

FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Parish Bulletin – 3rd Sunday of Lent – 3rd March 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

Sunday 3rd March 2024	3rd Sunday of Lent
Saturday 6pm	People of the Parish
10am	Ann and Tom Devine - RIP
	Anniversary
12pm	Lorna Marie - RIP - Birthday
Monday 4th March	St Casimir
No Mass	
Tuesday 5th March	
10am	Emmanuel Aniuga and Michael Udeonu - RIP
Wednesday 6th March	
10am	Patrick Stokes and Gerald McDonagh - RIP
Thursday 7th March	St Perpetua and St Felicity
10am	
Friday 8th March	St John of God
10am	Medina Masbad - RIP
Sunday 10th March	4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)
Saturday 6pm	People of the Parish
10am	Anthony Wellington and Agnes Wellington - RIP
12pm	Lorna Marie - 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

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

According to John, this scene took place at the beginning of Jesus’ ministry, on the first of Jesus’ four visits to Jerusalem. At each subsequent visit the Temple authorities lay in wait for Jesus, increasingly keen to eliminate him, but unable to do so till his Hour had come. The other gospels place both this incident and all other scenes of Jesus in Jerusalem as the final climax of Jesus’ ministry. Whichever is correct, the incident is the basic cause of Jesus’ arrest and his tortured death. By his action Jesus had demonstrated that the worship carried out in the Temple had become vain in God’s eyes owing to its lack of integrity and must be superseded. To the Temple authorities this was intolerable, and he must be removed. Again, Jesus demanded a complete reversal of standards. His puzzling saying about building the Temple anew in his body was at last understood by his disciples after his resurrection when they realised it meant the Temple that was his Body, the Church. The material building which had been the centre of worship was no longer important. Henceforth all worship would take place in any place, but within the Christian community. The community - or the Church - was now the place of sanctification and of prayer to God.



What does it mean to think of the Church as Jesus’ Body? What does it mean to you to be a member of Christ’s Body, the Church?

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. Ps 24: 15-16
My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

First reading: Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words. He said, ‘I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
‘You shall have no gods except me.
‘You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father’s fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.
‘You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.
‘Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is

why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.
‘Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.
‘You shall not kill.
‘You shall not commit adultery.
‘You shall not steal.
‘You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
‘You shall not covet your neighbour’s house. You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.’

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 18(19):8-11
You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.

You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.

You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just.

You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb.

You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

Second reading:

1 Corinthians 1:22-25
While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn11:25, 26
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will never die.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel: John 2:13-25
Destroy this sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers’ coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, ‘Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father’s house into a market.’ Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, ‘What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?’ Jesus answered, ‘Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.’ The Jews replied, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?’ But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Communion Antiphon
The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

AROUND THE PARISH



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving 333.50, loose plate £435.60. 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.

Fr Tony will be on his Lenten retreat this week. We welcome Fr John McCarthy who will celebrate Masses for us from Tuesday to Friday. Please note there will be no Confessions during Adoration on Friday morning.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

The CAFOD Lent Fast Day took place on Friday, 23rd February. We will take a second collection this weekend. Donation envelopes are available at the back of church.

My Father's Father and Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will take place each Friday during Lent at 7.00pm. This is preceded by our Lenten video series 'My Father's Father', at 6pm in the hall.

Parish Vision Afternoon

Over the last few months there have been some new initiatives - Alpha, the Connect Group and our new youth club - aimed at deepening the culture of evangelisation and formation in our parish. I'd now love to have a discussion about the next steps we can take on this journey.

Today, 3rd March, after the 12pm Mass, we're going to have a Parish Vision Afternoon. It will consist of two talks - one about the missionary identity of the parish and a second presenting a vision for the future, followed by a discussion to gather thoughts and ideas about the next steps. Anyone involved in ministry in the parish - as catechists, readers, cleaners, members of the Alpha team, Eucharistic ministers, leaders of our national associations, finance committee members and so on - is welcome to attend. It will last a couple of hours and we will provide sandwiches and refreshments. Please come along and be part of this important discussion! God bless, Fr Tony.

