CATHOLIC PARISH OF NEASDEN & STONEBRIDGE

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

Parish Bulletin
Sunday 20th September

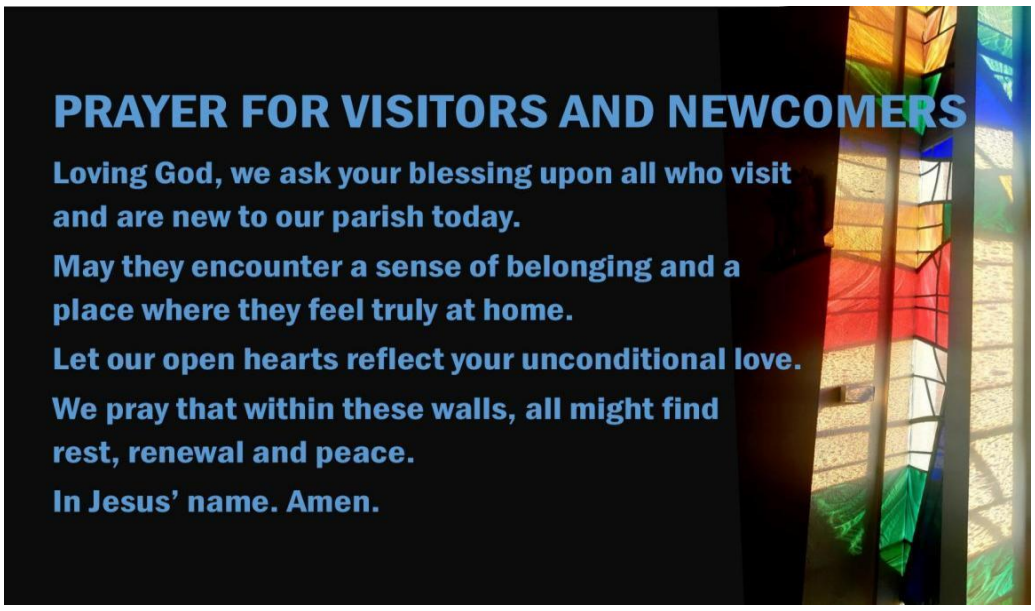


PARISH SCHEDULE

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 20th September 2026	**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 6pm	People of the Parish
10am	Ernest Agyeman - Thanksgiving
12pm	Dexter - Intentions
Monday 21st September	**St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist**
No Mass	
Tuesday 22nd September	
10am	Intentions for all the Catholic Priests throughout the world
Wednesday 23rd September	**St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), Priest**
10am	Jose Ferndes – RIP
Thursday 24th September	**Our Lady of Walsingham - Feast**
10am	All the poor souls in the Purgotory
Friday 25th September	
10am	Denise Flannery – RIP
Sunday 27th September	**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 6pm	Ned Mongan – RIP
10am	Arlene Gonzales – Birthday – Thanksgiving
12pm	People of the Parish

GOSPEL REFLECTION

It is hard not to sympathize with the workers who have sweated it out right through the day in the hot sun. The idlers who have hardly got earth on their spades or grease on their hands get a great bonus and I get no bonus at all! Is this fair? No. God is not fair. You can't apply the concept of "fairness" to God at all. We can't enter into a reckoning with God. God does not calculate as we do. In the terms of this world, this is obvious enough. The wicked do prosper, while honesty and high moral standards, instead of being rewarded are often simply mocked. Can we go deeper and say that the reward is in heaven? This hardly fits with the way Jesus worked here on earth. He did not reward the virtuous. He said he was the doctor who had come to the sick. His favourites were the worst of society, tax collectors and prostitutes, not even amiable rascals. Heaven was open to anyone who accepted him. It is no good looking for fairness in God, for this implies that we deserve something. We cannot claim to 'deserve' anything; we are simply called into a loving relationship and to put our trust in Jesus.

What does this Sunday's Gospel say about the generosity of God?

When have you experienced God's generosity, his kindness and forgiveness in your own life?

