



## PRAYING TOGETHER FOR THE CHURCH, THE WORLD, THE PARISH & ONE ANOTHER

**SICK & HOUSEBOUND:** Anne Hull, Michael Griffin Snr., Titus Fernandes, Mary Malone, Margaret Cour-nane, Annie Phillips, Sadie & Tony Burgess, Mavis Hinton, Tom Fernandes, Cath Kevil, John Flynn, All in Copland Nursing Home, Gerard Perera, Gillian Gibb, Joe Nemeth, Ann Nemeth, Ken Fernandes, Michael Fahey, Marie Rego, Alan Woods, David Musgrave, Maria Nellie De Lima, Aaran T., Mrs Evans, John & Angela McCarthy.

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Betty Cunniff, Patsy Donohue.

**ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED:** Ned McCormack.

### INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR JUNE:

**Universal – Social Networks:** That social networks may work towards that inclusiveness which respects other for their differences.



**"LET NO ONE  
EVER COME TO YOU  
WITHOUT LEAVING  
BETTER & HAPPIER.  
"BE THE LIVING  
EXPRESSION OF GOD'S  
KINDNESS:  
KINDNESS IN YOUR FACE.  
KINDNESS IN YOUR EYES.  
KINDNESS IN YOUR SMILE."  
BLESSED MOTHER TERESA**

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### IN HONOUR OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

**O glorious Saint John the Baptist,  
greatest prophet among those born  
of woman, although thou wast  
sanctified in thy mother's womb and  
didst lead a most innocent life,  
nevertheless it was thy will to retire  
into the wilderness, there to devote  
thyself to the practice of austerity  
and penance; obtain for us of thy  
Lord the grace to be wholly  
detached, at least in our hearts,  
from earthly goods, and to practice  
Christian mortification with interior  
recollection and with the spirit of  
holy prayer. Amen**

### SANCTUARY LAMP

HAS BEEN SPONSORED THIS WEEK  
IN MEMORY OF  
JIMMY BONNER RIP

### LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

has been sponsored this week for  
PRIVATE INTENTIONS



**Switch mobile phones  
off or to silent**

### MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest:	Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead	jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
Assistant Priest:	Fr. Tony Thomas	tonythomas@rcdow.org.uk
Catechetical Coordinator:	Mr. Peter Kingsley	peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk
Secretary:	Mrs. Toni Miles	sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Director of Music:	Mr. Scott Price	scottprice@rcdow.org.uk
Hall Bookings:	via the office or	sudbury@rcdow.org.uk
Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE		
Tel: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office 3. Mgr Jeremy;		
4. Fr. Tony; 5. Pastoral Assistant. Charity No: 233699		
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk		Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury



Sunday cycle  
Readings Year B  
Weekday Readings  
Year 2, Week 12  
Divine Office  
Week 4

**The Catholic Parish  
of St George, Sudbury**



# Sunday 24th June 2018

## THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

Welcome to all at Mass today, especially to any visitors and particularly those who are here for the first time. Please take this sheet home with you which will tell you about this week's celebration and the activities during the week and also to remind you of our Liturgy today.

## TODAY'S MASS



We read today that Elizabeth's neighbours and relatives rejoice with her because God has shown her mercy in the birth of a son. But they are confused when she tells them that his name is to be John, which means "God has been gracious." Zechariah has been unable to speak since Gabriel appeared, because, unlike Mary, he doubted the angel's word. But when he writes on a tablet "John is his name" all are amazed, and a great fear comes upon everyone. Fear, along with joy and praise, is for Luke the appropriate response to God's mercy. People ask, "What, then, will this child be?" But this question has already been answered by the angel. "He will be great in the sight of the Lord. He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God."

### First Reading: *Isaiah 49:1-6*

You are my servant, through whom I show my glory.

### Second Reading: *Acts of the Apostles 13:22-26*

John announced the coming of Jesus.

### Gospel Reading: *Luke 1:57-66,80*

John the Baptist is born and all wonder what the child will be.

### SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

**"He must increase, but I must decrease."**

St John the Baptist

# Sunday Reflection

Birthdays are a special time to remember and give thanks for the blessings that have come our way.

