CATHOLIC PARISH OF NEASDEN & STONEBRIDGE

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

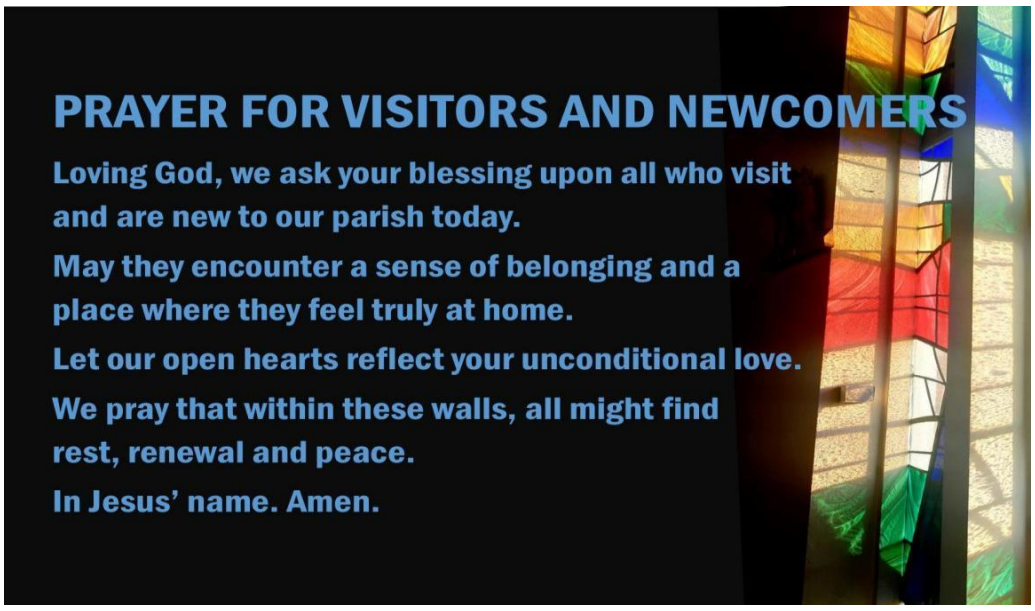
Parish Bulletin
Sunday 4th October 2026



PARISH SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass:
5pm Saturday (Said Mass),
Sunday 12 noon (Sung Mass),
Weekday Mass:
Monday 12:30pm ; Wednesday : 7pm and Friday : 10am
Holy Days of Obligation: As announced
Eucharistic Adoration:
Wednesday 6-6:50pm; Friday 10.35-11.20am and Saturday 4.00-4.45pm

Confessions:
Friday 10.35-11.20am and
Saturday 4.15-4.45pm
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 4th October 2026	**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 6pm	Peter and Kem Adenaike – RIP
12pm	Cecil Marie – Birthday - Thanksgiving
Monday 5th October	**Saint Faustina Kowalska**
12:30pm	Jamal Sherman – RIP
Tuesday 6th October	**Saint Bruno, Priest**
No Mass	
Wednesday 7th October	**Our Lady of the Rosary**
7pm	Mary Ampah – 80th Birthday – Thanksgiving
Thursday 8th October	
No Mass	
Friday 9th October	**Saint John Henry Newman, Priest**
10am	Mary Cecilia Ampah – Birthday – Thanksgiving
Sunday 11th October	**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 5pm	Edmond Awuku – RIP
12pm	Agnelo Caiado

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Jesus' understanding of the sovereignty of God brought him violent opposition from some of the Jewish leaders. Were they corrupt, or just closed to any new way of thinking, so closed that they could not see that Jesus was the promised Messiah? Anyway, Jesus used this story about the tenants of a vineyard to show that the religious authorities were not leading the people as they should. Everyone would immediately understand the image of the vineyard. The prophet Isaiah had used this image in a well-known poem eight centuries earlier to show that the vineyard of Israel refused to yield a good harvest to God, whatever care God lavished on it. God expected fairness of judgment from the people and all he found was a shriek of agony (the same word is used in Hebrew for 'fair judgment' and for 'shriek' apart from one letter). What does this mean for us? Not that we have to follow every new idea. But it does mean that we must be open to the idea that we may be wrong, that our service of the Lord may be faulty, that people we find tiresome or unacceptable may have more good in them than we credited. God's ways are not our ways. Life may not be mapped out how we think, so we need to watch out for the bend in the road.

What is God asking of you?

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. Est 4: 17
Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

First reading :
Isaiah 5:1-7
Let me sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it?
When I looked for it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and briers and thorns shall grow up;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 80(79):9, 12. 13-14. 15-16. 19-20. ℟ Isaiah 5:7a
The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.
It stretched out its branches to the sea;
to the River it stretched out its shoots.

The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel.

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by the way.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field.

The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself.

The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel.

And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.
Bring us back, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.

The vineyard of the LORD is the house of Israel.

