

NEWS AND VIEWS

Thank you from Fr Ugo: "Beloved parishioners, it is exactly seven years now since I became your Parish Priest. It has been a journey of growth for me through the experiences; the good and the challenging alike. Your love and solidarity have been the constant through it all. For these, I am very grateful. Looking back now, I feel certain that the experience serving you is an act of Providence in readiness for the greater task that lies ahead; caring for the Holy Ghost Fathers (the Spiritans) across the United Kingdom. It is a massive responsibility but I take courage in the assurance that we don't choose the time (to serve), the time (God) rather chooses us. So, His grace will be enough. Special thanks to all the Parish staff and volunteers who accorded me unflinching support and solidarity. I surely must have upset many in the course of these seven years notwithstanding my goodwill. I am sorry from the depth of my heart. And I pray that God heals us all of our wounds. As the Provincial Superior of the Spiritans, I will be coming around once in a while to check up on you and your priests. Please continue with the good spirit which has led us thus far. And note that the success of our time can only be measured by the success of our successors. So, please give Fr David and his team a double of the support you have given us. Stay blessed."

Parish Safeguarding Team: We are happy to announce that Joan Fitzgerald has been cleared for work as one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers. Joan will be working with Tracy Mullet in this role. We thank Joan and Tracy for their generosity of spirit in accepting to serve us in this very critical role. All who work with minors and the vulnerable in our Parish including those who visit the sick and the housebound should please work with the Safeguarding Officers to ensure that they are DBS-checked before the end of Sept.

Flirting with God: Refreshing Sunday Homilies for all Cycles. This book from Fr Ugo has just been published. It is a fruit of his 20 years of priestly ministry and covers homilies for all the Sundays of the Church's three liturgical year cycles. It is a great spiritual resource that helps to dispose us to get the most from the lessons of every

Sunday. It is 380 pages. The book has been significantly discounted so that EVERY parishioner can grab a copy for only £15. Please get copies for family and friends too. It has been adjudged to be outstanding in all respects. Congratulations to Fr Ugo

First Holy Communion & RCIA (Adult programme of Christian initiation) 2022: Please pick the forms for Children who would be seven by the 31st of August. RCIA is for adults who want to convert to or be fully received into the Catholic Church. The forms are also available in the Parish Office.

Important Note for our Diaries: On 15th of Sept (Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows), at 7pm, the Auxiliary Bishop Nicholas Hudson will be celebrating a Mass in our Church and he will also unveil the painting of Our Lady of Sorrows that was donated to our Church by the renowned English artist Alexander Talbot-Rice. All should please endeavour to be present at the Mass.

Future Matters is a free service for Islington residents. It offers one-to-one support to help ensure you are covered for both your health and also your financial decisions in the future avoiding unnecessary costs in the future for you and your loved ones. **This is vital for everyone particularly in view of the ongoing Covid situation.** Please refer to: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/islington/our-services/future-matters-service/> Alternatively, you can contact **Maria Piroli** who is our parishioner with over 7 years, experience as a Future Matters volunteer. Contact Maria via her **Email:** projects@gentledusk.org.uk **Mobile:** 07986 637702.

100 Club: subscriptions for the September draw are due in at church this weekend or at the presbytery by Wednesday 1 September. The draw takes place on Friday 3 September. New members welcome!

Christian Stewardship: (22nd August 2021)
Envelopes: £200 **Loose:** £525.46. **Contactless:** £52.46. We also receive £500 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for our continuous support of our parish.

