

# NEWS AND VIEWS

**Parish '100 Club:** the next draw will take place after the Zoom quiz on 8th January. Please hand in your subscriptions by Sunday 3rd January. Good Luck!

**The Parish Office closes for Christmas** on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December and re-opens on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of January. Masses and essential pastoral services continue as normal.

**Fr Ugo's Annual Leave** begins after Christmas till the end of January.

**Winter Shelter for the Homeless:** This has been cancelled due to the restrictions imposed on gatherings and movement of people as a result of the Covid19 pandemic. Food parcels will be given at the Presbytery door daily to cushion this effect.

**First Holy Communion** classes start in January after the Christmas break, dates will be communicated shortly.

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**Christian Stewardship:** Many parishes survived the covid era because parishioners responded to supporting the parish steadily through standing orders. We got some support in that way too as our weekly income from standing orders moved from £120 to £400 which is good. But the honest fact is that we can do better. A lot of costs, both recurrent and capital, still go into the running of the parish at this time. So, could we please do more by standing orders. Here, we have the parish bank details for those who will be moved to set up standing orders for your Sunday offerings or freewill donations:

Name: **WRCDT St Gabriels Parish, Upper Holloway.**  
Sort code **40-05-20**  
Acc. No. **01097024.**  
God bless you abundantly for your kindness.

**Christian Stewardship: (20th/27th December 2020)**  
Envelopes: £430.30 Loose: £517.48 **Christmas:** £956.62.  
We receive £420 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for our continuous support of our parish.

## January Diary

Friday 8th : Parish Zoom Quiz night at 8pm, followed by the Parish 100 club draw

E	D	E	E	G	A	M	O	H	T	BETHLEHEM
C	H	L	K	I	D	E	T	S	E	EAST
H	T	I	I	N	I	H	A	A	G	INFANT
I	N	H	N	H	H	E	S	T	E	KING
T	A	R	G	F	C	L	O	R	A	STAR
A	F	R	O	I	E	H	A	A	M	HOMAGE
D	N	Y	L	A	L	T	A	S	O	LEADER
E	I	M	D	R	S	E	R	R	H	DATE
S	K	E	T	A	D	B	D	Y	I	CHILD
A	R	B	E	T	L	E	M	E	M	DELIGHT
										GOLD
										MYRRH



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



A priest buys a lawn mower at a yard sale. Back home, he pulls on the starter rope a few times with no results. He storms back to the yard sale and tells the previous owner, "I can't get the mower to start!" "That's because you have to curse to get it started," says the man. "I'm a man of the cloth. I don't even remember how to curse." "You keep pulling on that rope, and it'll come back to you."



spiritans

**St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Archway**  
Contact: 15 St John's Villas, N19 3EE Tel: 02072728195 (option 2) 07533726467 (text only)  
Email: [archway@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:archway@rcdow.org.uk)

+ 2nd Sunday After The Nativity  
3rd January 2021

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

Today's Gospel presents us "The Word became flesh and lived among us." I am wondering how we make sense of this sentence in the modern world. Perhaps it is as foreign to our ears and our understanding as the Queen's praise of Wren's Cathedral. It must be admitted that the Incarnation, God's act of becoming human, has been difficult to comprehend and accept in any time and any place, not just the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Martin Luther said, "The mystery of humanity of Christ, that He sunk Himself into our flesh, is beyond all human understanding." It is not a truth that can be explained by science or logic; it can only be proclaimed as revealed truth. But once it has been proclaimed, it can be explored so as to better understand the difference this mystery makes in our lives. In these few verses, the writer of John presents philosophical and religious ideas current in the first century in order to get at what happened when God got born as a baby in Bethlehem. There is Logos from Greek philosophy which is the truth or wisdom of God. Then there is the Jewish Biblical idea that when God created the world, God spoke the world into being, "God said, let there be light." (Genesis 1:3ff.) John then takes a leap into the early church's memory and proclamation about the man Jesus and the things he said and did. He puts it all together with soaring, poetic prose to show us Jesus as the living expression of God's truth and wisdom spoken into earthly existence. John presents to us that Jesus is the living, breathing, very human, creative, and life-giving power of God. John demonstrates to us God on one side and humanity on the other and Jesus in the center as the word which God spoke to us about God' love and purpose for us all. So, God became flesh and lived among us because God was not willing to be a far-off, spiritual ideal. God knew that for the divine/human relationship to be real, it had to be fleshed out. That "fleshing out" continues in the life of the church, the "body of Christ" as we embody our faith and love for God in our efforts to live lives of love with one another and the world. For it is this living lives of love that makes the difference in our World.

