

NEWS AND VIEWS

Parish Community Birthday Celebrations: To encourage and strengthen our existing, thriving parish community, we will be celebrating the birthdays of parishioners born in each month on one designated Sunday every month, unless advised otherwise. 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.

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.

First Holy Communion 10.15am Lesson Dates in Jan. 11th, 25th, **Mar.** Saturday 7th Reconciliation@10am, 15th, 22nd, **Apr.** 12th, 19th, 26th, **May** 10th, 17th, 31st, **June** Saturday 6th @10am Reconciliation/Rehearsal, **Sunday 7th** **Celebration of the First Holy Communion.**

100 Club January draw: The 1st prize of £150 went to no.76; 2nd prize of £60 to no.24; prizes of £30 to nos.53, 59 & 82. The next draw is on **Friday 6th February after the First Friday Service**. Subscriptions are due in by the weekend of 31st Jan/1st Feb. **New Members Welcome!** Application forms at the back of the church.

January Diary

Sunday 25th after the 11.30am Mass: **January birthday celebration bring-and-share in the meeting room.**
 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.**

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Make the rest of your life the best of your life."

"Don't let what you can't do stop you from doing what you can do."

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



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



+ Baptism of the Lord Year A

11th January 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

Most of those coming to John the Baptist for baptism were repentant sinners. Our baptism, too, is partly to rescue us from the power of sin. How does Jesus himself fit into this? There are two answers we can give to this question: 1. By being baptised in the River Jordan with all those self-proclaimed sinners, Jesus shows his total solidarity with us. "The Word was made flesh and lived among us," says John's gospel. This solidarity was indicated by the criticism of the Pharisees that Jesus spent so much time eating and drinking with sinners and outcasts. 2. Something different is happening here beyond an ordinary baptism. The Gospel says significantly that Jesus was at prayer when his baptism took place. At all the significant moments in his public life, Jesus is presented as praying. It was at this moment that the Spirit of God in the visible form of a dove comes down on him. And then came the voice of the Father clearly endorsing the work that Jesus is about to begin. So, through his baptism, Jesus is being officially commissioned to begin his public work of teaching, healing and liberating enslaved souls up to the climactic moment of his passion, death and resurrection. Today is an opportunity for us to reflect on our own baptisms too. It is not something which happened a long time ago and which "made" us Catholics. It is not just a ceremony lasting a few minutes which produces magical effects; it is the beginning of a life-long journey. It is the beginning of a process of growing into the Body of Christ as its members. It involves active participation in the life of the Church and not just passive membership. Our baptism is a never-ending call to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Each one of us is called to be a living witness to the Gospel: to be the salt of the earth, a city on a hill, a lamp radiating light for all.

Mass Times & Intentions 11th– 17th January 2026

Sat 10th Vigil Mass 6:30pm: Muriel & George Roberts, Raymond Hill, Bridie Dowling (posthumous birthday) (RIP), Barran family, Joan Fitzgerald, Julieta Ruica (INT)
Sun 11th 9:00am: Amy Essien-Oku, Essien-Oku family, Patricia Essien-Oku, Rachel McGonigal, Danuta, Kevin & Henryk Kedzierscy, Eyo Okon Eyo family (INT)
11:30am: Margaret Togher, Alan Mullee, Elizabeth Earley (RIP), Tony McCabe (85th Birthday), Patricia Essien-Oku (INT)
6:30pm: Patricia Essien-Oku (INT)

Mon 12th 12 noon: Caroline Earley de Vasconcelos (Heavenly Birthday) (RIP), Martin McDonagh (5th), Winnie McDonagh (5th), David McDonagh (5th) (ANN), Amy Essien-Oku, Rachel McGonigal (INT)

Tue 13th: Margaret Togher, Maeve Sullivan, Tim O'Reagan, Marilyn O'Reagan (RIP), Gabby Mehmet, Valerie Barrett (INT)
Wed 14th 12 noon: Margaret Togher (RIP), Denis Kirk (2nd) (ANN), Anne McElroy (INT)

Thurs 15th 12 noon: Joyce McDaid birthday (INT)

Fri 16th 12 noon: Margaret Togher (RIP), Denis Kirk (2nd) (ANN), Ann Murphy birthday (INT)

Sat 17th St Anthony 12 noon: Margaret Togher (RIP), John Phelan, Patrick Smith, Susan & James McMahon (ANN), Jiwa Biblian (INT)



Rebecca Campbell, Ella Humphreys, Rita Avanzi, Jarlet Fallon, Christopher Jerome, John Bruno, Mary Burton, Frank Gibbons, Maria Kuzowatski, Philip Mayne, Bridget Munnely, Brian Coleman, Sheila 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, Kathleen Panayiotou, 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, Arturo 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

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

Parish Priests: Fr. Moses Enehizena 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.uk (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

The God of glory thunders;
in his temple they all cry, 'Glory!'
The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits as king for ever. R.

Opening Prayer

Almighty, eternal God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that you children by adoption, reborn of water and Holy Spirit, may always be pleasing to you. 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 42:1-4.6-7*

Thus says the LORD: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. 'I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.'

Responsorial Psalm (29)(28): 1-2

R. The LORD will bless his people with peace.

Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly powers, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; bow down before the LORD, majestic in holiness. R.

The voice of the LORD upon the waters, the LORD on the immensity of waters; the voice of the LORD full of power; the voice of the LORD full of splendour. R.

Second Reading *Acts 10: 34-38*

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all — you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.'

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered: 'This is my beloved Son; listen to him'.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17.

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'

R.

Prayer over the gifts

Accept, O Lord, the offerings we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son, so that the oblation of your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of him who willed in his compassion to wash away the sins of the world. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion Antiphon

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Prayer after communion

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly en-

treat your mercy, O Lord, that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son, we may be your children in name and in truth. 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 desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Mass	Readers	Eucharist Minster	Stewards
Sat. 6.30pm	Ann Heekin	June G	Joan Fitzgerald/Jeanette Fayers
Sun. 9am	Paula Zanre	Innocent Teme	Essien Ekpenyong-Oku
Sun 11.30am	Joseph Baffoe	June & Mary A	Bernie Shevlin/Joseph Baffoe
Sun 6.30pm	Eugenia Ackah	Michelle Carr	Joseph Ogbonna

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 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 bow*) 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 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
- 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