

NEWS AND VIEWS

Easter Message: Happy Easter! Beloved parishioners, in this Holy Week which climaxed at Easter, we see the paradox of a God who died, overwhelmed by the worst of human behaviour and sinfulness. Then comes the resurrection! He emerges saying 'shalom' to those who abandoned him, saying peace to those who had betrayed him, demonstrating that God's love and forgiveness can swallow up all the sins of the world. And that's why St. Paul could say with certainty in Romans 8:38-39 that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor height nor depth, nor any other power can separate us from the love of God. Let us say "Amen ... So be it" to this gratuitous and priceless gesture. Let us personally claim this salvation no matter the gravity of the sin that we have been involved in. Let us go and sin no more. And let us express our gratitude especially by responding similarly with love in the face of the evil that continues to work in us and around us. Happy Easter!

Fr. Moses E. Fr. Isah K. Fr. Martin G. Br. John D.

Parish Office closes for Easter Break on Monday the 6th and reopens on Monday the 13th. All office matters will be attended to when the office resumes. The priests will be available to attend to those who need material assistance. Please call the Parish Line 02072728195 for matters requiring urgent attention.

Parish Easter Outing for our young people: Many of our young people have demonstrated commitment and sense of service to our church and community by serving on the altar and participating in the Youth activities. We want to appreciate them by taking them out next Saturday 11th April to have some fun. Please help sponsor them. There will be a basket in the porch for your donations.

Planned Giving Envelopes. Please collect your new box of envelopes for planned giving from the back of the church.

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

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** per person based on shared accommodation. For more information contact the parish office.

Parish thanksgiving mass for milestone birthdays will take place in July. 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 celebrate.

100 Club April draw: The next draw is on **Friday 10th April during the quiz night session at 7.45pm, please take note of these alterations for April ONLY.** Subscriptions due in by the weekend of 4th /5th April. New Members Welcome! Application forms at the back of the church or ask in the parish office.

Legacy: A gift in your will, left to a registered charity such as the Church, is exempt from inheritance tax and reduces your overall residual tax rate. Legacies may be left either for general purposes or for a specific use. Please remember to include your parish in your will, to continue the good works of our forbearers

Christian Stewardship: 29th March 2026

Envelopes: £159 **Loose:** £ 464.09. 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.



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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



+ Easter Sunday Year A
5th April 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

Eyes witnesses are rated higher than those within "earshot" for evidence. The one who can say that "I was physically present and I saw it happen" carries the day. The resurrection testimony parades neither eyewitness nor 'earshot witness' but it has stood the test of time. Testifying to the resurrection was a daunting challenge to the apostles even as it is to us now. The hurdles were many; there was no eye witness to the actual event, only an empty tomb afterwards. The first persons to see the empty tomb were women (their evidence did not count for much then). The Sanhedrin was on the side lines. The disciples had to show their antagonists (and unbelievers) that the empty tomb was not a human design but the manifestation of the power of God. So, they turned to the power of the resurrection to prove their claim. Peter and John only saw an empty tomb that Easter morning but they believed that the Lord indeed had risen. They believed because the Lord had told them that he would rise from the dead on the third day. They had to testify to the resurrection by the most unconventional way – a new way of life. A life of love, fraternity and hope; a life of a universal brotherhood not defined by race, status or tongue. A life powered by the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. They succeeded! It remains the strongest evidence that Christ rose from the dead and still lives. It is still the demand that the celebration of Easter makes on us as Christians. Our life is still the loudest testimony to why the grave was empty on the first Easter morning. It is with our lives that we can truly say, "Christ is risen. Hallelujah!"

