CATHOLIC PARISH OF NEASDEN & STONEBRIDGE

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

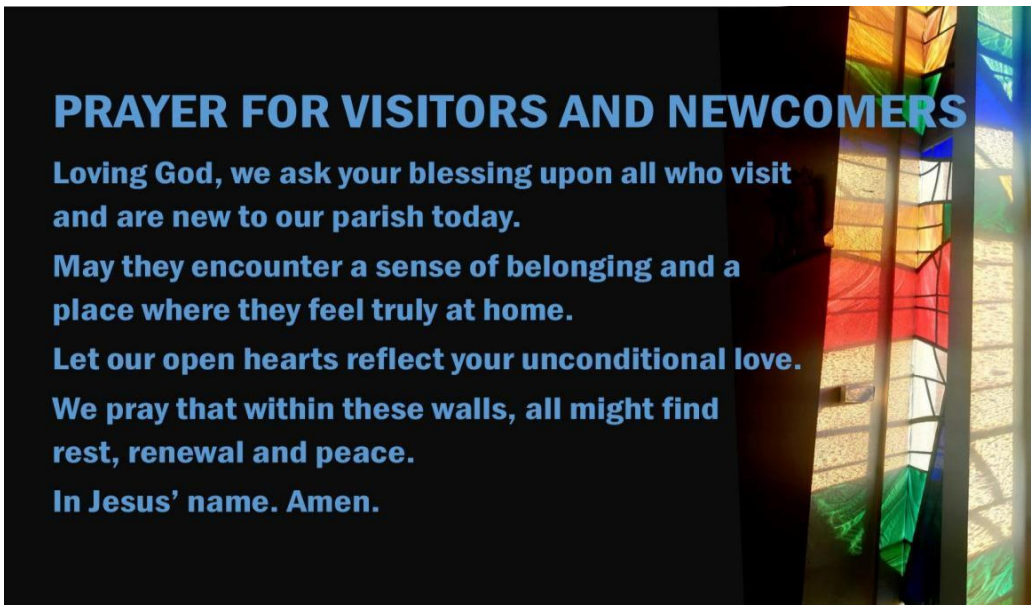
Parish Bulletin
Sunday 25th October 2026



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 3.00pm



THIS WEEK

Sunday 25th October 2026	**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 6pm	Gifty Agyeman and Reisten & Ruzelle – Birthday, Thanksgiving
12pm	Ubaldo Rosario and Maria Rosario - RIP
Monday 26th October	**Saints Chad and Cedd, Bishops**
12:30pm	Mary Ann Heavey – RIP Anniversary
Tuesday 27th October	
No Mass	*Mass at OLW 10am and 7pm*
Wednesday 28th October	**Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles**
7pm	Jose Amar Atienza - Birthday - Thanksgiving
Thursday 29th October	
No Mass	*Mass at OLW 10am & 7pm*
Friday 30th October	
10am	Karl Hoyte - RIP
Sunday 1st November	**ALL SAINTS -** SOLEMNITY
Saturday 5pm	Patrick and MaryAnn Flanagan – RIP Anniversary
12pm	Nora and Jimmy Barret and Ann Obi - RIP

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Familiarity with Jesus' answer to the question about the greatest commandment blunts our awareness of its startling directness. Many answers could be given, perhaps singling out any one of the ten commandments as the greatest, the most important basis of society. A frequent answer to the question was and is the Golden Rule which exists in many cultures: 'Do not do to another what you would not have done to you'. This is basically a selfish answer, protecting one's own interests. By contrast, Jesus' answer hits home, turning us away from self to God. 'Love' (not 'obey' or 'adore' or 'fear' or 'reverence') is the command. Love is not simply the warmth of companionship or of sex, but is the willing generosity of mother to helpless young child or daughter to helpless old parent, of wife to alcoholic husband or husband to paralysed wife, seeking no reward but the happiness of the receiver. Paul gives a useful check-list about love in chapter 13 of his first letter to the Corinthians. John's first letter provides a useful summary: 'No one who fails to love the brother or sister whom he can see, can love God whom he has not seen'.

How do we put into practice this commandment to love?

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. Ps 104: 3-4
Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

First reading :
Exodus 22:21-27
Thus says the Lord:
'You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.
You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child.
If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword,
and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless.
If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor,
you shall not be like a money-lender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him.
If ever you take your neighbour's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down,
for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep?
And if he cries to me, I will hear,
for I am compassionate.'

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 18(17):2-3a. 3b-4. 47, 51ab. ℟2

I love you, LORD, my strength.

I love you, LORD, my strength;
O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

I love you, LORD, my strength.

My God, my rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my saving strength, my stronghold.
I cry out, 'O praised be the LORD!'
and see, I am saved from my foes.

I love you, LORD, my strength.

The LORD lives, and blest be my Rock!
May the God of my salvation be exalted.
The LORD gives great victories to his king,
and shows merciful love for his anointed.

I love you, LORD, my strength

Second reading:
1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10
Brothers and Sisters:
You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.
And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you,
and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, our sanctuary lamp will burn in remembrance of John Joseph McDonagh. 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 Acclamation
John 14:23
Alleluia, alleluia.
If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.
Alleluia.

