CATHOLIC PARISH OF NEASDEN & STONEBRIDGE

Churches of the Five Precious Wounds, Stonebridge and St Patrick's, Neasden

Parish Bulletin
Sunday 6th September

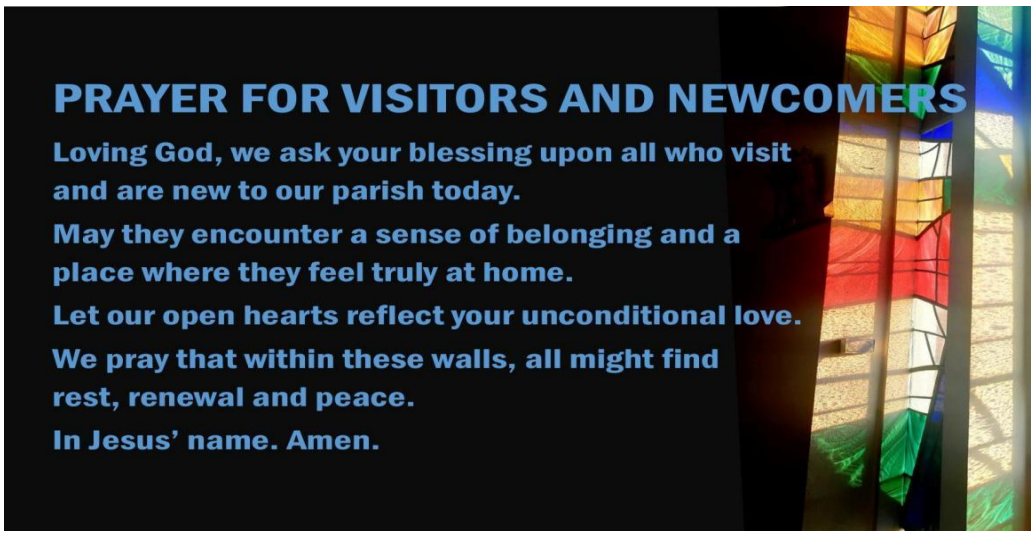


PARISH SCHEDULE

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:
Wednesday 10.30-1100am, 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 1pm
Ghanaian Association:
Monthly on the last Sunday of the month at 1pm
Filipino Association:
Mass on the First Sunday of the month at 3pm

First Saturday Devotion – Rosary Group:
First Saturday of each month at 4.00pm



THIS WEEK

Sunday 13th September 2026	**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 6pm	Betty Hehir, John (Jack) Hehir and Ester Hehir - RIP Anniversary
10am	Philomena Mc Millan - RIP
12pm	Ann Obi - RIP
Monday 14th September	**The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
No Mass	
Tuesday 15th September	**Our Lady of Sorrows**
10am	Mercy Ashong – Thanksgiving
Wednesday 16th September	**Saints Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**
10am	Bernard Bridget and Maria Rose – Intentions
Thursday 17th September	**St. Robert Bellarmine or St. Hildegard of Bingen**
10am	Denzil Wellington - Thanksgiving
Friday 18th September	
10am	Piedade Castanha – RIP
Sunday 20th September	**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 6pm	People of the Parish
10am	Ernest Agyeman - Thanksgiving
12pm	Dexter - Intentions

GOSPEL REFLECTION

This is a favourite theme of Matthew, continuing and concluding Jesus' teaching that forgiveness is the life's-blood of any Christian community. We cannot live together without upsetting one another, unwittingly, or even deliberately. So forgiveness is the vital step. So important is this matter of forgiveness that two consecutive Sunday gospels are devoted to it. It expands and stresses our petition in the Lord's Prayer, 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive others.' The importance of this petition was already underlined by Matthew; it is the only petition of the Lord's Prayer to which he adds at the end a confirmatory saying of Jesus. Like so many of Matthew's parables, this one about a king and his servants revolves round contrasting characters, the 'goodie' and the 'baddie' (wedding-guests and guest without a wedding-garment; the two who use their talents and the one who hides it; the girls with and without oil for their lamps; the sheep and the goats; and here, the generous king and the ungenerous servant). There is also a contrast between the two sums of money which is deliberately fantastic: the first slave owes the equivalent of millions of dollars, a sum no private person could ever repay, let alone a slave; it is more than a year's tax for a whole province. The second owes the couple of months' wages of a casual labourer.

Is there anyone you cannot forgive? Do you start the forgiveness-process, or wait for the other party? What is the best way to show forgiveness?

