CATHOLIC PARISH OF NEASDEN & STONEBRIDGE

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

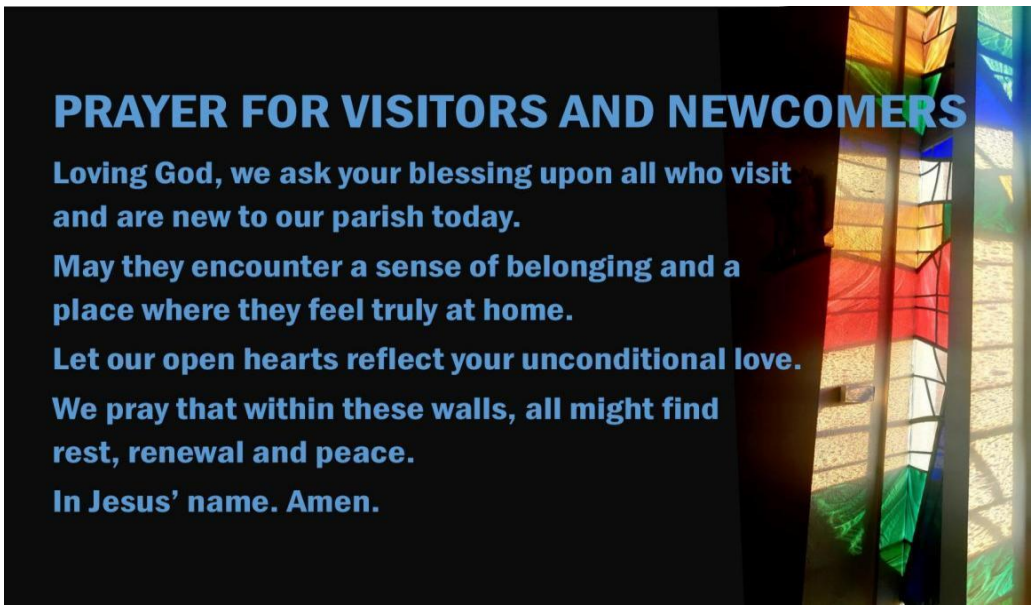
Parish Bulletin
Sunday 8th November 2026



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 8th November 2026	**32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 6pm	Anthony and Agnes Wellington – RIP
12pm	Gifty Roberts - RIP
Monday 9th November	**Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**
12:30pm	Teresa Flanagan and Family Intentions
Tuesday 10th November	**Saint Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor**
No Mass	*Mass at OLW 10am and 7pm*
Wednesday 11th November	**Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop**
7pm	Requiem Mass for all the departed Souls of our Parish and all our deceased loved ones whose names are recorded in our November Book
Thursday 12th November	**Saint Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr**
No Mass	*Mass at OLW 10am & 7pm*
Friday 13th November	
10am	Franchesca Pires - Thanksgiving
Sunday 15th November	**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
Saturday 5pm	John Flanagan - RIP
12pm	Andrew Almonte - Thanksgiving

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Of course they weren't bridesmaids! According to the custom of the time the girls were attendant on the bridegroom, to greet him with their lamps as he arrived at the wedding-reception. Anyway, half of them weren't ready, let him down, and then found themselves shut out. There is a subtle difference between the parables given in Mark's and Matthew's gospels. In Mark they are all about the sudden coming of God's Kingship in history, at the time of Jesus. Jesus proclaimed that the crisis was now. In him God's reign had arrived: it was time to take drastic action. Matthew's parables take a longer-term view: there will be a final judgment at the end of time, for which we, in the Church and in the course of history, must prepare. Some will and some won't. Some will be found to be wheat, others to be weeds. When the catch of fish comes in, some fish will be thrown away, some kept. Some will be sheep and others goats. Each year, as the liturgical year draws to a close, the Church reminds us of this. And the End will be sudden and unpredictable, like a burglar on the one night I forgot to lock the door, or like a mouse-trap snapping shut, or like the unpredictable moment of birth pangs. **Am I ready for the coming of Christ? What does it mean to be like the wise bridesmaids and have oil in my lamp?**

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 87: 3
Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord

First reading :
Wisdom 6:12-16
Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her.
She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
He who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for he will find her sitting at his gates. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and he who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths and meets them in every thought.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8. ℟2b

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.
For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water.

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.
Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise.

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you.

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

When I remember you upon my bed,
On you I muse through the watches of the night.
For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

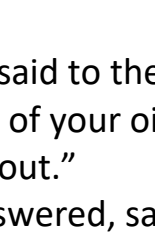
Second reading:
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus,
God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by the word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.
For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.
Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Gospel Acclamation
Matthew 24:42a, 44
Alleluia, alleluia.
Stay awake and be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.
Alleluia.

Gospel:
Matthew 25:1-13
At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week, our sanctuary lamp will burn for the intentions of Colin Winnie Barrett.



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.

like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them,
but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept.
But at midnight there was a cry,
"Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him."
Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.
And the foolish said to the wise,
"Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out."
But the wise answered, saying,
"Since there will not be enough for us and for you,
go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves."
And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came,
and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast,
and the door was shut.
Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us."
But he answered, "Truly, I say to you, I do not know you."
Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

Communion Antiphon
Cf. Ps 22: 1-2
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

AROUND THE PARISH

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Planned giving £516.35; loose plate £290.49. 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,

In our parishes this weekend we keep, at the 10.30am and 12 noon masses, Remembrance Sunday. In this month of our charitable prayer for the Dead we especially remember on Remembrance Sunday and Day (this Wednesday) those who have given their lives in faith and love. Faith in the conviction of what they are doing and out love for those who they serve. Some we know through personal relationships and stories and some we know because of their notable courage and endeavours on the battlefield and their subsequent honours.