Maranatba

## Mass Times & Intentions 3rd – 9th January 2021

**Sat 2nd:** Marcel Guérin (RIP), Cara Brett, Jim Ryan (ANN), Richard Hill, David Lavelli, Louise McDonnell (INT)  
**Sun 3rd 9:00am:** John Spittle, Judy Chepcup, Tom Deeley, Monich Murray, Georgina Ulaeto (RIP), Mullee family, Theresa Reilly, Rita Avanzi, Essien-Oku family (INT)  
**11:30am:** Mary Slattery, Michael & Agnes Heneghan, Patricia Etim-Bassey, Katie Howard, Gladys Duggan (RIP), Alf Humphreys (ANN), Mary & Stephen Hallisey, Philomena Thompson, Philip & Orla Lynch family, Special ints. Siobhan Soul, Essien-Oku family, Uche Ikoro, Amaobi Maduako (INT)  
**6:30pm:** Joseph Ina Nevin, Derick Sheehan, Deceased members of Nevin family (RIP)  
**Mon 4th:** Wendy Winsor Essien-Oku family (INT)  
**Tue 5th:** Charmaine Girsham (RIP), Rita Rawlings, Essien-Oku family, Uche Ikoro (INT)  
**Wed 6th The Epiphany of the Lord:** Essien-Oku family (INT)  
**Thur 7th St. Raymond of Penyafort:** Michael Forrester (RIP), Rosemary Colquhoun, Essien-Oku family (INT)  
**Fri 8th:** Keith Colquhoun, Mary Stephens, Essien-Oku family (INT)  
**Sat 9th:** (RIP), Paulette Guérin (ANN), Felicity Harrison & family, Carol Belsten, Beryl Tamsett, Essien-Oku family (INT)



**Please Pray for:** Rebecca Campbell, Babs Kavanagh, Ella Humphreys, Tess McNaney, Rita Avanzi, Nancy Olaiya, Jarlet Fallon, Nora Hoare, Anne Quinlan, Ann Larkin, Philip O'Connor, Mary Wallace, Christopher Jerome, John Bruno, Theresa Reilly, Mary Slow, Isabella King, Derek Gomes, Mary Burton, Cornelia Henshaw, Rebecca Ononogbo, Magdalene Koronyo, Frank Gibbons, Maria Kuozwatski, Philip Mayne, Giovanna Spittle, Bridget Munnely, Tom Rochford, Brian Coleman, Shiela Farrell, Augustina Okelue, Mary Theresa Madigan, Maria Cecile Perine, Christopher Nelson, Paddy Essang, Padra Williams, Phillip Duggase, Terry Earley, Elizabeth Earley, Caroline de Vasconcellos, Mary Mullarkey, Mary O'Connell, Bernadette Ikwuka, Margaret Togher, Diane Sewell, Geraldine McKeaney, Mary Dunne, Lina Piroli, Pilar, Christy & Maria Christopher, Lourdes Sisneros, Angela Fairbank, Emmanuel & Magdalene Debonne, Special intention, Douglas Meyers, Sylvia Traynor, Danielle, Lilian Montague, Fr Kevin