The friends of Zechariah and Elizabeth marvelled at the wonderful way in which God blessed them with a child. This child was destined by God for an important mission. The last verses in the last book of the Old Testament, taken from the prophet Malachi, speak of the Lord's messenger, the prophet Elijah who will return to "turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers" (Malachi 4:6).

We see the beginning of the fulfilment of this word when the Angel Gabriel announced to Zechariah the marvellous birth and mission of John the Baptist (Luke 1:17). When this newly born child was about to be named, as customary on the eighth day, his relatives quibbled over what name to give him. (Don't relatives today often do the same when the time comes for naming a new-born?) This child, however has been named from above! And Elizabeth is firm in her faith and determined to see that God be glorified through this child. The name John means "the Lord is gracious". In the birth of John and in the birth of Jesus the Messiah we see the grace of God breaking forth into a world broken by sin and without hope. John's miraculous birth shows the mercy and favour of God in preparing his people for the coming of their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

John the Baptist's life was fuelled by one burning passion - to point others to Jesus Christ and to the coming of God's kingdom. Scripture tells us that John was filled with the

Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb (Luke 1:15, 41) by Christ himself, whom Mary had just conceived by the Holy Spirit. When Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth, John leapt in the womb of Elizabeth as they were filled with the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:41). The fire of the Spirit dwelt in John and made him the forerunner of the coming Messiah. John was led by the Spirit into the wilderness prior to his ministry where he was tested and grew in the word of God. John's clothing was reminiscent of the prophet Elijah.



John broke the prophetic silence of the previous centuries when he began to speak the word of God to the people of Israel. His message was similar to the message of the Old Testament prophets who chided the people of God for their unfaithfulness and who tried to awaken true repentance in them. Among a people unconcerned with the things of God, it was his work to awaken their interest, unsettle them from their complacency, and arouse in them enough good will to recognize and receive Christ when he came.

What is the significance of John the Baptist and his message for our lives? When God acts to save us he graciously fills us with his Holy Spirit and makes our faith come "alive" to his promises. Each and every day the Lord is ready to renew us in faith, hope, and love. Like John the Baptist, the Lord invites each of us to make our life a free-will offering to God. God wants to fill us with his glory all the days of our lives, from birth through death. So let's renew the offering of our life to God and give him thanks for his mercy and favour towards us.

cords, if appropriate.

**BELL & AUTOMATIC ANGELUS UPDATE:** This will be installed at the end of June.

**FR ANTONIO'S ORDINATION. UPDATE.** As you know one of our parishioners, Antonio Pineda, who is at presently studying in Rome, will be Ordained by Cardinal Vincent Nichols here at St George's on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 12 noon. We will be hosting, as a Parish, this event. We will be asking as July begins for all sorts of help. **Please look at the lists at the back of church to see if you can help in any way. Thanks to those who have already signed up.**

**HOLY BAPTISM:** Information packs are available from the parish office. You can sign up there for the preparation evening. Parents to be, i.e. before birth, are welcome to attend. The next baptism preparation evening will be on **Friday 20th July at 7.30pm.**

**EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION** Might you be open to serve the Parish as an Extra-Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion? We are always grateful to those people who assist the Priest with administering the Sacrament at Mass and taking Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. If you are interested and like to be considered please speak to Fr. Tony.

**PLACES AT ST GEORGE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - SUDBURY HILL:** We have some families that have already re-located or are re-locating from London at the end of this term. This means that we have a few spaces available in different year groups. If you know of any baptised children not currently attending a Catholic school, please ask their parents to contact Mrs Keaveney in the school office on 020 8422 1272.

**ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR** on Saturday 30th June 2-6pm. All young people must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Raffle tickets will be on sale after all Masses again this weekend 23/24 June.