I wonder what it calls to mind for you, remembering. I'm always wonder what people do when they observe the Minutes Silence, and I wonder, do they pray? Maybe the silence is a prayer. And what are they doing? Is the silence in itself honouring anything? Is it in fact in awe? Because there's something horrendous in war. And silence is often appropriate rather than commenting on the terrors that took place - that we stand silent before such an ugly thing that has taken place.

As Christians, we shouldn't lose sight of this word, remembrance. It's very weak in English, "to remember". If we translate the original Greek anamnésis, we would get, "call to mind". And call to mind is more powerful, it creates an image more than just remembering. And we use this word, remembering, very weakly in our normal conversation. "Oh, I remember you when you were at school with me." A vague passing thought, or even the tombstone "in remembrance of". It's not calling to mind. Calling to mind is a powerful image, this sense of anamnésis. Anamnésis is the word we get amnesia from in English, loss of memory. But in the Greek it meant to call to mind, it meant memory itself.

When God calls something to mind, it springs into being. And that's why in the Mass we celebrate, we have the anamnésis, after the consecration. We call to mind the Son's death and Resurrection, His Ascension into Heaven. In other words, we link with God in calling to mind, and bringing to life as it were, the mystery before us. So we're not just doing it in memory of Him, but we're calling to mind with God that mystery of Christ's death, Resurrection and Ascension, His very life will be made present - set forth for us in the elements of bread and wine that are transformed in the Consecration into His Body and Blood. We go on, of course, remember all those living, remember all those who have died. And again our English word is a bit weak, we're saying to God, "Call to mind, put them in your presence, make them have life." So when we call to mind the Dead in every Eucharistic prayer, we're asking God to fulfil His promise and bring them into the fullness of His presence, to share that hope that St. Paul mentioned in his Letter to the Thessalonians, that they will be there to greet us, that they will be redeemed.

In S. John's Gospel we hear these words of Jesus: 'Greater love has no-one than to lay down their life for their friends.' Jesus doesn't say it is the best form of love, he doesn't say it is the most sought after. He says 'no greater love – no greater a love.' It is a love that Jesus expressed when he offered up his life for each one of us here. It is the greatest love, a love that those who have given their life in defence of our nation; today, we rightly remember them.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and Let perpetual Light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace, Amen.

Have a Blessed Week!

Fr Stephen.

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

On Advent Sunday, the 29th November, we begin a new Liturgical Year in the life of the Church. We will also be using this Sunday to remember that it is a Century since the Catholic Mission to Stonebridge was established. Since then there have been various sites where first the Mission, and then the Parish have worshipped and witnessed. As we step out into the next century, we give thanks for the past one. After the 12 noon Mass, there will be the Advent Fair in the Hall, and I hope a glass of something warming too!

Advent Fare and Advent Carol - Meeting

There will be a meeting for all our community groups that is Nigerian, Ghanaian, and Filipino Associations, on Wednesday, 11th November 2026 at 6:15pm.

Sick & Retired Priests' Fund

The second collection next week will be for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. Caring for our brother priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is a part of the mission of our diocese. By supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you can help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs will be met. You will find a donation envelope at the back of the church today. Please take one home, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. You can make a one off donation or you can set up a regular gift and become a Patron by completing section 4 on the envelope form. You can also donate online at rcdow.org.uk/SRP – or scan the QR code with a phone camera to give online. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill. Thank you

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

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)

A Historic Milestone for the Five Precious Wounds Filipino Community

On All Saints' Day, the Five Precious Wounds (FPW) Filipino Community celebrated a special milestone with the Commissioning and Investiture of Lectors and Commentators, believed to be the first ceremony of its kind within the Catholic Filipino Chaplaincy in the UK. Following several months of formation the members of the Lectors and Commentators Ministry were formally commissioned by Fr. Jun Pineda to begin their ministry of proclaiming and sharing God's Word.

The commissioning marks not the end of their formation, but the beginning of a continuing journey of learning and spiritual growth.

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. Please remember that in our Paired parishes we have 2 excellent Primary Schools in Our Lady of Lourdes (Stonebridge) and S. Joseph's (Willesden), and they deserve your full consideration before any other schools.

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



Sunday 29th November after the 12pm Mass.
Please speak to Fr Stephen or Violet if you are able to run a stall.

Sunday 13th December at 6pm: ADVENT CAROL CONCERT

Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. Matthew 25:13 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)



T Z F E S G H O G Q N O G T A				
O B M P K S M I D N I G H T A				
G O M Q I N A N H E A V E N S				
C A Q L Q T I I E D I J K B L				
L P O B R I D E G R O O M A E				
M O J K E F D K L X M O H N E				
F E O G S W O I H A Z S R Q P				
V W E X G B I N O D A T H U X				
I T B T P C L G R W R T E E T				
R S R C U B O D A A M O Z T E				
G S D I K T Y O N T W D W K X				
I T T S M W G M G C R F O S W				
N V I H O M Z I Z H P W D O Y				
S N N T P X E W E D D I N G E				
U T C Z G X C D S W I S E E C				
FOOLISH	MEET	DROWSY	VIRGINS	BANQUET
MIDNIGHT	WEDDING	TRIMMED	RANG	KINGDOM
BRIDEGROOM	LAMPS	WISE	WATCH	COME
DOOR	ASLEEP	HEAVEN	OIL	WOKE

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Those who are not good to others are bad to themselves."

- Saint Leo the Great, Pope –
Whose memorial day falls this Tuesday

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:

Rosa Elcira Ortiz, Roselberg Ortiz, Colmun Barrett, Gerry McDonagh, Belzie Casey, 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.