

# FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS

# CATHOLIC CHURCH



**Parish Bulletin – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**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 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b> Saturday 6pm 10am 12pm	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b> Pat Kempel - RIP Lawrence and Pamela Arrison - RIP Albertha Plaza - RIP Anniversary
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b> No Mass	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b> 10am	Mary Frances Flanagan - Get Well
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January</b> 10am	Michael O’Brien - RIP
<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January</b> 10am	Mercy Tetley - RIP
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b> 10am	<b>St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot</b> Melanie Patricia Atienza - Birthday, Thanksgiving
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January</b> Saturday 6pm 10am 12pm	Maureen Barrett - Get well People of the Parish Jean Edinborough - RIP Anniversary

## 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 Wise Men, with their clever knowledge of astronomy and their lavish gifts, represent all that is best in worldly values. They also have a bit of magic about them, for frankincense and myrrh were used in spells, and the word for ‘wise men’ can also mean ‘magicians’. In this case, the Wise Men have real wisdom and its reward, and all the respect and fame due to a ‘magus’ and yet they lay it all at Jesus’ feet. It might be worth asking at this beginning of the year whether we submit all our skills and comforts to Jesus as the Wise Men did. The story also rests on the sharp contrast between King Herod and the Wise Men. Herod was a Jew, so he should have recognised and honoured the Jewish Messiah. Not at all! He tried to kill the Messiah. By contrast, the Wise Men, arriving from what for us would be the equivalent of outer space, carry on their search till they find Jesus and humbly bow before him. This poses a nasty question: we Christians have all the guidance and encouragement of the Church, but how often do we find those outside the Church, not even professed Christians, behaving in a more Christian way than we do ourselves!



**What skill, what gift may I place before Jesus today?**

# 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:**

Cf. Mal 3: 1; 1 Chr 29: 12  
Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;  
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

**First reading:**

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises  
and above you his glory appears.  
The nations come to your light  
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:  
all are assembling and coming towards you,  
your sons from far away  
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,  
your heart throbbing and full;  
since the riches of the sea will flow to you,  
the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,  
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;  
everyone in Sheba will come,  
bringing gold and incense  
and singing the praise of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,10-13

*All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.*

O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king’s son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement.

All nations shall fall prostrate before you,  
O Lord.

In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth’s bounds.

*All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.*

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts  
shall pay him tribute.  
The kings of Sheba and Seba  
shall bring him gifts.  
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,  
all nations shall serve him.

*All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.*

For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor.

*All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.*

**Second reading:** Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Mt2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!  
We saw his star as it rose  
and have come to do the Lord homage.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. ‘Where is the infant king of the Jews?’ they asked. ‘We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.’ When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ‘At Bethlehem in Judaea,’ they told him ‘for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.’

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. ‘Go and find out all about the child,’ he said ‘and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.’ Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

**Communion Antiphon** Cf. Mt 2: 2

We have seen his star in the East,  
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

# AROUND THE PARISH



## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving 507.00, loose plate £430.32. 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.

## Special collection

This weekend we will have a second collection for the relief for those suffering from the conflict in the Holy Land.

## This week

Fr Tony will be away this week on his post-Christmas break. We welcome Fr John McCarthy who will be celebrating Mass for us. **Please note there will be no Adoration and Confessions on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January.**

## Thank you

Fr Tony writes: we had a lovely celebration of Christmas here at Five Precious Wounds, with large numbers attending our Masses and a joyful atmosphere. Deacon Andrew and I would like to thank you for the many cards and gifts you have given us. We are very grateful for your kindness.

## Christmas Crib

Our Crib will remain in the church until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord ('Candlemas') on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Donations made at the Crib will be sent to the Catholic Children's Society.

## Youth group

Our youth group has good food, games, friendship, maybe a video if we have time (Alpha youth). All aged 13-18 are welcome. Our next one will be on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 6.30pm in the hall. Please bring along a completed parental consent form, which you can obtain through the office. All welcome!

## Confirmation

Last year, a small number of our young parishioners was Confirmed in a joint celebration with St Patrick's, Neasden. Due to the reduced numbers, Fr Patrick and I have decided we will celebrate Confirmations on alternate years for the time being, as many other parishes now do. So our next Confirmations will take place in Spring, 2025.

