

FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Parish Bulletin – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary time – 10th September 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 10th September	
Saturday 6pm	Eugenio Tavares - RIP
10am	Simone Darroux - RIP
12pm	Jean Edinburgh - Birthday
Monday 11th September	
No Mass	
Tuesday 12th September	
10am	Pammela Carvalho - Thanksgiving
Wednesday 13th September	
10am	James Stacy - RIP Anniversary
Thursday 14th September	
10am	Eamon Keely - Get well intentions
Friday 15th September	
10am	Nora Ward - RIP Birthday
Sunday 17th September	
Saturday 6pm	Bridge Conway - RIP
10am	People of the Parish
12pm	Jimmy O’Brien - Get well Intention

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
- 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

The Church has had to be selective as we work through the Gospel of Matthew for this year’s readings. In this eighteenth chapter of Matthew on relationships within the community it is striking that the Church has chosen this passage to put before us. The first part is all about sorting out disputes and about forgiveness. Despite the presence of Christ in the Christian community there are going to be disagreements and misunderstandings in every church and every family. The vital thing is to sort them out and not to let them fester. So here we are given a safe process to do this. Just after today’s passage, Jesus underlines his teaching here when he says that we have to forgive not just seven times (the perfect number) but seventy-seven times. That means again and again and again, without limit. Christ also reminds us that he is present always in his community. The same promise is given at the beginning (the name Emmanuel means ‘God with us’) and at the end of the gospel (‘I am with you to the end of time’). Therefore the decisions of the community will be considered binding in the sight of God. It is especially striking that the same pledge (of binding and loosing) is made with the Church here as had earlier been made with Peter himself; Peter on his own exercises the authority of the Church. How may we best put this process of reconciliation described by Jesus into practice?



TODAY'S MASS READINGS

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 • The Catholic App • Universalis



Entrance Antiphon: Ps 118: 137, 124
You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9
The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.’

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9

O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts.’

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;

hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.

O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts.’

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us:
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts.’

O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.’

O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts.’

Second reading:
Romans 13:8-10
Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the

answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn17:17
Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord:
consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20
Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

‘I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

‘I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.’

Communion Antiphon:
Cf. Ps 41: 2-3
Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

AROUND THE PARISH



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving £406.50, loose plate £740.55. 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.

First Holy Communion enrolment

Enrolment forms for our 2023/24 First Holy Communion programme are now available at the back of church. Please bring the completed form, with a passport-photo of your child and a copy of their baptism certificate to the enrolment evening on Friday 13th October at 7.00pm. This programme is for baptised children in year 3 or above.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 23rd September 2023. The parishes of Kensal Rise, Stonebridge, Willesden and Willesden Green will be travelling to Walsingham for the day, along with many other parishes from the Diocese of Westminster. There are only 50 places available on the Pilgrimage, and these will be honoured on a first come, first served basis.

The cost per person is £30, which includes the coach to and from Walsingham, along with a £5 Pilgrimage Levy Fee for Walsingham. Please do bring appropriate clothing for walking, a picnic and water.

There will be two pick up/drop off points on the day. The first will be at 7:00am at either The Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise, NW10 3HT OR St Mary Magdalen's, Willesden Green, NW10 2DD. This will be confirmed once the coach has been filled, the Church with the most Pilgrims will be chosen as the pick up/drop off point. The second pick up/ drop off point will be at 7:30am from Our Lady of Willesden, NW10 9AX. Please go to transfigparishkensalrise.org.uk/Walsingham-pilgrimage-2023 to book your place, or take a booklet from the porch of the church.

NeoCatechumenal Way in Stonebridge

At the end of July, Bishop John Sherrington visited our parish to speak with members of the NeoCatechumenal Way in Stonebridge. Bishop John affirmed the fruits of the Five Precious Wounds NeoCatechumenal community, including the many ways in which members have contributed to wider parish life, whilst acknowledging that circumstances have changed since it was first established here. He reflected that it has become more difficult to sustain and grow the community according to its specific charism in the absence of a NeoCatechumenal parish priest, and that there is also a need to develop other forms of evangelisation and catechesis in the parish.

