

NEWS AND VIEWS

Stella Maris collection: Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. In the last year, more crews have been abandoned by their employers than ever before. Many are still being denied the right to leave their ships for even a short break away from the relentless noise and pressure onboard. Many are reporting more stress and poorer mental health. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church, by visiting www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) to continue its important work - so please one of us, Christopher Howe will be speaking at Masses next weekend to enlighten us more give generously. Thank you.

Request For Volunteers: We need volunteers in a few of our groups. If you feel you can commit to these groups, kindly speak to the priest(s) or let the parish office be aware. The following groups with immediate needs for training are **Outreach daily breakfast and Pret Moorgate branch collection.** We will add on the other groups on the notice board in the subsequent weeks.

Parish Pilgrimage to Aylesford: Proposed date will be 23rd September and the cost will be £20 a seat, again we will need committed numbers to be able to book any coach. Book on in the parish office.

Fr Mark James Leenane (RIP): He was a priest who served here in our parish in the early 2000s, he sadly passed away at the age of 59 years. His funeral arrangements has not been fixed yet. May the soul of Fr Mark, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Parish Summer Outing to Southend : Coaches depart at 7.30am on Saturday the 22nd. Please arrange your own refreshments. The cost of each seat will be £25 and it will be on a first come bases. The coach is a 50 seater coach, please book on in the parish office as soon possible, the coach is filling up. We have about 10 spaces left.

First Holy Communion 2024: It is time to start registering candidates for this sacrament. The catechism classes will start in September. To be eligible for First Communion, the child must be 7 years by the 31st of August. Please parents/guardians before making this decision, kindly prepare to be at least 90% committed to see our young ones through this journey. Our Catechists are all selfless volunteers. We emphasise on respecting them and committing to this spiritual journey for our children. Registration forms can be picked from the Parish Office.

Meeting with all the Catechists on the 23rd of July at 10am.

Christian Stewardship: 9th July 2023 Envelopes: £183.00 Loose: £580.33 Contactless: £75.00 Parish Project- (Help At Home - £3,966.42 so far. We also receive £500 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for your continuous support for our parish.

July Diary

Friday 21st @ 6pm : **Baptism preparation with the parish priest**

Saturday 22nd @ 7.30am: **Proposed Parish Seaside trip**

@ 12noon: **Mass followed by the Baptism**

Sunday 23rd @ 10am: **Meeting with all the Catechists**

Every Last Saturday of the month: **Baptism (always confirm in the parish office)**


Every Saturday at 10.30am: **Faith Sharing/RCIA sessions in the main Sacristy**

Every Tuesday after the noon Mass: **Parish social forum in the Meeting Room**

Every 1st Friday: 12 noon **Healing Mass / Holy Hour / Benediction followed by 100 Club in the Meeting Room**
7.45pm **Parish Quiz in the Meeting Room (non in August)**

A	E	S	D	R	I	B	R	F	S
E	S	D	E	E	S	O	E	E	E
A	R	C	K	E	O	L	W	L	E
S	A	S	O	S	L	I	O	A	S
R	E	D	H	R	T	I	S	K	E
P	S	W	C	H	C	H	O	E	D
R	O	O	E	S	T	H	K	S	S
S	N	R	O	H	T	R	E	I	I
E	E	C	C	T	R	E	A	D	B
D	S	T	O	O	R	T	A	E	R

LAKESIDE CROWDS SOWER
SEEDS BIRDS SOIL
EARTH SCORCHED ROOTS
WITHERED THORNS CROP




spiritans

St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Archway

Contact: 15 St John's Villas, N19 3EE Tel: 02072728195 Mobile: 07533726467 (text only)

Email: archway@rcdow.org.uk Reg. Charity No.233699 Website: www.stgabes.uk

+ 15th Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A

16th July 2023



We welcome all to today's Mass, especially visitors who are celebrating with us for the first time. Please take this bulletin home with you for further reflection on this week's celebration and to follow the activities in the Parish during the week.