**YOUNG ADULTS EVENT AT SPEC - Resonate** is the Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry's primary event for Young Adults. There is a shared meal, an opportunity build community and a chance to explore our faith. **The next Resonate is Friday 29 June | 18-35 years old | 7-9pm | Free | Centre for Youth Ministry, 125 Waxwell Lane, Pinner, HA5 3EP/rebekahcurran @rcdow.org.uk**

**MINIBUS ESCORTS:** In order to maintain this important parish service we urgently need more volunteer escorts to help bring the elderly and housebound to 11.15am Mass each Sunday. When we have enough escorts it is an occasional duty but at the moment we only have one regular escort. Please can you help? If you are interested and want to find out more please contact the parish team.

**CHURCH LAMPS:** If you would like to sponsor the blessed sacrament lamp or the lamp by the altar of Our Lady of Walsingham with a particular intention, the cost is £10 for the week - Please see Toni in the Parish Office.

**FREE GOLF COACHING FOR CHILDREN IN SUDBURY -** Sudbury Golf Club is offering free coaching to children for 6 weeks starting on 7th July. For more information and to book your place please call the Pro Shop on 020 8795 6834. Thank you!

**ROOM TO RENT:** Large double room, recently decorated 3 minutes from St. George's. Tel: 07504 739081.

**WHITE/YELLOW FOLDER INFORMATION FOR THE FOLLOWING:** (See in church porch)  
**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE** helps separated, divorced or widowed Catholics. Healing weekend 20/22 April. See folder in porch for details.  
**SMART LOVING SEMINAR** for married couples.  
**CATHOLIC SINGLES** information  
**RETOUVAILLE**—a lifeline for married couples.  
**WIDOWED YOUNG**—support events.  
**CALIX CENTRE**—A Catholic ministry to addicts.  
**ADULT FAITH FORMATION COURSES.**  
**MARRIAGE/ENGAGED ENCOUNTER**  
[www.wwme.org.uk](http://www.wwme.org.uk)

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE:** 8<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Pilgrimage to The Holy Land from 21<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 led by Bishop John Wilson. Please see folder for details.

**SACRED HEART LANGUAGE COLLEGE**—social evenings information in folder.

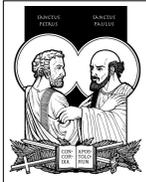
**VACANCIES:**  
**TEN TEN** is a Catholic charitable organisation that uses drama to speak to the hearts and minds of young people in schools throughout the UK. They are looking for a schools' facilitator to lead sessions on "Relationship and Sex Education" using films created by Ten Ten. This is a fixed-term, part-time role with an attractive salary and benefits. For more information, please visit: [www.tententheatre.co.uk/recruitment](http://www.tententheatre.co.uk/recruitment). Deadline is Monday 2 July.

**SCHOOL VACANCIES** (Teacher and Admin): at St. Michael's Catholic Grammar School,; Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School, St. Richard Reynolds Catholic College and St. Gregory's Catholic Science College. Please see folder for details.

For all **DIOCESAN VACANCIES** please see folder in porch or diocesan website.

**FOLDERS in the church porch:** look for pilgrimages & retreats, job opportunities, schools & colleges information.

# NEWS & VIEWS



**Ss. PETER & PAUL:** On Friday 29 June we celebrate the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Masses are at 9.30am and 8.00pm.

**NEW TO THE PARISH?** If you are, please know you are very welcome. Please fill in one of the new parishioners forms at the back of church and we'll get back to you.

**PLEASE LEAVE THE PEW NEAT AND TIDY AS YOU DEPART CHURCH TODAY.**

## PARISH DIARY FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday 24 June:

Teas/coffees after 9.45am and 11.15am Masses

Tuck Shop after 9.45am Mass

### Monday 25 June:

Keep Fit 2.30pm

### Tuesday 26 June:

Over 60's Group 1.00pm

Set Dancing 8.30pm

### Wednesday 27 June:

Church Cleaning Group B 10.30am

### Thursday 28 June:

Teas after morning Mass

Friends of Jesus 5.30pm

### Saturday 30th June:

Baptism Preparation. 10.30am

**THIS SUNDAY** there will be a pastoral letter from Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster read at all Masses.

**WESTMINSTER RECORD ON SALE FOR A BARGAIN 20p** - June's issue of the Westminster Record is available for purchase in the church porch.

