

NEWS AND VIEWS

Feast of St Gabriel of Our Lady Of Sorrows: This year our feast day (27th February) will be celebrated with the only Mass on that day being at 6pm. Followed by refreshments (*bring and share*) and entertainment at our 722 Holloway road, parish centre 2.

The Season of Lent: Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday of Lent at 11.30am (before the noon Mass) and 6.30pm (concluded with a Mass). Let us avail ourselves of these spiritual exercises to enrich our Lenten experience.

Parish Pilgrimage To Assisi 2026 This will commemorate with the 800th year of Francis of Assisi, we will also visit the final resting place of the first millennial saint, Saint Carlos Acutti. The itinerary will be pasted in the porch. The dates and cost will be **26th-30th October, 2026. The cost for the trip will be £1440** based on shared accommodation. Initial deposit of **£350 will be made by February 16th**, final payment is expected in **August**. For more information please contact the parish office.

Parish Community Birthday Celebrations: To this effect, any parishioner who wishes to join in the *bring-and-share* after the 11:30am Mass is kindly asked to indicate their name and month of birth at the parish office. February birthday thanksgiving will take place on Sunday 22nd after the 11.30am Mass. **If people drop their names in the parish office.**

First Holy Communion 10.15am Lesson Dates in Mar. 1st, Sat. 7th Reconciliation@10am, 15th, 22nd, **Apr.** 12th, 19th, 26th, **May** 10th, 17th, 31st, **June** Sat. 6th @10am Reconciliation/Rehearsal, **Sunday 7th Celebration of the First Holy Communion.**

Parish thanksgiving mass for milestone birthdays will take place in June. If any parishioner here in our parish is turning the following years **30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, 80th, 90th & every year after their 90th.** Please kindly send your name and birth month via the parish email or just leave a note with the details. Let us join hands and celebrate each other.

Death: Our dear Charlotte Barran has passed away. We thank God that her pain has come to an end and that she is now at peace. Charlotte and Leo her husband provided music at the 6.30pm vigil mass. Please let us keep Leo and the boys in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in perfect peace

Repository: Our repository is stocked up for the upcoming yearly events. Please ask inside the shop for all your Lenten stations of the cross booklets for children, St Patrick's day shamrock brooches, cards, candles, etc. We have you covered.

Donations of Food items for the less privileged: As we are in the cold season, there is increasing demand on us for food handouts from the less privileged. We count on our parishioners for the generous donations of non-perishable food items; tins, beverages, confectioneries, cereals, grains etc. A plastic container is made available for these under the desk for Mass sheets at the back.

Christian Stewardship: 15th February 2026

Envelopes: £158 **Loose:** £ 358.27. We also receive £700 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for your continuous support for our parish. In the meantime, anyone who wants to make a donation can pay into the parish account with the details provided below.

WRCDT St Gabriels Upper Holloway
Sort Code: 40-05-20 Account No: 01097024
OR

Scan this QR Code here on the newsletter, the ones on the benches and on the doors.



REPOSITORY IS STOCKED UP!!!!

February Diary

Sunday 22nd after the 11.30am Mass: **February birthday celebration bring-and-share in the meeting room.**

Friday 27th @ 6pm: **Feast day of St Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows followed by socials**

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 Saturday evening after Mass: **Bingo in the meeting room**

Every Last Sunday of the month: **Parish birthday celebrations for each month.** (except stated otherwise).

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.

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 27th @ 6pm- Feast of St Gabriel

T	S	E	N	O	T	S	E	S	E
E	T	H	U	N	G	R	Y	S	T
Y	T	R	O	F	A	S	T	E	D
P	S	L	E	G	N	A	S	N	E
L	I	A	N	T	A	S	E	R	V
I	L	H	D	E	T	P	M	E	T
V	D	I	S	T	A	L	F	D	I
E	V	I	L	R	S	O	T	L	L
D	S	E	V	A	O	L	O	I	E
T	P	M	E	T	E	W	O	W	L

WILDERNESS
TEMPTED
DEVIL
FASTED
FORTY
HUNGRY
STONES
LOAVES
ANGELS
FOOT
SATAN
WORSHIP



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



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They can only be felt."