Our dream is to be a place of belonging, purpose and transformation, where people are ignited by God's love to follow Jesus and share his love with others.

TODAY'S MASS READINGS

FAITH APPS FOR YOUR PHONE

Here are some great Catholic apps, which you may be interested in exploring. **Start with a resolution to learn more about Scripture and our Catholic faith:**

Bible in one year • Hallow • Amen • Laudate • The Catholic App • Universalis



Entrance Antiphon
Cf. Sir 36: 18
Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel

First reading :
Sirach 27:30-28:7
Anger and wrath, these are abominations,
and the sinful man will hold them fast.
The one who seeks vengeance will be paid vengeance from the Lord,
and he who keeps a record will have his own sins recorded.
Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done,
and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.
Does one person harbour anger against another
and yet seek for healing from the Lord?
Does he have no mercy towards someone like himself
and yet pray concerning his own sins?
If he himself, being flesh, maintains wrath,
who will make atonement for his sins?
Remember the end of your life and cease from enmity,
remember destruction and death
and be true to the commandments.
Remember the commandments
and do not be angry with your neighbour;
remember the covenant of the Most High
and overlook error.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 103(102):1-2. 3-4. 9-10. 11-12. ℟8

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all within me, his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

It is the Lord who forgives all your sins,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with mercy and compassion.

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

He will not always find fault;
nor persist in his anger for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our faults.

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so strong his mercy for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far from us does he remove our transgressions.

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Second reading:
Romans 14:7-9

Brothers and Sisters:
None of us lives to himself,
and none of us dies to himself.
For if we live, we live to the Lord,
and if we die, we die to the Lord.
So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
For to this end Christ died and lived again,
that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Gospel Acclamation
John 13:34
Alleluia, alleluia.
A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.
Alleluia.

Gospel:
Matthew 18:21-35

At that time:
Peter came up and said to Jesus,
'Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him?
As many as seven times?'
Jesus said to him,
'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

'Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, our sanctuary lamp will burn for the Intentions of Charity Ufomba and her journey mercy. May God hear her prayers .



If you would like to sponsor the sanctuary lamp for a week, in remembrance of a departed loved one or in thanksgiving for a particular blessing, please contact the parish office.

who wished to settle accounts with his servants.
When he began to settle,
one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.
And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold,
with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.
So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything."
And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out,
he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii,
and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, "Pay what you owe." So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him,
"Have patience with me, and I will pay you." He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.
When his fellow servants saw what had taken place they were greatly distressed,
and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place.
Then his master summoned him and said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.
And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?"
And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.
So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.'

Communion Antiphon
Cf. Ps 35:8
How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings

AROUND THE PARISH

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving £587.30; loose plate £400.07. 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.



Dear Brothers and Sisters.

This week my Letter of my Appointment to the Parish of Neasden and Stonebridge finally arrived. On Wednesday I celebrated Mass in the Church of the Five Precious Wounds for the first time as Parish Priest, and as Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School gathered for the beginning of the academic year. No one could have expected a few short weeks ago that we would be holding the El-Khawas family, 4 members of whom died in the tragic accident at Shoreham Harbour recently, to pray for the repose of their souls and the comforting of the 2 remaining children, and also for all in the community mourning their loss. We pray for peace, comfort and light.

Again this week I have been dealing with administrative and pastoral matters, and trying to see opportunities for a greater working together, where possible, across the 2 parishes; and also, coming to terms with an extra set of keys!

Confirmation Registration for both parishes closes this weekend. Please check the Newsletters for dates of Preparation Sessions to be advertised.

First Holy Communion Registration for the Shrine Parish Closes this weekend. For Five Precious Wounds Parish; Application Forms are available from the back of church this weekend, and must be returned by the 11th October. This coming week Fr William will be visiting Our Lady of Lourdes School, and speaking about First Holy Communion preparation.

Adult Preparation for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, Reception into the Church. Next Meeting: Tuesday 22nd September 7pm Willesden Presbytery.



Sunday 20th September 1.00pm
INTERNATIONAL LUNCH
Sunday 29th November from 10.00am
ADVENT FAIR

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham Saturday 19th September. There are still a few places available on the Coach. £30 per person including the Pilgrim Levy for the Walsingham Shrine. The coach will leave the Shrine at 7am, and Five Precious Wounds at 7.15am.