**ARE YOU A PHOTOGRAPHER?** or simply good with a camera? We need to document all our chalices and vestments for insurance purposes but they all need photographing. If you have this skill and a bit of time please speak to Fr Jeremy.

**CAFOD:** We are still looking for a Parish Representative. Could that be you? If so please speak to a member of the Parish Team. Also you will find some leaflets at the back of Church should you wish to include CAFOD in a legacy in your will.

**WORK GOING ON IN THE PARISH – UPDATE:** Two major projects are to be undertaken this summer. In the parish Centre the whole hallway will be refurbished – new doors, flooring and lighting giving it all a welcoming and up to date look. Secondly the Youth centre will be completely rewired along with a new interior ceiling continuing to make it fit for purpose. Unfortunately we have now found part of the Parish centre external roof needs recovering and also there's the presence of Asbestos!

**PHOTO COLLECTION (FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/ CONFIRMATION)** - If you ordered any First Holy Communion or Confirmation photos these need to be **collected from the photographers** in the **Russell Room (Parish Centre) on Monday 25th June from 7.30-8.30pm**. If you require any further information regarding collection or ordering please contact Papillon Photography on 07939 722 198 / 07712 183 744 or email [info@papillonphotography.co.uk](mailto:info@papillonphotography.co.uk).

**CALLING FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISTS 2018** - Might you considerer joining our experienced team of FHC Catechists in September 2018? Perhaps your child is entering Year 3 and will be taking part on our FHC Programme from September 2018? Might you consider joining us as a helper for the year? If so, please speak to Mgr. Jeremy or Fr. Tony after Mass or contact Peter on [peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk) (020 8904 2552 option 5). Thank you! ☺

**FRIENDS OF JESUS:** The Friends of Jesus Programme takes place on Fridays from 5.30-6.30pm providing a little Religious Education to children of Primary-School age who are not attending a Catholic School. An Information Leaflet is available in the Porch.

**ADULT READERS WORKSHOP (ADVANCE NOTICE)** - We are delighted that Mary Crowley, from the Diocese of Westminster, is joining us to lead two sessions for Readers at St. George's on **Saturday 29th September** (Theory) and **Saturday 13th October** from **10.30 to 12pm**. All those who currently read, or who would like to read in the future, are welcome!

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:** Please make sure you collect your rota for the month of July from the box at the back of the church.

**DATA PROTECTION:** Many of you will be aware that a new law comes into force very soon regarding data protection and the keeping of records. This applies to parishes also so please be aware if you sign up for anything in future you will also be asked for permission for us to keep whatever information you have given on our re-

## More from “GAUDETE ET EX-SULTATE” (*Rejoice and be Glad*). By Pope Francis

32. Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy. On the contrary, you will become what the Father had in mind when he created you, and you will be faithful to your deepest self. To depend on God sets us free from every form of enslavement and leads us to recognize our great dignity. We see this in Saint Josephine Bakhita: “Abducted and sold into slavery at the tender age of seven, she suffered much at the hands of cruel masters. But she came to understand the profound truth that God, and not man, is the true Master of every human being, of every human life. This experience became a source of great wisdom for this humble daughter of Africa”.

34. Do not be afraid to set your sights higher, to allow yourself to be loved and liberated by God. Do not be afraid to let yourself be guided by the Holy Spirit. Holiness does not make you less human, since it is an encounter between your weakness and the power of God's grace. For in the words of León Bloy, when all is said and done, “the only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint”.

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY MASS:** 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.

**WEEKDAY MASS:** Monday – Saturday 9.30am.

**HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION:** 9.30am, 8.00pm.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 5.15pm - 6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*

**DIVINE MERCY:** Tuesday 10.30am.

**ROSARY:** Daily after Mass.

<i>Sunday 24 June</i>	<b>NATIVITY OF S. JOHN THE BAPTIST</b>
6.15pm ( <i>Sat. Vigil</i> )	K. Balaranjan RIP
8.30am	Ned McCormack RIP
9.45am	Thanksgiving
11.15am	Antonieta Fernandes RIP
5.30pm	PRO POPUO
Mon 25 June	<b>feria</b> Rosaleen Garland Intentions
Tues 26 June	<b>feria</b> Sheila Baker RIP
9.30am	
Weds 27 June	<b>S. John Southworth</b> Frank Hunt RIP
9.30am	
Thur 28 June	<b>S. Irenaeus</b> Peggy Doogue & Family Ints
9.30am	
Fri 29 June	<b>Ss. PETER &amp; PAUL</b> <b>Holy Day of Obligation</b>
9.30am	Nora Hunt Intentions
8.00pm	Roman Lewandowski RIP
Sat 30 June	<b>Of Our Lady</b> Mary Shanahan Intentions
9.30am	