Parish is served by the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans) Congregation of the Holy Spirit  
**Parish Priests:** Fr. Dr Ugo Ikwuka CSSp, Fr. Benedict Baka CSSp, Fr. Oliver Ugwu CSSp  
**Parish Office Team:** Patricia Essien-Oku, Maureen Tayler, Mary Aherne, Joan FitzGerald, Karen Birot  
**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](mailto:archway@rcdow.org.uk) Web: [parish.rcdow.org.uk/archway](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/archway) (Reg. Charity No.233699)  
**Pastorals/Devotions:** Confessions Sat. 11.30am & 6pm, **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Meditative Rosary:** Sun. 10.30am, **Healing Mass/Holy Hour/Benediction:** First Fridays (New time) 9.30am – 10.45pm. **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 ...

# TODAY'S READINGS

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful Word, O Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne.

## OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, splendor of faithful souls, graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light. 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 Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2; 8-12

Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself. She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One;  
 "Then the creator of all things instructed me, and he who created me fixed a place for my tent. He said, Pitch your tent in Jacob, make Israel your inheritance." From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall remain. I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle, and thus was I established on Zion. In the beloved city he has given me rest, and in Jerusalem I wield my authority. I have taken root in a privileged people in the Lord's property, in his inheritance."

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 147: 12-15. 19-20)

**R. The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.**

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!  
 Zion, praise your God!  
 He has strengthened the bars of your gates,  
 He has blessed the children within you.  
 He established peace on your borders,  
 He feeds you with finest wheat.  
 He sends out his word to the Earth  
 And swiftly runs his command.  
 He makes his word known to Jacob,  
 To Israel his Laws and decrees.  
 He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
 He has not taught them his decrees.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ.

Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ, for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved. That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia**

Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans;  
 Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world

**Alleluia**

## GOSPEL John 1: 1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. **\*Shorter form\***

## SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-6.15-18

## PRAY OVER THE GIFTS

Sanctify, O Lord, the offerings we make on the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, for by it you show us the way of truth and promise the life of the heavenly Kingdom.  
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PRAY AFTER COMMUNION

Lord our God, we humbly ask you, that, through the working of this mystery, our offenses may be cleansed and our just desires fulfilled. Through Christ our Lord.  
 Amen.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

To all who would accept him, he gave the power to become children of God.

### Mass

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

### Readers

Bridget O'Dea  
 Rachel McGonigal  
 Mark Renner  
 Tracey Shevlin

### Stewards

Precious Ohiambe/Joan Fitzgerald/Bernie Shevlin  
 Precious Ohiambe/Gabriel Essien-Oku/Essien E-O  
 Precious Ohiambe/Bernie S /Ignatius E/Keisha H  
 Precious Ohiambe/Mary Hansberry

## FEAST OF THE WEEK



### The Epiphany Of The Lord Feast Day: 6th January

In Western Christianity, the feast of the Epiphany commemorates principally, but not solely, the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, and thus Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentiles. The traditional date for the feast is January 6. However, since 1970, the celebration is held in some countries on the Sunday after 1 January. In some denominations, the feast of the Epiphany also initiates the liturgical season of Epiphanytide. In many Western Christian Churches, the eve of the feast is celebrated as Twelfth Night. The Monday after Epiphany is known as Plough Monday. As well as attending church services, popular Epiphany customs include Epiphany singing, chalking the door, having one's house blessed, consuming Three Kings Cake and winter swimming. It is customary for Christians in many localities to remove their Christmas decorations on Epiphany Eve (Twelfth Night,) although those in other Christian countries historically remove them on Candlemas, the conclusion of Epiphanytide. According to the first tradition, those who fail to remember to remove their Christmas decorations on Epiphany Eve must leave them untouched until Candlemas, the second opportunity to remove them; failure to observe this custom is considered inauspicious.

### 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.

### Key Notes:

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Juliea Ballantyne 07985694199 Email: archwaysg@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 Team:** Maria Okereafor 07830000919, Jeanette Fayers 07738929756, Joan Fitzgerald 07811419531

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