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.us



+ 1st Sunday Of Lent Year A
22nd February 2026



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.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

Temptation is our common everyday experience. In today's Gospel for instance, it was the Spirit of God that led Jesus into the desert to be tempted; the purpose is clearly not to lead him to do evil but as a testing of his fitness for his coming mission. Christ did not fail like our First Parents, hence we can draw some crucial lessons from how he succeeded. First, note how the Devil initially uses psychology to sow a seed of doubt in his client's mind. Twice he dares Jesus "if you are indeed the Son of God ... then do this or do that". Recall how he also used the same psychology to sow the seed of doubt in the mind of Eve by asking her "Did God actually say you should not eat of the fruit of this tree...." Be careful, therefore, when people start questioning your religious convictions: the devil might be at work. They can even quote the Bible to support their position which is exactly the next tactics the Devil applied. He asked Jesus to jump from the tower of the temple and quoted Psalm 91 'if you have made the Lord your refuge He will send His Angels to hold you so that you won't strike your foot against a stone'. This shows us that not all ideas are well intended irrespective of how they are presented. Then, the Devil is a shrewd opportunist who tempts you with what you desperately desire. He knew that having fasted for forty days, Jesus would be very hungry so he came with bread! We must be very careful whenever we are desperate for something because then we become so gullible towards that thing and open to manipulation. Meanwhile, the test of turning stones into bread relates to how we use our God-given gifts and talents. Jesus would later on in his ministry multiply bread to feed others. But he would not do it to feed himself. Do we see our talents and abilities as means to serve others or simply as a means to make a living for ourselves alone? The last temptation hints at something most frightening: the Devil showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and their riches and then made a shocking claim that they all belonged to him. Yet, what is even more disturbing is that Jesus did not dispute that claim. Could that be an admission that there is something 'devilish' about power and wealth?

Mass Times & Intentions 22nd – 28th February 2026

Sat 21st Vigil Mass 6:30pm: Charlotte Barran (RIP), Barran family (INT)

Sun 22nd 9:00am: Lina Piroli, Kathleen Panayiotou (Month's Mind), Charlotte Barran (RIP), Queeneth Ekpo, Essien-Oku family (INT)

11:30am: Con & Nora Murphy, Margaret Togher, P.J Heavin (90th posthumous birthday) (RIP), Brendan Nelson (4th) (ANN), Mary Aherne & family, Etukudoh family, Anna Marie Thomas, Philomena Kpodo, Rita Avanzi (INT)

6:30pm: Rita Avanzi (INT)

Mon 23rd 12 noon: Priests and People of the Parish

Tues 24th 12 noon: Mary Waldron, Bernadette Simpson, James Smith (RIP), Margaret Kennedy (ANN), Rita Avanzi, Bingo Club members (INT)

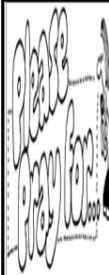
Wed 25th 12 noon: Jane Forrest, Geraldine Reidy (INT)

Thurs 26th 12 noon: Brendan Nelson (ANN)

Fri 27th No midday Mass 5.30pm: Stations of the Cross followed by Mass

6:00pm: Mass for the Feast of St Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows

Sat 28th 12 noon: Martin & Ellen Togher, Carolina Antonia Medina (ANN), Michael Osijo (30th), Baptism families (INT)



Ella Humphreys, Rita Avanzi, Jarlet Fallon, Christopher Jerome, John Bruno, Mary Burton, Frank Gibbons, Maria Kuozwatski, Philip Mayne, Bridget Munnely, Brian Coleman, Shiela Farrell, Christopher Nelson, Paddy Essang, Phillip Duggase, Terry Earley, Mary Mullarkey, Bernadette Ikwuka, Mary Dunne, Christy & Maria Christopher, Lourdes Sisneros, Emmanuel & Magdalene Debonne, Douglas Meyers, Sylvia Traynor, Frances Quinn, Tony Colbert, Maureen Walsh, Gabby Mehmet, Freda Glackin, Maureen Currie, Joan McGonigal, Madeleine Hourihan, Stella Anakor, Jacinta L, Marie Therese Tourette, Mary Gallagher, Gloria Munian, Teresa O'Dea, Percy Shackell, Eddy Renwick, Gino Avanzi, Nicholas Stephens, Anastasia Nervais, Margaret Foley, Prince Henshaw, John Alan, Rashmi, Joan Fitzgerald, Savindra de Alwis, Padra Williams, Winston Fernando, Lourdes Bastardo, Norman Wills, Cronin Hehir, Maura O'Leary, Artoro Davila, Mary Brady, Teresa McDonagh, Christine Cheah, Valentine Olayemi, Mary Mullee, Elizabeth Ortega, Gomes family, Agnes Quainoo, Hannah Conwell, Stephanie Kafari, Angela Gallagher, Errol Roberts, Louisa Carter, Doreen Timoney, Oliver Chime, Stella Chime, Maura Eivers, Ann Forrester, Danielle, Margarita, June Gray, Mary Asforis

Parish is served by the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans) Congregation of the Holy Spirit

Parish Priests: Fr. Moses Enechizena CSSp, Fr Augustine Isah Katuka CSSp, Fr Martin Goba CSSp, John Duong CSSp

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.us (Reg. Charity No.233699)

Confessions Sat.11am, 6pm, before Masses **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Meditative Rosary:** Sun. 10.30am

Healing Mass/Holy Hour/Benediction: First Fridays 12noon **Prayer/Faith Group:** Sat. 10am

Mission Statement: To animate a loving multicultural Christian community

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

TODAY'S READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

OPENING PRAYER

Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects. 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 Genesis 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7

The LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God actually say, "You shall not eat of any tree in the garden"?' And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 51(50))

R. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your merciful love;
according to your great compassion,
blot out my transgressions.