Mass Times & Intentions 5th – 11th April 2026

Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord

Sun 5th 9:00am: Fr Ray Armstrong, Sheila Maguire, B.I. Etim-Bassey family, Essien-Oku family, Francis Son Le (birthday) (INT)

11:30am: Margaret Togher (RIP), Agnes & Michael Heneghan, Mary & Peter Hehir (ANN), Tony Shevlin (INT)

6:30pm: NO EVENING MASS

Mon 6th 12 noon: Mary & Tom Slattery, Margaret Togher, Michael Sheehan (RIP)

Tues 7th 12 noon: Michael Sheehan, Holy Souls in Purgatory (RIP), Tom D'Arcy, Peter Foley, Matre Tighe (ANN), Ann Shaughnessy (INT)

Wed 8th 12 noon: Antonio Gomes 80th birthday, Eme Ogbe (INT)

Thurs 9th 12 noon : Bernard Etim-Bassey (32nd) (ANN)

Fri 10th 12 noon: Peter Hynes (10th) (ANN)

Sat 11th 12noon : Kitty Azzi (birthday) (ANN)



Ella Humphreys, Rita Avanzi, Christopher Jerome, John Bruno, Mary Burton, Frank Gibbons, Maria Kuozwatski, Philip Mayne, Bridget Munnely, 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, 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, Julie Antwi, Stephanie Kafari, Angela Gallagher, Errol Roberts, Louisa Carter, Doreen Timoney, Oliver Chime, Stella Chime, Ann Forrester, Danielle, Margarita, June Gray, Carmel C, Dominic Roberts

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

Parish Priests: Fr. Moses Enechizena CSSp, Fr Augustine I.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 ...

Y	R	E	N	A	W	A	E	L	S	M	A	R	K	J	E	S	O	J	G	E
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MARY	SEPULCHRE	EARTHQUAKE
ANGEL	STONE	ROBE
SNOW	JESUS	RISEN
AWE	JOY	GREETINGS



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Let the fire inside of you burn brighter than the fire around you."

"Don't let the fear of losing outweigh the excitement of winning."

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



TODAY'S READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

OPENING PRAYER

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. 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 Acts 10:34a 37-43

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: '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. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and caused him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 118(117))

R. *This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.*

Give praise to the LORD, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.
Let the house of Israel say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

The LORD's right hand is exalted.
The LORD's right hand has done mighty deeds.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount the deeds of the LORD.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done, a marvel in our eyes.

R.

SECOND READING Colossians 3:1-4

Brothers and Sisters: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended; combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the festival in the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going towards the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying

R.

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there, and the face cloth, which had been on the head of Jesus, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Exultant with paschal gladness, O Lord, we offer the sacrifice by which your Church is wondrously reborn and nourished. Through Christ our Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; Therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your Church, O God, with unfailing love and favour, so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection. 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 Minister	Stewards
Sat. 9.30pm		EASTER VIGIL MASS	
Sun. 9am	Paula Zanre	Innocent Teme	Essien Ekpenyong-Oku
Sun 11.30am	Ignatius Etukudoh	Mary A & Joyce McD	Bernie Shevlin/Joseph Baffoe
Sun 6.30pm		NO EVENING MASS	

EASTER

Easter is the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the dead. Celebrated on Sunday, it marks the end of Holy Week, the end of Lent, the last day of the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday), and is the beginning of the Easter season of the liturgical year. As we know from the Gospels, Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day following his crucifixion, which would be Sunday. His resurrection marks the triumph of good over evil, sin and death. It is the singular event which proves that those who trust in God and accept Christ will be raised from the dead. Since Easter represents the fulfilment of God's promises to mankind, it is the most important holiday of the Christian calendar. In the Gospels, the precise details of the Easter narrative vary slightly, but none of these variances are critical to the main story. In fact, it is argued that the variances are simply matters of style and not substance. Despite the variances, the key aspects of the Easter story all match. Above all, they agree that the tomb of Christ was indeed empty, which is the most essential fact. Based on direct evidence from the mid-second century, it is believed that Easter was regularly celebrated from the earliest days of the Church. The Easter date is movable and always falls on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25. Easter in the Roman Catholic Church is always on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox.



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