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Reckless Sower vs. Stubborn Soil

Given the austerity in the time of Jesus, the first thing that immediately strikes one as odd in today's Parable of the Sower is how recklessly the Sower scatters the seeds. Why wouldn't he be meticulous so that the prized seeds fall only on the good soil that promotes fruitfulness? This act however reflects grace which is love freely given; love offered without expectation of returns. A prudent lender will loan to those who are likely to repay even with interest. But that is not true love. That is disguised selfishness. True love is neither calculating nor measured. It is reckless and free. This is just the way God loves and our love is meant to mirror the divine love. As Jesus said, we should lend to those who cannot pay us back because then we can be like our father in heaven who makes the sun to shine on the good and the bad alike. How, therefore, do you sow the seed of your kindness and generosity? Do you sow it just on good soil where you expect a good return or do you sow it unreservedly? The parable likens the teaching of God's word to the sowing of seeds and the different types of soil on which the seeds fall represent types of heart with which hearers receive the word of God. Jesus explains that 'understanding' is what differentiates between people that bear fruit on the word and those that don't. Why do people fail to understand the word? Jesus himself states in John 8:43 that the reason why people don't understand what he says is because they don't accept it. And the major reason why they did not accept his message is because of prejudice; they look down on him because they thought that they know him too well - the son of the village carpenter next door. Prejudice blindfolds us such that we look without seeing, and listen without understanding. There is potential good in our every encounter; it only takes a positive disposition to get the best in others. Our disposition for the word of God is a good indication of our relationship with the Lord. Disturbingly, it appears that we have time for everything except for God. Some start looking at their watches even before church service begins. Thus, the Eucharist has become a fast food which some priests now microwave in 15 minutes to avoid delaying parishioners. Note that while the soil cannot help being what it is, we humans can improve our dispositions.

Mass Times & Intentions 16th - 22nd July 2023

Sat 15th Vigil Mass 6:30pm: Alan Mullee, Marian Sullivan, Nina Tistaroni (RIP), Frances Herlihy (3rd)(ANN)
Sun 16th 9:00am: Sr Brendan Dodd (RIP), Sr Mary Frances Boyle, Sr Marie Brown, Sr Breege Lavin, Sr Monica O'Brien, Sr Helen Cahill, Victoria Madou (B'day), Fr Oliver (B'day), Avanzi family, Essien-Oku family's ints (INT)
11:30am: Deceased of the Ronan family, Kathleen Stokes (posthumous b'day) (RIP), Pat Hynes, Nan Flaherty (9th)(ANN), Fr Oliver (b'day), Fr Martin Goba, Etudukoh family, Maria Okereafor (b'day), Angela Fairbank (INT)
6:30pm: Willy Gormley, Nina Tistaroni (RIP), Dee-Arn Sewell, Maurice Vink & family (INT)
Mon 17th 12 noon: Nina Tistaroni (RIP), Assunta Turin (ANN)
Tue 18th 12 noon: Nina Tistaroni (RIP), Roberto Avanzi, Gino Avanzi (INT)
Wed 19th 12 noon: Tom D'Arcy (1st) (ANN), Christy Christopher (INT)
Thur 20th St Apollinaris 12 noon: Okache Maudlyn Ogwucho (RIP), Fred Wren, Kim & David Wren (INT)
Fri 21st 12 noon: George Roberts (15th), Mary Williamson (1st) (ANN)
Sat 22nd St Mary Magdalene 12 noon: Edith Tayler (ANN), Jeremy Platten (INT)



Rebecca Campbell, Ella Humphreys, Rita Avanzi, Nancy Olaiya, Jarlet Fallon, Nora Hoare, Ann Larkin, Mary Wallace, Christopher Jerome, John Bruno, Mary Slow, Isabella King, Derek Gomes, Mary Burton, Frank Gibbons, Maria Kuozwatski, Philip Mayne, Bridget Munnely, Brian Coleman, Shiela Farrell, Tina Okelue, Mary Theresa Madigan, Christopher Nelson, Paddy Essang, Padra Williams, Phillip Duggase, Terry Earley, Elizabeth Earley, Mary Mullarkey, Mary O'Connell, Bernadette Ikwuka, Margaret Togher, Geraldine McKeane, Mary Dunne, Lina Piroli, Christy & Maria Christopher, Lourdes Sisneros, Angela Fairbank, Emmanuel & Magdalene Debonne, Douglas Meyers, Sylvia Traynor, Danielle, Lilian Montague, Frances Quinn, Tony Colbert, Kathleen Panayiotou, Maureen Walsh, Gabby Mehmet, Freda Glackin, Maureen Currie, Joan McGonigal, Emo Essang, Madeleine Hourihan, Stella Anakor, Jacinta, Marie Therese Tourette, Mary Gallagher, Gloria Munian, Brian Robinson, Teresa O'Dea, Percy Shackell, Rosario De Cruz

