

# NEWS AND VIEWS

**World Youth Day Picnic:** This is another opportunity for all the young people in the parish to experience Lisbon 2023 in London. Those interested should put forward their names for registration and attendance. Transportation will be provided by the parish. **Date: Saturday 2nd September 2023 11am-3pm at the Youth Ministry Retreat Centre, 125 Waxwell Lane, HA5 3EP.** We shall depart the parish at 10am prompt.

**Fr. Martin & Raphael's Farewell:** We shall celebrate them this weekend at all Masses. We will continue to keep them in our prayers.

**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.

**First Holy Communion/Reception** into the Church **2024:** Registration is now open for children who will be making their First Holy Communion next year. They need to be 7 years old by the 31st of August. Adults who are yet to be baptised or to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church should also register for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). **Please it important that you register at the Parish Office.**

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.**

**Additional Bingo Day:** The additional day will be on the Saturday evening. The start up date will be announced shortly. Watch this space.

**100 Club:** The following were the August winners: **1st:** £182-**no.18.** **2nd:** £73- **no.36.** **3rd:** £36 - **no.28.** **4th:** £36 - **no.100.** **5th:** £36- **no. 54.** For the September draw, subscriptions are due in at church by next weekend at the latest. The draw takes place on Friday 1st September after the 1st Friday service. New members are welcome!

**Christian Stewardship:** 13th August 2023 **Envelopes:** £179.00 **Loose:** £570.56 **Contactless:** £48.00 **Parish Project-** (Help At Home - £3,971.42 so far. We also receive £500 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for your continuous support for our parish.

**August: Parish Office will open for half day during the month of August from 9am – 1pm. Thank you..**

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)**

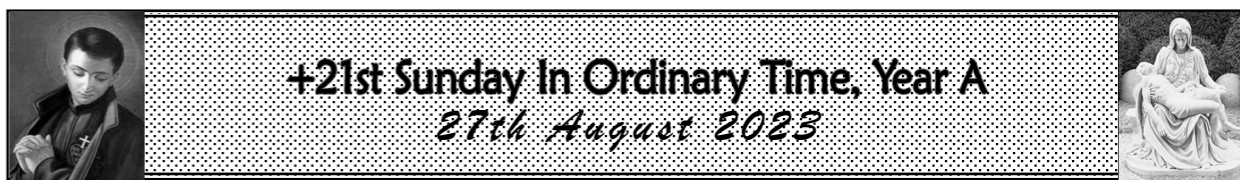
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CAESAREA  
PHILIPPI  
QUESTION  
JOHN  
ELIJAH  
JEREMIAH  
PETER  
CHRIST  
JONAH  
ROCK  
CHURCH  
GATES  
KEYS



**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



**+21st Sunday In Ordinary Time, Year A**  
**27th August 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

### God's Identity

Jesus had to ask them in today's Gospel: "Who do you say I am?" Instructively, he asked this question in the region of Caesarea Philippi, a city known for its many gods, hence the right place to determine people's affiliations and resolve any crises of religious identity. In a way it mirrors our society today where so many compelling voices compete for our attention that we may not know which to follow or the true content of things we sign up to. Going from the public to the individual Jesus began by asking them: "Who do people say I am?" The disciples repeat the various speculations of the crowd: "Some say you are John the Baptist, others say you are Elijah, others one of the ancient prophets ..." None of this is correct. The mob is usually wrong. You therefore need to hold your own personal convictions. Hence, Jesus pointedly asked them: "But you, who do you say I am?" Speaking on behalf of the others Peter declares: "You are the Christ (the Messiah), Son of the living God!" And he is correct! Yet, as the dialogue progressed, it will become clear that they lacked the full understanding of what being the Messiah will mean for Jesus. St. Paul in the 2nd Reading came to surrender that the mind of God is inexplicable and his ways unfathomable. He had tried in vain to reconcile the position of Israel as the Chosen people of God and that of Christians as the new people of God but in a twist of fate, the dilemma suddenly enlightens him that God's ways transcend human reasoning. Indeed some things in our faith make sense but there are loads that don't make sense. Think about the suffering of the innocent, children dying of cancer, landslides, earthquakes and tsunamis flattening lives and communities. Yes, it would be naive and superstitious if we, as humans, don't ask any questions. Hence, like St. Paul, we think these things through but it makes sense that we recognise and also appreciate the limit of our comprehension. Therefore, I can only come to a prayerful surrender trusting that ultimately everything works unto good for them that love God (Romans 8:28).

### Mass Times & Intentions 27th August – 2nd September 2023

**Sat 26th Vigil Mass 6:30pm:** Eamonn Galvin (RIP), Frank Cheah (ANN), Christy & Maria Christopher 30th wedding Anni (INT)  
**Sun 27th 9:00am:** Ekpe Ekpenyong-Oku (ANN), Anna Ryan, Patricia Hart, Margaret Nelson (INT)  
**11:30am:** Brendan Nelson, Sophie Ward, Denise Tagney (RIP), Con & Nora Murphy, Delia & Patrick Hansberry, Simeon Ogbonna (20th), Fr Danny Horan (ANN), Jide Maduako (INT)  
**6:30pm:** PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
**Mon 28th St Augustine 12 noon:** Spiritans Community, Archway  
**Tue 29th The Passion of St John the Baptist 12 noon:** Carlo Avanzi, Pietro Piroli, Mary Brady month's mind (RIP), Frances Moss, Ken Cunningham (ANN), Winskill family (INT)  
**Wed 30th Sts Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward 12 noon:** Ekpe Ekpenyong-Oku (44th), Simeon Ogbonna (20th) (ANN)  
**Thur 31st St Aidan 12 noon:** Paddy Essang, Yomi Samuel (INT)  
**Fri 1st 12 noon:** First Friday Healing Mass/Holy Hour/Benediction  
**Sat 2nd 12 noon:** Ann Fitzgerald posthumous b'day, Jose Roderick posthumous b'day (ANN), Patrick Fitzgerald



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, Ola Gam-Ikon, Private Intention

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 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

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



## Food For Thought

**Psalm 31:24**  
**Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!**

# TODAY'S READINGS

## ENTRANCE ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your ear, O Lord and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

## OPENING PRAYER

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. 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 22: 19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office. I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiyah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 137)

**R. Your love, O Lord is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands.**

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,  
you have heard the words of my mouth.  
Before the angels, I will bless you.  
I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**

I thank you, Lord for your faithfulness and love  
which excel all we ever knew of you.  
On the day I called, you answered;  
you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly  
and the haughty he knows from afar.  
Your love, O Lord is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

## SECOND READING Romans 11: 33-36

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his  
wisdom and knowledge - and how impossible to  
penetrate his motives or understand his methods!  
Who could ever know the mind of the Lord?  
Who could ever be his counselor? Who could ever  
give him anything or lend him anything? All  
that exists comes from him; all is by him and for  
him. To him be glory forever! Amen

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia  
God in Christ was reconciling the world to  
himself, and he has entrusted to us the news  
that they are reconciled.**

**Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL Matthew 16: 13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put his question to his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But you," he said, "who do you say I am?" Then Simon Peter spoke up, "You are the Christ," he said, "the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven." Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, says the Lord, and I will raise him up on the last day.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us so that in all things we may please you. Through Christ our Lord.

## Mass

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

## Readers

Joanna Hemingway  
Maureen Tayler  
Ignatius Etukudoh  
Bridget O'Dea

## Eucharist Minister

Debra  
Innocent Teme Teme  
June G & Roxanne  
Michelle Carr

## 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