## NEW YEAR FUN!

### New Year Bring-and-Share Lunch

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January after the 12pm Mass we will be hosting a bring-and-share lunch to welcome (a little belatedly!) 2024. Please bring a plate of food to share with fellow parishioners. All welcome!

### Parish Grand Draw

We are launching another Grand Draw! Tickets will be £10 and the top prizes will be a Samsung tablet computer, a designer handbag for ladies, and a gents' watch. The draw will be made at the bring-and-share lunch on 28<sup>th</sup> January. All proceeds to parish funds.

Please look out for enrolment details in the autumn.

**Open House** There will be no Open House on Tuesdays until further notice. During this time, please call the office to make an appointment with Fr Tony. Many thanks for your understanding.

### Fr Tony writes:

I am grateful for the many prayers that have been offered for my mum, Lin, following her recent cancer diagnosis. She is now undergoing radiotherapy her treatment will continue until February. During this period, I will be away from the parish on Mondays and Tuesdays. Mass will take place on Tuesday mornings as usual.

### Alpha - the journey continues...

Recently we had a wonderful celebration to mark the end of our parish Alpha course. We are going to continue meeting as an Alpha family to connect with God and each other and be inspired to share Jesus with others. On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 6.30pm we will gather for food, worship music and begin watching the Prayer Course. All welcome - you don't need to have done Alpha to join us!

### Carer required

An older lady in our parish needs personal care in her home, which is close to the church. Professional training and accreditation is required. Overall hours to be negotiated, but will include 2 hours each morning. Salary to be discussed on application. If interested, please call Mark directly on 07974 630891.

### First Saturday Devotion

Each month the Filipino community will celebrate the First Saturday devotion to Our Lady at 4pm. This will be followed as normal by Adoration and

Confessions, and Mass at 6pm. Next celebration on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. All welcome.

### CAFOD Volunteers

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, inspiring our church to help build a better world or by visiting our local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the area? Could you support local volunteers or share your admin or people skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support is provided. See [cafod.org.uk/Volunteer](https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer) for more information or get in touch with [brozycka@cafod.org.uk](mailto:brozycka@cafod.org.uk) Or could you take part in The Big Lent Walk? [cafod.org.uk/walk](https://cafod.org.uk/walk)

### Baptism preparation

Please note that the next baptism preparation will no longer take place on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January but will be held on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm** instead.

### First Holy Communion 2023-24

The next First Holy Communion sessions take place on 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> January and 4<sup>th</sup> February at 10.45am in the parish centre. There will also be a parent's session at 7pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January. Parents should sign the Mass attendance register which will be at the back of church.

### Holy communion for the sick and housebound

Are you able to help with the important role of taking Holy Communion to the sick and housebound? Just one visit a month to someone at home can make a world of difference to them. If you can help, please speak to Fr Tony. You will receive training and be enrolled as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

### Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School & Nursery - Open Morning for 2024-2025 Intake – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Nestled 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, providing a happy and secure stepping-stone from which your child can progress. Our staff are highly qualified, dedicated and caring, with a wealth of experience in delivering early years education. The children are presented with a wide range of practical experiences intended to motivate, stimulate and challenge and which promote learning through experience and encouragement of independence in preparation for the next stage of their learning journey. We still have limited spaces in both settings for this academic year. To arrange a visit please contact the school office on 0208 961 5037.



# 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](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.

## PARISH GRAND DRAW

To raise funds for our parish, we are holding another Grand Draw. Tickets are on sale at £10 each. Please choose from the following prizes you can win:

- A Samsung Galaxy tablet computer
- An lady's designer handbag
- A Gamage men's sports watch

Tickets are available after Masses this Sunday and from the parish office during the week. The draw will be made at our parish bring-and-share lunch on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

Please take part and support our parish. Thank you!

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**Wages cannot be considered as a gift, because they are due to work, but God has given free grace to all men by the justification of faith**

St. Hilary, Bishop, Doctor  
whose feast day falls this Saturday

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

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

BETHLEHEM

EAST

INFANT

KING

STAR

HOMAGE

LEADER


DATE

CHILD

DELIGHT

GOLD

MYRRH



## 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:

**Lin Thomas, Kadeem Edwards, Amar Atienza, Betty O'Reily (Elizabeth), Eileen Dowd, Marcella Frawley, Valda Baptist, Omolara Ademuyiwa**

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