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
I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

First reading :
Isaiah 55:6-9
Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 145(144):2-3. 8-9. 17-18. ℟18a

The LORD is close to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
The LORD is great and highly to be praised;
his greatness cannot be measured.

The LORD is close to all who call him.

The LORD is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the LORD to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The LORD is close to all who call him.
The LORD is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The LORD is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.

The LORD is close to all who call him.

Second reading:
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Brothers and Sisters:
Christ will be honoured in my body,
whether by life or by death.
For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me.
Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.
I am hard pressed between the two.
My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.
But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.
Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation
Cf. Acts 16:14b
Alleluia, alleluia.
Open our hearts, O Lord,
that we may pay attention to the words of your Son.
Alleluia.

Gospel:
Matthew 20:1-16
At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, "You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you." So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same.
And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, our sanctuary lamp will burn in remembrance of Victoria Enchia. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.



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.

And he said to them, "Why do you stand here idle all day?"
They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You go into the vineyard too." 'And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first." And when those hired about the eleventh hour came,
each of them received a denarius.
Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more,
but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house,
saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me?
Or do you begrudge my generosity?"
So the last will be first, and the first last.'

Communion Antiphon
Ps 118: 4-5
You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

AROUND THE PARISH

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving £716.25; loose plate £356.84. 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.



APOLOGIES!. During last week a new Internet provider connected their service to the Presbytery. Unfortunately, whilst the Internet system is working, the Phone system is not currently operating. Please bear with us until the phone system is restored. You can Email us, or turn up in Office opening hours. Thankyou!

Evangelii Gaudium Appeal – Next Sunday
Next weekend there will be a second collection for our Home Mission Sunday to celebrate our faith in England and Wales. The theme for this year is "Magnifica Humanitas" as the heart of mission. This collection is to support the work carried out by the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate. Please give as generously as you can, and pray for their mission.

Confirmation Registration for both parishes is now closed. Please keep your eyes on the Newsletters for dates of Preparation Sessions to be advertised.

First Holy Communion Registration For Five Precious Wounds Parish; Application Forms are available from the back of church. Please return by the 11th October.

Adult Preparation for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, Reception into the Church. For both paired parishes: Next Meeting: Tuesday 22nd September 7pm Willesden Presbytery, 1 Nicoll Road NW10-9AX

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.

Primary Entrance Applications have to be submitted by the 15th January 2027. Arrangements for the Signing of the CCP for Primary School Applications will be advertised in the Newsletter later in the year.

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).

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) or 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'.**



Sunday 20th September 1.00pm
INTERNATIONAL LUNCH - Today

Sunday 29th November from 1pm
ADVENT FAIR

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.

WEEKEND MASS PROVISION FROM 3/4TH OCTOBER 2026

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	SERVICE	
SATURDAY	5PM	FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS	ANTICIPATED MASS OF SUNDAY	Simple said.
SATURDAY	6.30PM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	ANTICIPATED MASS OF SUNDAY	Simple said
SUNDAY	8.45AM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	MASS	Simple said
SUNDAY	10.30AM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	SOLEMN MASS	Choir and Cantor
SUNDAY	12 NOON	FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS	SUNG MASS	Choir/ Filipino Choir
SUNDAY	5.30PM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS -DIOCESAN PROVISION	Usually Low Mass

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE
(When both priests are available).

DAY	TIME	PLACE		TIME	PLACE	
MONDAY	12.30PM	FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS	Parish Surgery 1.15pm	7PM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	
TUESDAY	10AM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	Exposition until evening Mass.	7PM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	Confessions 6.15pm
WEDNESDAY	10AM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN		7PM	FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS	Parish Surgery 5-6pm Confessions 6.15pm
THURSDAY	10AM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	Bible Study	7PM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	
FRIDAY	10AM	FIVE PRECIOUS WOUNDS	Followed by Stations in Lent	7PM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	Followed by Stations in Lent
SATURDAY	10AM	SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN	Exposition until evening Mass.			

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Prayer is the best weapon we possess, the key that opens the heart of God"

- St. Padre Pio
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.