Gospel:
Matthew 22:34-40
At that time:
When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees,
they gathered together.
And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.
'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?'
And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.'

Communion Antiphon
Cf. Ps 19: 6
We will ring out our joy at your saving help
and exult in the name of our God.

AROUND THE PARISH

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving £518.90; loose plate £317.32. 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.



Month of the Holy Souls

November is the month to remember and pray for the Holy Souls. Please place the names of your deceased loved ones for whom you wish to pray in one of the envelopes available at the back of church. Holy Mass will be offered for them in the month of November.

All Souls Day falls on Monday 2nd November. There will be Requiem Mass at 12:30pm for all the Faithful Departed.

On Remembrance Day, Wednesday 11th November, there will be a special sung Requiem Mass at 7:30pm which is offered for all who are named in Stonebridge's Book of the Dead.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A few practical notes about our parish life.

Fire in the votive Candlestands! Our Mass on Monday lunchtime was disturbed by billowing smoke, and the need to extinguish a fire in the Votive stands at the back of church. A number of candles had caught fire, and the wax was spilling and smoking. PLEASE TAKE GREAT CARE when lighting candles, and see that no match falls into the trays. We are leaving only 1 box of matches available; the Insurance Company guidance requires that we need to limit the availability of lighters and matches.

Sick List… sadly, in the vastly growing world of Legislation even the blessed task of praying for our brothers and sisters who are sick now comes under rules in Public Worship!

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the List of the Sick to be prayed for at Mass, please complete the form available at back of the church. Please note that due to GDPR legislation the form MUST be signed by the sick person or their Responsible Person. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Hail Holy Queen. The ancient prayer to Our Lady, **Salve Regina**, or in English, **Hail Holy Queen** is over a thousand years old. During the Jubilee of Mercy Cardinal Vincent invited parishes to use that prayer as the Marian invocation at the end of Bidding Prayers "Hail Holy Queen, MOTHER OF MERCY", as an alternative to the usual "Hail Mary". Since the Year of Mercy this has continued at the Shrine, alternating them week by week, and we shall do that here at Five Precious Wounds, keeping alive one of the traditional Antiphons of Our Blessed Lady:

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope.
To you do we cry,
poor banished children of Eve;
to you do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.
Turn, then, most gracious advocate,
your eyes of mercy toward us;
and after this, our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb,
Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary

Have a Blessed week!

Fr Stephen.

Parish Surgery: This week there will be Parish Surgery hours on Monday from 1 to 2pm, and Wednesday from 5.30-6.30pm. This is an opportunity to see one of our priests without an appointment. (NOT School Entrance)

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; Classes will begin for those registered on Sunday the 8th November. **Enrolment meeting for the parents is on Friday 6th November at 7pm**. Please bring a copy of Baptism certificate, Registration fees £10 and a photo if you have not already done.

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 note that Baptisms do get booked up in advance. Application Forms are available from the Parish Office. Please note that Baptisms are celebrated here for those resident in the Parish, or for those who are regularly attending Mass here.

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).

Catholic Teaching Internship Programme has enabled students to experience the joy and challenge of working in Catholic schools while discerning whether teaching might be their vocation. Applications are open now for those who are interested. Please check the notice board for more information.

Admission to St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School – September 2027

Applications for admission to **Reception Class** in St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School, Goodson Road, London NW10 9LS are invited for children born between **1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023**. Please be aware that **in addition** to the supplementary application form for the school you must also apply online on e-admissions via the Brent School Admissions website. Please call to the school for an application pack and details on how to apply. Closing date for both online and paper forms is **15th January 2027.**

Applications are also invited for our **Nursery Class** for 2 year old and 3 year old children.

Primary Entrance Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP). Fr Stephen will be making Appointments available during December for the signing of the CCP. Please remember that the Certificate envisions regular Sunday Mass attendance over 5 years.

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

Please Donate the Parish by using the QR Code:

https://app.payaz.software/sumup-multi-web-appeals-live/w8QlBazulLptBpb2NqJQ

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.

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS - ALL WELCOME



A fun alternative to Halloween for all children in our parish!

Sunday 29th November: Centenary of the Founding of the Stonebridge Mission. After the 12pm Mass: ADVENT FAIR

Sunday 13th December at 6pm: ADVENT CAROL CONCERT

The Greatest Commandment

Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'"
Matthew 22:37
Based on Matthew 22:34-40 (NIV)



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

MIND	PHARISEES	QUESTION	JESUS
LAW	GREATEST	COMMANDMENT	YOURSELF
EXPERT	HEART	NEIGHBOR	LOVE
SOUL	LORD	HEARING	SECOND

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"On the wounded faces of the poor, we see the suffering of the innocent and, therefore, the suffering of Christ himself."

- Pope Leo XIV -
First apostolic exhortation "Dilexi Te" ("I have Loved you")

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:

Nicholas Queally, Lus Ruby Ortiz Castro, Luis Alfonso Ortiz Castro, Dorolba Ortiz Carto, Yuly Orosco De La Pava, Ashraf Estefanous, 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.