

# NEWS AND VIEWS

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation):** Masses 9.30am and 7pm

**Parish Feast of the Pentecost 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** Since the Holy Ghost Fathers started serving our Parish in 2014, we have made the feast of the Pentecost our parish feast. This is most fitting since Pentecost celebrates our diversity. Giving the constraints of the covid era, we may not be able to celebrate as elaborately as we used to do. However, we would like to make the most of the opportunity we have. **For the Pentecost weekend therefore, we plan to:**

- Have only three Masses: the Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday at 6.30pm and the two Sunday morning Masses at 9am and 11.30am. **No evening Mass**
- There will be some diversity of tongues in the music and the bidding prayers.
- We would like about three people who could speak a variety of languages to lead the bidding prayers for us. Please indicate if you can.
- We would also welcome people in as much tongues as possible. So please send us the words of welcome in your language to the Parish Office.
- If possible, we would serve take-away snack packs in the car park at the end of the Masses. Donations towards sourcing these would be highly appreciated. Other ideas are welcome.
- Dress code: People's traditional costumes/outfits

**First Holy Communion dates: May 9<sup>th</sup> (Enrolment Mass @11.30am), 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> (Reconciliation & rehearsals), 27<sup>th</sup> (Celebration of 1st Holy Communion at 3pm)**

**Parish Website:** Our new parish website is up and running, please visit it and make observations. We would like to thank Florian for seeing this through. Visit us at [www.stgabes.uk](http://www.stgabes.uk)

**Live-streamed Masses via ZOOM/Facebook on Weekdays at 7pm:** We have successfully started this for our spiritual nourishment even while we are at home or at work. It is also very easy to join the Mass through Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/ArchwayParish/> Online Stations of the Cross will be at 6.30pm on Fridays followed by the Mass at 7pm. God bless you as you join us. The Mass will be quiet, prayerful and in 25 minutes. **Zoom link for weekday evening Masses @ 7pm GMT** beginning **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**, is below; <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85921527142?pwd=L05jUHk4QWVvWVQzSVpkNkZ3SGl3dz09> Meeting ID: **859 2152 7142** Passcode: **071411**

**Christian Stewardship:** (2nd May 2021) Envelopes: £210 Loose: £400.49. We also receive £520 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for our continuous support of our parish.

## May Diary

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation): Masses 9.30am and 7pm  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Parish Pentecost Festival

S	T	N	A	V	R	E	S	T	E	REMAIN	JOY	COMPLETE	FRIENDS
N	N	T	S	A	L	R	A	E	B	COMMAND	LIFE	SERVANTS	BUSINESS
A	R	D	N	A	M	M	O	C	S	CHOOSE	BEAR	LAST	NAME
V	A	E	Y	B	E	A	O	S	D				
R	E	V	M	F	A	M	E	A	N				
E	L	O	I	A	P	N	S	L	E				
S	N	L	Y	L	I	Y	O	J	I				
E	A	S	E	S	I	N	O	Y	R				
A	M	T	U	O	V	F	H	I	F				
R	E	B	E	A	D	E	C	E	L				



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

Charles, a new retiree-greeter at Wal-Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really tidy, clean-shaven, sharp-minded and a real credit to the company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies. One day the boss called him into the office for a talk.  
"Charles, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a bang-up job when you finally get here, but your being late so often is quite bothersome."  
"Yes sir, I know, and I am working on it."  
"Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear."  
"Yes sir, I understand your concern and I'll try harder."  
Seeming puzzled, the manager went on to comment, "It's odd though you're coming in late. I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say to you there if you showed up in the morning so late and so often?" The old man looked down at the floor, then smiled. He chuckled quietly, then said with a grin, "They usually saluted and said: "Good morning General, can I get your coffee sir?"



**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)  
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**+ 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Time B**  
*9<sup>th</sup> May 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

