, they are not ready to spread the message of Jesus. What stands out for you in this account of the Transfiguration? How may it help you to deepen your own relationship with Christ?

What temptation do you find hardest to resist?
What helps you to resist temptation?

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 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 12:1-4

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.
All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 32(33):4-5,18-20,22

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as
we place all our hope in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as
we place all our hope in you.

The Lord looks on those who revere
him,

on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as
we place all our hope in you.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.

The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as
we place all our hope in you.

Second reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the
sake of the Good News, relying on
the power of God who has saved us
and called us to be holy – not
because of anything we ourselves
have done but for his own purpose
and by his own grace. This grace had
already been granted to us, in Christ
Jesus, before the beginning of time,
but it has only been revealed by the
Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus.
He abolished death, and he has
proclaimed life and immortality
through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 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: Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James
and his brother John and led them
up a high mountain where they
could be alone. There in their
presence he was transfigured: his
face shone like the sun and his
clothes became as white as the light.
Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared
to them; they were talking with him.
Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he
said 'it is wonderful for us to be here;
if you wish, I will make three tents
here, one for you, one for Moses and
one for Elijah.' He was still speaking
when suddenly a bright cloud
covered them with shadow, and
from the cloud there came a voice

which said, 'This is my Son, the
Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen
to him.' When they heard this the
disciples fell on their faces,
overcome with fear. But Jesus came
up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he
said 'do not be afraid.' And when
they raised their eyes they saw no
one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the
mountain Jesus gave them this order,
'Tell no one about the vision until
the Son of Man has risen from the
dead.'

Communion Antiphon: Mt 17:5

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

**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. This will be preceded by our scripture study 'No Greater Love', at 6pm. See further details on back page).

This Saturday (4th March) we welcome Fr Jonathon Stogdon, who will celebrate Mass for us. Fr Tony is away on Saturday helping to lead a retreat.

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 5th March, 12th March, 19th March and 26th 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 next Sunday, 12th 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 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.

'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 was on Friday 3 March 2023. There will be a second collection on the weekend of 4/5th 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 13th May 2023 at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (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

Permanent Deacon:
Rev. Andrew Safo Poku
andrewsafopoku@rcdow.org.uk
Parish administrator:
Violet D’Souza
stonebridge@rcdow.org.uk

Safeguarding representative:
Janeen Nwosu
stonebridgesg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Primary School
Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School
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, 3rd 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 Church always evangelizes and has never interrupted the path of evangelization. She celebrates the Eucharistic mystery every day, administers the sacraments, proclaims the word of life—the Word of God, and commits herself to the causes of justice and charity. And this evangelization bears fruit: It gives light and joy, it gives the path of life to many people; many others live, often unknowingly, of the light and the warmth that radiate from this permanent evangelization

- Pope Benedict XVI

CHILDREN’S CORNER

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

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

JESUS
JOHN
SUN
TENTS
PETER
MOUNTAIN
MOSES
CLOUD
JAMES
FACE
ELIJAH
SHADOW



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’Reily (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.