September Diary

Friday 3rd 12noon: **First Friday Healing Mass, Holy Hour and Benediction**

Tuesday 14th 7pm: **Parish Volunteers' Mass**

Wednesday 15th 7pm: **Bishop's Mass for the unveiling of the Portrait of Our Lady of Sorrows**

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| D | E | S | E | H | S | I | D | O | O | UNCLEAN HANDS | WASHING | ELDERS | |
| R | O | Z | P | N | E | Z | G | O | R | MARKET CUPS | POTS | BRONZE | |
| B | R | O | N | Z | T | N | H | F | E | RESPECT | FOOD | HYPOCRITES | ELBOW |
| S | T | A | F | R | I | C | U | P | S | | | | |
| S | D | N | A | H | R | N | M | T | P | | | | |
| R | E | W | S | E | C | B | A | E | E | | | | |
| E | L | A | O | L | O | H | N | K | C | | | | |
| D | W | O | E | B | P | S | O | R | T | | | | |
| L | B | A | B | O | Y | I | T | A | E | | | | |
| E | N | B | O | W | H | D | L | M | R | | | | |



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



Morris had died. His lawyer is standing before the family and reads out Morris' Last Will and Testament:

"To my dear wife Esther, I leave the house, 150 acres of land, and 1 million dollars.

To my son Barry, I leave my Big Lexus and the new Jaguar.

To my daughter Shirley, I leave my yacht and \$250,000.

And to my brother-in-law Aaron, who always insisted that health is better than wealth, I leave my treadmill."



spiritans

St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Archway

Contact: 15 St John's Villas, N19 3EE, Tel: 0202728195 (option 2) 07533726467 (text only)
Email: archway@rcdow.org.uk Website: www.stgibbes.uk



+ 22nd Sunday In Ordinary Time Year B
29th August 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

The ecology of the heart

The Pharisees were champions in the elaboration of the Law which, according to Jesus, made it burdensome and thus compromised its very purpose which is love and freedom. The ritual of washing hands before eating is traceable to commonsense hygiene. But, by the time of Jesus, the practice had become incorporated into the Law and elaborated with prayers. It had metamorphosed into a way of consecrating the whole day and all one's actions to God. Jesus is neither against the ritual of washing hands nor is he promoting lawlessness but the ritual should not become a burden or criteria for accepting or rejecting people depending on whether they observed it. He understands that the ritual elements of the Law are all subordinate to its primary concern of love and freedom. He does not condemn ritual observance which today could mean frequenting the sacraments and devotion to prayer. What he does condemn is a religious observance that is limited to the external aspects and does not include that for which the rituals exist, namely, conversion of one's heart from pride and self-centredness to loving concern and compassion for others. Observing the law had degenerated to being an end in itself such that one is "good" if one externally observed the Law. Today we hear things like: "He is a good Catholic; he's always in church on Sunday." There is no consideration for what he is like as a person. The distortion that Jesus criticised is reproduced today on a global scale. The world is preoccupied with the exterior and physical contamination of the atmosphere; the water, the air, the depletion of the ozone layer, climate change, etc. We are mad at the plastic pollution of the waters that kill sea life but almost absolutely silent on the pollution of the heart that means indifference to the plight of the vulnerable; the unborn, the estranged immigrant, some of whose homes and countries we contributed to destabilise. While we must promote hygiene and the noble effort at decontamination of the environment, these are not enough as they do not go to the root of the problem. Jesus launches the programme of ecology of the heart: "Nothing from the outside makes a man unclean" he says. "What defiles a man are evil intentions." If in the presence of someone or something you smell defilement, chances are that you brought the defilement with you in the first place. You need look no further than within your own heart and soul.

Mass Times & Intentions

29th August – 4th September 2021

Sat 28th Vigil Mass 6:30pm: Ann Fitzgerald, Patrick Fitzgerald, Fr Ugo, Parish Office Team (INT)

Sun 29th 9:00am: Carlo Avanzi, Pietro Piroli (RIP), Frances Moss, Ken Cunningham (ANN), Fr Ugo, Maureen Tayler, Parish Office Team, Nsikan Udoh family, Essien-Oku family, Winskill family, Bernie Carr (INT)

11:30am: Michael Kennedy (RIP), Fr Ugo, Parish Office Team, Eche Anakor, Milly (INT)