**We are born to love not to hate**

Jesus must have stunned his disciples in today's Gospel when he pointedly told them: "It was not you who chose me; it was I who chose you." Our faith has always meant our quest for God, our quest for meaning, etc. It has always been our initiative. But here, Jesus turns things on their head. He implies that our choices with regard to God are very secondary. The primary thing is that God seeks us out; that God has chosen us. To get that order right is to get the most from our faith. It means that I'm no longer confined to the tiny world of my plans and projects, no matter how lofty they seem. It means that I abandon my own script to be cast in the drama that God himself scripts, directs and produces because the stories we tell about ourselves are only as interesting and compelling as the imaginations of our little minds. The fun begins when we resign to playing a part in God's own drama. Being cast in God's drama implies that we have been given a mission, a role. Speaking further, Jesus says: "I have commissioned you to go and bear fruit" i.e. to accomplish something. Christianity is mission oriented. It is not so much about self-realisation through withdrawing into oneself but about realizing ourselves to the extent that we fulfil our mission. Every biblical hero was given a mission. Our mission can come in different forms but it is always a mission of love because God is love as St John clearly states in our Second Reading. Like Jesus, we are called to a mission of unconditional love towards others. That's the one command he gives us in today's Gospel. He does not say: "Love me or love God as I have loved you." He says: "If you want to be my disciple, then you must love one another as I have loved you." In other words, "unconditionally" - Give others what you already have been given. To be realistic, loving people unconditionally is not easy. Curiously however, when we fail in love or give in to outbursts of anger or hatred, we rationalise that "we are just being human." We don't realise that the way of the Gospel, the way of love, is in fact more in tune with our deeper nature. As Nelson Mandela once observed, "It is more human to love. Deep down, we all want to love and be loved. Hatred is learned, so it can be unlearned."

### Mass Times & Intentions

9<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021

- Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Vigil Mass 6:30pm** Muriel Roberts, James Boland, Martin Gibbons (RIP), May Fayers (INT)  
**Sun 9<sup>th</sup> 9:00am:** Muriel Roberts, Bridge Hennessey (RIP), Essien-Oku family, Michael Osijo, Theresa Reilly, Beryl Tamsett, Carol Belsten (INT)  
**11:30am:** Frank Costello, Bridge Hennessey, Bridie Redmond, Masie McClean, Katherine O'Malley, Anthony & Edwards (RIP), Joe Brickley, Pat Geraghty, Maureen Cleary (ANN), Brennan family (INT)  
**6:30pm:** Philip & Tunu, Ekanem & Uche, Ushang & Larry, Tom Wynne (INT)  
**Mon 10<sup>th</sup> 9:30am:** Peter Dempsey, Katherine O'Malley, Bridie Redmond (RIP), Rosa Warren (ANN), Alan & Felicity Harrison (INT) **7:00pm (Online)**  
**Tue 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30am:** Donal McGinley, Pauline Arther (RIP) John & Lucie Thompson (INT) **7:00pm (Online)**  
**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Sts Nereus & Achilleus 9:30am:** Ushang & Larry, Tunu & Eyo, Uche & Ekanem (INT) **7:00pm (Online)**  
**Thur 13<sup>th</sup> The Ascension of the Lord 9:30am & 7:00pm:** People of the parish  
**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> St. Matthias 9:30am:** Katherine O'Malley, Bertie Parsons, Maria Zanre (RIP), Mary & Peter Hehir (ANN), Theresa Reilly, Paani Dias (INT) **7:00pm (Online)**  
**Sat 15<sup>th</sup> 9:30am:** Fr Vincent Waiga (INT)



Rebecca Campbell, Babs Kavanagh, Ella Humphreys, 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, Frank Gibbons, Maria Kuozwatski, Philip Mayne, Giovanna Spittle, Bridget Munnally, 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, Paani Dias, Anonymous, France Quinn

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, Precious Ohiambe CSSp(Seminarian)  
**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

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

## OPENING PRAYER

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we may relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. 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 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.' While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Psalm 97)

**R. The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations**

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations.

He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **R.**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **R.**

## SECOND READING 1 John 4:7-10

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Jesus said: 'If anyone who loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'

**Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants anymore, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. **R.** What I command you is to love one another.'

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord, together with the sacrificial offerings, so that, purified by your graciousness, we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty ever-living God, who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food. Through Christ our Lord.

## Mass

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

## Readers

Carmel Cannon  
Rachel McGonigal  
Mark Renner  
Joanna Hemmingway

## Stewards

Joan Fitzgerald/Jeanette Fayers/Bernie S  
Precious Ohiambe / Essien Ekpenyong-Oku  
Bernie Shevlin / Ignatius Etukudoh  
Precious Ohiambe

## FEAST OF THE WEEK



**Ascension of the Lord**  
**Feast Day: 13th May**

The Ascension of Jesus is Christian teaching that Jesus physically departed from Earth by rising into heaven, in the presence of eleven of his apostles. According to the New Testament narratives, Jesus led the eleven disciples to Bethany, a village on the Mount of Olives, where he instructed them to remain in Jerusalem until the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Ascension occurred forty days after the resurrection. God the Father exalted Jesus after his death, raising him from the dead and taking him into heaven, where Jesus took his seat at the right hand of the Father. In Christian art, the ascending Jesus is often shown blessing an earthly group below him, a group which signifies the whole church.

## 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:** Percy Aggett (Temporary) 02077989350 Email: tollingtonparksg@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