Holy Week service times

There is a leaflet at the back of church with details of Holy Week service and confession times. Please take one home with you.

Marcella Mary Frawley - RIP

The funeral of the late Marcella Mary Frawley will take place on Thursday 14th March at 11.00am. *May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Planned Giving Boxes:

We have begun preparing the new boxes which will start 7 April 2024. Please let the office know as soon as possible if you wish to transfer to a Standing Order or have changed your address or if you no longer want a box of envelopes for your offerings. Also, please let us

know if you are currently registered for Gift Aid but your circumstance mean you are no longer eligible.

Thanks from Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals would like to thank everyone in the parish for their wonderful generosity when we visited last weekend. Donations totalling £528.87 will enable Mary's Meals to feed 27 children one good meal every school day for a whole year. Thank you so much for your support, please continue to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. God bless you all.

Connect Group

The Connect group is for anyone who's done Alpha (and all those who are curious) to come together once a month to connect with each other and with God. We'll follow the same format as Alpha: food and social time, praise and worship music, video input and small group discussion.

To begin with, our input will be from The Prayer Course (<https://prayercourse.org/sessions/>). Our next Connect group will be on Thursday 14th March at 6.30pm, when we'll be exploring the significance of the prayer of petition.



My Father's Father

Join Fr. Dave Pivonka on this 6-part video series as he journeys home to reflect on the urgent need to know God as a Father.

We will be showing this powerful series every Friday during Lent, at 6pm in the hall, prior to Stations of the Cross at 7pm.

Alpha

Our next Alpha season will take place after Easter. Please look out for more information in due course!

FPW Youth Group

Our new Youth Group had a great meeting again this week. We are now going to meet on the first Friday of each month at 6.30pm for food, music and Youth Alpha. It's open to anyone between the ages of 13 and 18. Please join us! Next meeting on Friday 5th April.

Novena to St. Joseph - Feast day 19th March. The national Novena to St. Joseph takes place from 10th March to 18th March 2024.

St Joseph teach us to discover our own unique roles in furthering God's plan of loving action and compassion for the world. 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.'

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony: Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 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 2024

If you can, please show your support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of our services, such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for and with some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. So, please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

Candle sales

Due to cost increases, the price at which we sell candles no longer reflects what the parish pays for them. In fact, we now make a loss on each candle sold. Regrettably, this means that from the beginning of February, we have raised the price of our candles as follows:

Tea lights - 25p (remains the same);

24-hour votive lights - £1.50; Pillar candles - £2.50

If parishioners wish to purchase whole boxes of candles, we are very happy to order them from our suppliers.

However, we currently make a substantial loss on these so in future we will have to charge the following prices, as follows:

Box of 96, 24-hour votive lights - £90

Box of 24 pillar candles - £40.

Thank you for your understanding.

Open House

There will be NO Open House this week. The next opportunity to see Fr Tony without an appointment (for form signings etc). will be on Tuesday 12th March between 5pm and 6pm.

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 2nd March. All welcome.

Baptism preparation

Please note that the next baptism preparation session will be held on Tuesday 9th April at 7pm.

First Holy Communion 2023-24

The next First Holy Communion sessions take place today, 3rd, 10th and 17th March at 10.45am in the parish centre. First Confessions will take place on Saturday 16th March at 11am. Parents should continue to sign the Mass attendance register which will be at the back of church.

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.

FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Post-Alpha CONNECT GROUP

Next meeting **Thursday 14th March at 6.30pm**

Please join us on 14th March to explore the prayer of petition: the significance of asking God in prayer.

The Connect group is for anyone who's done Alpha (and all those who are curious) to come together once a month to connect with each other and with God. We'll follow the same format as Alpha: food and social time, praise and worship music, video input and small group discussion.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**"I plead with you!
Never, ever give up on
hope, never doubt, never
tire, and never become
discouraged.
Be not afraid."**


- St. John Paul II -

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

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

JERUSALEM PASSOVER PIGEONS
WHIP MARKET SANCTUARY
ZEAL BODY COINS
SHEEP MONEY HOUSE



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, Camilla Rowe, 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.