Second reading:
Philippians 4:6-9
Brothers and Sisters:
Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Finally, brothers and sisters,
whatever is true, whatever is honourable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable,
if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise:
think about these things.
What you have learned and received
and heard and seen in me —
practise these things,
and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation
Cf. John 15:16
Alleluia, alleluia.
I chose you out of the world, says the Lord, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide.
Alleluia.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, our sanctuary lamp will burn in remembrance of Pat Stokes. May his 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.

Gospel:
Matthew 21:33-43
At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people,
'Hear another parable.
There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence round it and dug a wine press in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country.
When the season for fruit drew near,
he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants
and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than at first. And they did the same to them.
Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves,
"This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance." And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.
When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?'
They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures:
"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is marvellous in our eyes"?
Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.'

Communion Antiphon
Lam 3: 25
The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

AROUND THE PARISH

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving £772.45; loose plate £346.46. 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 weekend the most obvious of the changes in our journey into being 'Paired Parishes' takes place, with the introduction of the new Mass Schedule. It will take a while for us all to get used to, but I ask you to make every effort to settle into the new pattern, established as a result of the responses in both parishes to the Mass Time Consultation in August. There will inevitably be some teething issues, but please remember that up until the end of 2025 there were 4 full time priests serving the parishes of Neasden and Stonebridge and Willesden… and now there are 2, so the changes are unavoidable.

Of course, it's not just in terms of our Liturgical life (important though this is) that attention is needed; there are other areas of life that will need adaption too. The work of Administration and Compliance in a whole number of areas need to be considered too. There will be some changes in both parishes in regard of our Administrators and Parish Offices. The Finance Committees of both parishes will be considering our needs going forward. From this week the Parish Office hours will be adapted in both parishes: At Willesden the Parish Office will usually be open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; Wednesday will be given over to the significant Bookkeeping that is now required of us – so the door and phone will not be manned on Wednesdays. At Stonebridge the Office Hours will change to Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10.30am – 2.30pm. The phone will not usually be answered outside these times, so please be prepared to leave a Voicemail or email.

Fr Stephen Balogun has returned to his studies, and the temporary occupants of Stonebridge Presbytery are the Organ Builders being accommodated there whilst they bring to completion the installation of the organ at the Shrine. They in turn will be replaced by a Catholic tenant so that the house will not be left empty, but bringing in a rent for the parish. However, the tenants are not responsible for answering the door for callers or for the opening up of the church, hall etc: so please do not contact them or disturb them: please call or phone in office hours.

Mass Intentions.

Due to the new Mass schedule which begins on 3rd October there will be some intentions booked for days and times which will now not have masses said. We are endeavouring to transfer such booked intentions to the closest available day. To this end, we will not be booking new mass intentions until dates from end October. If you need to please contact the Parish Office.

Telephone system

Thank you for bearing with us over the last few weeks whilst the telephone system has not been operational. This week a technician came from the diocese and installed new phones to go with new internet installation. You can now call us!

Parish Surgery: This week Fr. Stephen will be available on Monday from 1 to 2pm. This is an opportunity to see the priest without an appointment (for form signings etc).

Confirmation: Confirmation classes for all those under 18 year olds who completed their registration will begin on Saturday, November the 7th . As for the last two years we will be joining the preparation session with Our Lady of Willesden. The classes will be from 11am until 12:30pm beginning on the 7th and held in the Marian Hall at the Shrine, 1 Nicoll Road, NW10 9AX.

First Holy Communion Registration For Five Precious Wounds Parish; Application Forms are available from the back of church. Please return by the 11th October.
Classes will begin for those registered on Sunday the 9th November. Enrolment meeting to be confirmed.

Adult Preparation for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, Reception into the Church. For both paired parishes: Next Meeting: Tuesday 29th September 7pm Willesden Presbytery, 1 Nicoll Road NW10-9AX.

CAFOD Family Fast Day - second collection next weekend

Please donate to our Family Fast Day collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10. **There will also be a second collection this weekend.**

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, Willesden Presbytery, 4-6.30pm
Wednesday 7th October, Stonebridge 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 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

Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry

A special **Adoremus Vigil** will take place **on Friday 9 October, 7-9pm**, at the Church of the Most Holy Trinity, 39 Dockhead, London SE1 2BS. Organised by Westminster and Southwark Youth Ministries with CYMFed, the vigil will be a time for young adults to pray together before the Blessed Sacrament. Fr Emmanuel Mansford of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal will give a keynote reflection, Bishop Gerard Bradley will be present to give a spiritual reflection with worship music led by *One Hope Project*

On Saturday 10 October, join overnight **Adoration at Westminster Cathedral from 8pm**. The Holy Hours at 8pm, 9pm and 10pm will include reflections on Eucharistic saints, prayer led by youth ministry teams and music from *One Hope Project*. Teenagers and Confirmation groups are especially welcome. Mass will be celebrated at 6pm before the Holy Hours. These gatherings mark Adoremus 2026, the National Eucharistic Congress

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 Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays.

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

"To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often."

- St. John Henry Newman -
Whose memorial day falls this Friday

TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASS

There are refreshments in the hall after the 12.00pm Mass on Sundays
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.