6:30pm: Fr Ugo, Parish Office, Essien-Oku family, Amy & Dele, Eyo & Tunu, Uche & Ekanem (INT)

Mon 30th Sts. Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward 12 noon: Simeon Bernard Ogbonna (ANN), Nicola Nicole, Fr Ugo, Milly (INT)

Tue 31st St. Aidan 12 noon: Ekpe Ekpenyong Oku (posthumous b'day) (RIP), Simeon Bernard Ogbonna (ANN), Paddy Essang, Fr Ugo, Milly, Sam Haslam, Rica Coelho (INT)

Wed 1st 12 noon: John Da Costa (month's mind) (RIP), Peter Davis (ANN), Maureen Tayler, Fr Ugo, Milly (INT)

Thur 2nd 12 noon: Derek Ricketts, Florence Pinfield, Pila Pilapitiya (ANN), Fr Ugo, Milly (INT)

Fri 3rd St. Gregory the Great 12 noon: 1st Friday Healing Mass, Holy Hour and Benediction

Sat 4th St. Cuthbert 12 noon: Patricia Etim-Bassey (RIP), Wendy Winser, Fr Ugo, Milly (INT)



Rebecca Campbell, Babs Kavanagh, Ella Humphreys, Rita Avanzi, Nancy Olaiya, Jarlet Fallon, Nora Hoare, Ann Larkin, 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 Munnely, 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, Geraldine McKeane, 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, Frances Quinn, Tony Colbert, Kathleen Panayiotou, Fr. Aodh, Maureen Walsh, Gabby Mehmet, Freda Glackin, Maureen Currie

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

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:** parish.rcdow.org.uk/archway (Reg. Charity No.233699)

Pastorals/Devotions: Confessions Sat. 6pm, **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Meditative Rosary:** Sun. 10.30am

Healing Mass/Holy Hour/Benediction: First Fridays (New time) 12noon **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

Have mercy on me O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

OPENING PRAYER

God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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 Deuteronomy 4:1-2.6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 14)

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. **R.**

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. **R.**

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING James 1:17-18.21-22.27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoiled religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Mark 7:1-8.14-15.21-23

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless; the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

Mass

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

Readers

Carmel Cannon
Rachel McGonigal
Mark Renner
Bridget O'Dea

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table, we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord

Stewards

Joan Fitzgerald/Leo Teme Teme
Essien E-Oku/ Gabriel E-Oku
Bernie Shevlin / Essien E-Oku
Joseph Ogbonna

FEAST OF THE WEEK



3rd September

St. Gregory the Great

Pope Gregory I, known as St Gregory the Great, was the bishop of Rome from 3 September 590 to his death in 604. He is known for instigating the first recorded large-scale mission from Rome, the Gregorian Mission, to convert the then-pagan Anglo-Saxons in England to Christianity. He is also well known for his writings, which were more prolific than those of any of his predecessors as pope. The epithet St Gregory the Dialogist has been attached to him in Eastern Christianity because of his *Dialogues*. A Roman senator's son and, himself, the prefect of Rome at 30, Gregory lived in a monastery he established on his family estate before becoming a papal ambassador and then pope. Although he was the first pope from a monastic background, during his papacy, he greatly surpassed, with his administration, the emperors, in improving the welfare of the people of Rome. He regained papal authority in Spain and France and sent missionaries to England, including Augustine of Canterbury and Paulinus of York. Throughout the Middle Ages, he was known as "the Father of Christian Worship" because of his exceptional efforts in revising the Roman worship of his day. He is one of the Latin Fathers and a Doctor of the Church. Immediately after his death, he was canonised by popular acclaim. The Protestant reformer John Calvin admired Gregory greatly. He is the patron saint of musicians, singers, students, and teachers.

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 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 and Youth Club.
- Vulnerable people **MUST be** accompanied in the Church.

Parish Health and Safety Team: Maria Okerefor 07830000919, Jeanette Fayers 07738929756, Joan Fitzgerald 07811419531

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