# TODAY'S MASS

## **Entrance Antiphon: Jn 1, 6-7; Lk 1, 17**

A man was sent from God, whose name was John. He came to testify to the light, to prepare a people fit for the Lord.

## **Collect**

O God, who raised up Saint John the Baptist to make ready a nation fit for Christ the Lord, give your people, we pray, the grace of spiritual joys and direct the hearts of all the faithful into the way of salvation and peace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

## **First reading: Isaiah 49:1-6**

Islands, listen to me,  
pay attention, remotest peoples.  
The Lord called me before I was born,  
from my mother's womb he pronounced  
my name.

He made my mouth a sharp sword,  
and hid me in the shadow of his hand.  
He made me into a sharpened arrow,  
and concealed me in his quiver.

He said to me, 'You are my servant  
(Israel)  
in whom I shall be glorified';  
while I was thinking, 'I have toiled in vain,  
I have exhausted myself for nothing';  
and all the while my cause was with the  
Lord,  
my reward with my God.  
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,  
my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken,  
he who formed me in the womb to be his  
servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,  
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring  
back the survivors of Israel;  
I will make you the light of the nations  
so that my salvation may reach to the  
ends of the earth.'

## **Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 138(139):1-3,13-15**

### **Response: I thank you for the wonder of my being.**

1. O Lord, you search me and you know me,  
you know my resting and my rising,  
you discern my purpose from afar.  
You mark when I walk or lie down,  
all my ways lie open to you. **R/.**

2. For it was you who created my being,  
knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I thank you for the wonder of my being,  
for the wonders of all your creation. **R/.**

3. Already you knew my soul,  
my body held no secret from you  
when I was being fashioned in secret  
and moulded in the depths of the earth.  
**R/.**

## **Second reading: Acts 13:22-26**

Paul said: 'God deposed Saul and made David their king, of whom he approved in

these words, "I have selected David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole purpose." To keep his promise, God has raised up for Israel one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose coming was heralded by John when he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said, "I am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal." 'My brothers, sons of Abraham's race, and all you who fear God, this message of salvation is meant for you.'

## **Gospel Acclamation**

### **Alleluia, alleluia!**

**As for you, little child, you shall be called  
a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him.  
Alleluia!**

## **Gospel: Luke 1:57-66,80**

The time came for Elizabeth to have her child, and she gave birth to a son; and when her neighbours and relations heard that the Lord had shown her so great a kindness, they shared her joy. Now on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother spoke up. 'No,' she said 'he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'But no one in your family has that name', and made signs to his father to find out what he wanted him called. The father asked for a writing-tablet and wrote,

'His name is John.' And they were all astonished. At that instant his power of speech returned and he spoke and praised God. All their neighbours were filled with awe and the whole affair was talked about throughout the hill country of Judaea. All those who heard of it treasured it in their hearts. 'What will this child turn out to be?' they wondered. And indeed the hand of the Lord was with him.

Meanwhile the child grew up and his spirit matured. And he lived out in the wilderness until the day he appeared openly to Israel.

## **Prayer over the Offerings**

We place these offerings on your altar, O Lord, to celebrate with fitting honour the nativity of him who both foretold the coming of the world's Saviour and pointed him out when he came. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

## **Communion Antiphon: Cf. Lk 1: 78**

Through the tender mercy of our God, the Dawn from on high will visit us.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Having feasted at the banquet of the heavenly Lamb, we pray, O Lord, that, finding joy in the nativity of Saint John the Baptist, your Church may know as the author of her rebirth the Christ whose coming John foretold. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.