R

Wash me completely from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.

R.

My transgressions, truly I know them; my sin is always
before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is
evil in your sight I have done.

R.

Create a pure heart for me, O God; renew a steadfast
spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your
presence; take not your holy spirit from me.

R.

Restore in me the joy of your salvation; sustain in me a
willing spirit. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall
proclaim your praise.

R.

SECOND READING Romans 5: 12-19

Brothers and Sisters: Just as sin came into the world
through one man, and death through sin, and so death
spread to all men because all sinned — for sin indeed was
in the world before the law was given, but sin is not
counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from
Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not
like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one
who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass.
For if many died through one man's trespass, much more
have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of
that one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for many. And the
free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For
the judgement following one trespass brought condemna-
tion, but the free gift following many trespasses brought
justification. For if, because of one man's trespass, death
reigned through that one man; much more will those who
receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of right-
eousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.
Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all
men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and
life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the
many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience
the many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word
that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL Matthew 4: 1-11

At that time: Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wil-
derness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty
days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter
came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, com-
mand these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he
answered, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread
alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of
God."' Then the devil took him to the holy city and set
him on the pinnacle of the Temple and said to him, 'If
you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is
written, "He will command his angels concerning you",
and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike
your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is
written, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the
test."' Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain
and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their
glory. And he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you
will fall down and worship me.' Then Jesus said to him,
'Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the

Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" Then the
devil left him, and behold, angels came and were minister-
ing to him alone.'" Then the devil left him, and angels ap-
peared and looked after him.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Give us the right disposition, O Lord, we pray, to make
these offerings, for with them we celebrate the beginning
of this venerable and sacred time. Through Christ our
Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that
comes forth from the mouth of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed now with heavenly bread by which faith is nour-
ished, hope increased and charity strengthened, we pray,
O Lord, that we may learn to hunger for Christ, the true
and living bread and strive to live by every word which
proceeds from your mouth. Through Christ our Lord

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER (For Online Mass)

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most
Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I de-
sire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this
moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spirit-
ually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were al-
ready there and unite myself wholly to You.

Mass

Sat. 6.30pm
Sun. 9am
Sun 11.30am
Sun 6.30pm

Readers

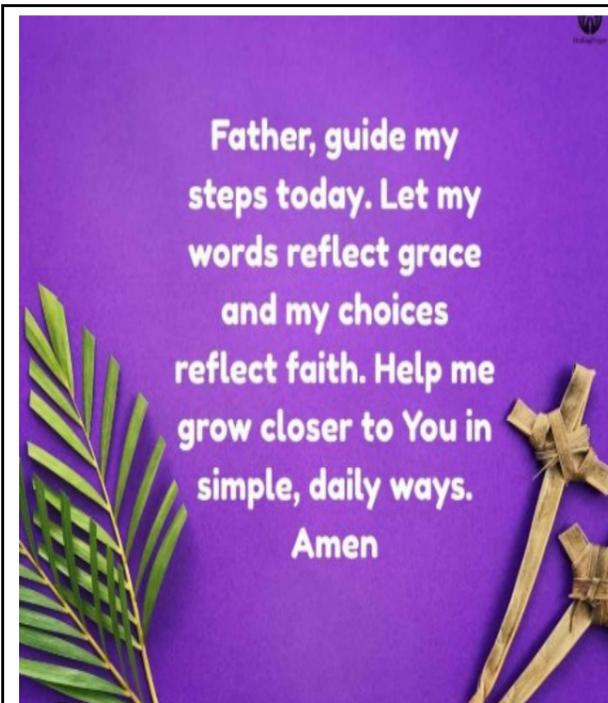
Bridget O'Dea
Paula Zanre
Tracey Mullett
Maureen Tayler

Eucharist Minister

June G
Innocent Teme
June G & Roxanne C
Michelle C

Stewards

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



THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God; begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven, (*all bon*) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Tracey Mullett 07957158861 **Email:** archwaysg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk,
Joan Fitzgerald 07811419531 **Email:** archwaysg1@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
- Vulnerable people **MUST be** accompanied in the Church.

Parish Data Protection Champion Officers: Ann Waldron 07449110910 **Email:** archway@rcdow.org.uk
Tom McDonnell

Parish Health and Safety: Jeanette Fayers 07738929756, Evette Parnell-Ogu 07985256344

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