Secondary Entrance 2027, & the Signing of Certificates of Catholic Practice. Applications for Secondary Entrance has to be made to the Local Authority by the 31st October 2026. Many Catholic Schools require a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) to be submitted as part of their admissions arrangements. For a priest to sign the CCP he has to be confident that the family have attended Mass weekly for the past 5 years (This is a statutory definition established in Law, not one imposed by the Church). I have made the following arrangements for the Signing of CCP's:

Tuesday 6th October, Stonebridge Presbytery, 4-6.30pm

Wednesday 7th October, Willesden Presbytery, 4-6.30pm
Please sign up for an interview on the list at the back of either church. As I have only just become Parish Priest of Stonebridge, Charles will be present at these interviews to assist me.

Baptisms Please note that from October Baptisms will be celebrated on (usually) the 3rd Weekend of the month at any of the masses for Sunday. (In Advent on Gaudete Sunday, and Lent on Laetare/Mothering Sunday).

Please continue to pray for Fr William and I as we find our way forward in this new Pairing of our Parishes.

Blessings. Fr Stephen.

Wedding enquiries are already being made for 2027, so I take the opportunity to remind you that the Church requires at least 6 months notice so that all necessary paperwork is completed. Please note that reception venues, flights, honeymoons etc. should not be booked before you have a confirmed date in the Parish Diary.

CATECHISTS: We need some more in both parishes Particularly for Baptism Preparation, and for Confirmation. Please see Fr Stephen, or Charles (Stonebridge) of Doreen (Shrine).

Parish social - International Lunch – next Sunday
Our next parish social event will be an international lunch on Sunday 20th September, after the 12pm Mass. This will be a bring-and-share event, so please do bring a dish of international cuisine to share with your fellow parishioners. All welcome!

Youth Group
Our Youth Group meets on the first Friday of each month at 6.30pm for food, music, and Youth Alpha. **Soon there will also be a new table tennis table!** It's open to anyone between the ages of 13 and 18. The next meeting will be on Friday, Friday, 2nd October (after a brief summer break). Please join us!

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 and learn more about our Faith. **Deacon Andrew will lead the next meeting on Thursday 1st October. We will continue series of films about finding stillness and silence, called 'Be Still'.**

Parish Registration
Each week, we send our newsletter to parishioners via email. We also occasionally send urgent information. If you do not receive these emails but would like to, please complete a parish registration form, which is available at the back of church

Sanctuary Lamp Sponsorship
We are adopting a tradition from other parishes by offering the chance to sponsor the sanctuary lamp—the candle beside the tabernacle—in memory of a departed loved one. This will be available weekly, with the name of your loved one printed in the newsletter so others may pray for them. A suggested donation of £10 applies. To sponsor the lamp, please contact the parish office.

Book of Remembrance
A Book of Remembrance will be placed at the back of the church. You are invited to write the name of your loved one on the anniversary of their death. These names will be remembered collectively during the Sunday bidding prayers.

AROUND THE PARISH

HOW TO CONTACT US

Main office address:
Brentfield Road, London, NW10 8ER
Main telephone:
0208 965 3313
Website:
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stonebridge
Parish Email:
stonebridge@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Clergy:
Fr Stephen Willis - Parish Priest
Fr William Johnstone - Asst. Priest
Permanent Deacon:
Rev. Andrew Safo Poku
andrewsafopoku@rcdow.org.uk
Parish administrator
Violet D'Souza

Safeguarding representative:
Norbert Da Cruz
stonebridgesg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Primary School:
Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School
www.lourdes.brent.sch.uk
SVP Helpline:
(Offering friendship and practical support to those in need) 07754 198901

The parish office at Stonebridge is open from 10.30-2.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
For the Neasden office, please email neasden@rcdow.org.uk
There is an 'Open House' each Tuesday between 5.00pm and 6.00pm to see Fr Tony briefly without an appointment.



Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" Matthew 18:21 (NLT)

Based on Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)



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

MANY	SINS	PETER	FORGIVE
SEVEN	TIMES	JESUS	TIMES
ASKED	BROTHER	LORD	HOW

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Put Christ first, because He put us first, and let nothing deter us from loving Him"

- St. Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop
Whose memorial day falls this Wednesday

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:

Cecil Marie, Ann Roach, Nubia De La Pava, Fanny Rendon De La Pava, Zayda Nwosu, June Sweeney, Florence Duverney, John Marie, Elizabeth Bagnall, Deacon Andrew, Lin Thomas, Eileen O'Brien, Kadeem Edwards, Amar Atienza, Eileen Dowd, Camilla Rowe, Valda Baptist

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