Parish is served by the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans) Congregation of the Holy Spirit
Parish Priests: Fr. Moses Enchizena CSSp, Fr. Martin Goba CSSp, Fr. Oliver Ugwu CSSp, Seminarian Raphael Muendo
Parish Office Team: Patricia Essien-Oku, Maureen Tayler, Mary Aherne, Joan FitzGerald
Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri. -(9am - 3pm). Tue, Thur. -(9am-1pm)
Contact: 15 St. John's Villas, Archway, London N19 3EE. Tel: 020 7272 8195, M: 07533726467- (TEXT ONLY)
 Email: archway@rcdow.org.uk Web: www.stgabes.uk (Reg. Charity No.233699)
Pastorals/Devotions: Confessions Sat.11am, 6pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Meditative Rosary: Sun. 10.30am **Healing Mass/Holy Hour/Benediction:** First Fridays (New time) 12noon **Legion of Mary:** First Wed. 6.30pm **Monday Prayer Group:** 1st & 3rd Mon. 6.30pm
Mission Statement: To animate a loving multicultural Christian community

Gentle reminders: Please turn off your mobile phones. You have the right to remain silent ...

We wish those who celebrate their birthdays and anniversaries during this week a happy celebration

Food For Thought

John 12:24

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.



TODAY'S READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honour. 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 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 64)

R. Some seed fell into rich soil, and produced its crop.

You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain.

R.

And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth.

R.

You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, In the pastures of the wilderness it flows.

R.

The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

R.

SECOND READING Romans 8:18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of

the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears! Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied, 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has, will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Look upon the offerings of the Church, O Lord, as she makes her prayer to you, and grant that, when consumed by those who believe, they may bring ever greater holiness. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever

singing your praise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having consumed these gifts, we pray, O Lord, that, by our participation in this mystery, its saving effects upon us may grow. Through Christ our Lord.

Mass

Sat. 6.30pm
Sun. 9.00am
Sun. 11.30am
Sun. 6.30pm

Readers

Carmel Cannon
Ann W/Isaac B.
Mark Renner
Anna Renner

Eucharist Minister

Debra
Innocent
June G & Mary A
Michelle

Stewards

Joan Fitzgerald/Jeanette Fayers
Essien E-Oku/ Gabriel E-Oku
Bernie Shevlin/Joseph Baffoe
Joseph Ogbonna

The Prayer Of the Synod: Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

Attributed to St. Isidore of Seville (560-636), it has been traditionally used at Councils and Synods for hundreds of years. The version below was specifically designed for the Church's Synodal journey from 2021 to 2023.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise You,

We bless You,

We adore you,

We glorify You,

We give You thanks for Your great glory.

Lord God, heavenly King, O God, the almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten Son.

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us; You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,

have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord.

You alone are the Most High. Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,

the Father Almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried;

He descended into hell;

on the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Holy Catholic Church,

the communion of Saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting. Amen.

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Tracey Mullett 07957158861 **Email:** archwaysg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk,
Joan Fitzgerald 07811419531 **Email:** archwaysg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Sade Afolabi 07943565430 **Email:** archwaysg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

• Minors **MUST not** go to the toilets, rooms, or outside the church during services unaccompanied.

• There **MUST be** at least 2 adults present at any ministry to minors e.g. Children's Liturgy, Catechism and Youth Club.

• Vulnerable people **MUST be** accompanied in the Church.

Parish Health and Safety: Joan Fitzgerald 07811419531, Maria Okerefor 07830000919, Jeanette Fayers 07738929756, Evette Parnell-Ogu

Parish Security Reps: Maurice Richards 07904021798 and Essien Ekpenyong-Oku 07305608832