Bishop John said that he and Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, have been discerning the future of the community for some time and that the Cardinal has decided that the NeoCatechumenal community should stop meeting in Stonebridge. An invitation has been extended for members to join a community which meets at Ealing Abbey instead.

This is now a period of transition for members of the NeoCatechumenal community as they seek to chart a new way forward. Please do keep them in your prayers at this time. Thank you very much. Fr Tony.

A Day With Mary

There will be a 'Day with Mary' in Stonebridge on Saturday 7th October, from 10am until 5pm.

Alpha

Our parish Alpha course starts on Thursday 21st September at 6.30pm. See more details on the back page of this newsletter. Please join in our prayer for God's blessing on Alpha in Stonebridge:

Heavenly Father,
fill the hearts of our Alpha guests with the Holy Spirit,
so that each person may grow in friendship with Jesus,
and experience the depths of your love in their lives.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Transport to church

A wheelchair-bound parishioner needs help attending the 6pm Mass on Saturdays. Could you help by pushing him to church and back (about a 10-minute walk) from time to time? It would be a great blessing if so. Please let Fr Tony know if you are able to assist. Thank you.

Missio Red boxes

It is now time to empty your Missio Red Box. Please give to Eileen O'Brien or Fr Tony. Thank you for your generosity.

Good news about the repository

As you know, the repository (church shop) has been closed for some time while we looked for new volunteers to run it. A couple of generous volunteers have stepped forward and the repository will soon open again between the two Masses on the first Sunday of each month. Are you able to help in the repository so we can extend these opening hours even further? Please speak to Fr Tony or Deacon Andrew if you can.

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.

Baptism preparation

The next baptism preparation session, for parents wishing to have children baptised, will be on Tuesday 12th September at 7.30pm in the hall. Please email Fr Tony if you wish to attend. Parents wishing to have their children baptised should be attending Mass regularly. There will be another baptism preparation session on Tuesday 7th November.

Parish social events

Sunday 15th October at 1pm - Parish Sunday lunch. Tickets will soon be on sale at £15 per person. The lunch will have the theme 'A taste of the Caribbean'. There will be some wonderful Caribbean dishes to try, as well as some more traditional English fare too.

Friday 17th November from 7pm-9pm - Karaoke Night. Come along to the hall and sing some of your favourite songs! Entry £5 at the door.

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

Volunteers needed

We currently rely on a very small group of people to carry out the cleaning of the church. Could you spare an hour or so every couple of weeks to help out? If so please speak to Fr Tony or contact Violet in the office. Thank you.

Mass intentions

If you would like to book a Mass intention, please do so by phoning the parish during office hours, by taking a Mass intention envelope and putting it through the door of the presbytery, or by speaking to one of our stewards at the end of a Sunday Mass.

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.

AROUND THE PARISH

HOW TO CONTACT US

Address:
Brentfield Road, London, NW10 8ER
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 ALPHA COURSE

Fr Tony writes: the Alpha Course runs over eleven 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.
We will begin an Alpha course at Five Precious Wounds on **Thursday 21st September at 6.30pm**. All are welcome, though numbers are limited. For further information or to register for Alpha, see the the leaflets in the porch, or email stonebridgealpha@rcdow.org.uk. Please also 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.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“It is impossible to be saved without the help of the Most Blessed Virgin, because those who not saved by the justice of God are saved by the intercession of Mary”

Saint John Chrysostom
whose feast day falls this Wednesday

CHILDREN’S CORNER

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

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

BROTHER
WRONG
EVIDENCE
WITNESSES
SUSTAIN
COMMUNITY
PAGAN
BIND
TWO
EARTH
AGREE
NAME

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:
Anna Nicol, Kadeem Edwards, Amar Atienza, Betty O’Reily (Elizabeth), Eileen Dowd, Marcella Frawley, Valda Baptist, Omolara Ademuyiwa, Theophilus Ademuyiwa
Please give the names of any sick or housebound you would like mentioned in the newsletter to Fr Tony or Violet, our administrator.