

NEWS AND VIEWS

Thank You, Happy New Year!

Thank you for your generosity to our priests at Christmas and to our parish throughout the year. We wish you a very holy, joyful and peaceful New Year. Fr David, Fr Ben & Fr Oliver

The Epiphany of the Lord is celebrated on Thursday 6 January and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are at 12 noon and 7pm.

Parish Office re-opens on Tuesday the 4th of January. We want to thank our Parish Office Team (POI) for their gracious and selfless service through the year.

Diocesan Guidelines On Covid (Latest): With respect to the current situation with the omicron variant it is important to ensure the following points are followed in our churches:

- That people displaying any symptoms of covid-19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person.
 - That hand sanitiser is available to those attending the Church.
 - That there is a strong recommendation for people to wear a face covering (both nose and mouth) during the act of worship.
 - That there is good ventilation and air throughout in the building; in this case, because of climatic conditions, it would be important to remind people to wrap up well in church!
 - That a positive message encouraging people to get vaccinated and have the booster jab when able is delivered whenever possible.
- That people who are engaged in a form of pastoral ministry which involves ministry to the housebound, sick and vulnerable, should take regular lateral flow tests to ensure they are safe to do so. These are free

from the NHS. There is now very strong evidence to support that the main mode of transmission is through breath and nasal aerosols, and that the risk from surface and touch transmission is very small indeed. As such, the strict regimes of church cleaning that were recommended at the beginning of the opening of churches for public worship are no longer necessary. General church cleaning is sufficient. If these guidance points are supported, then the churches will continue to be safe places for people to gather for acts of public worship, including over the Christmas period.

Calling On All Young-Adult Catholics If you are between the ages of 18-45, join us at 7:00 pm in the St Gabriel's meeting room. Every Tuesday, from 11 January, there will be the chance to meet other young Catholics, pray together and grow in our faith. There will be refreshments available. If you would like to know more, contact John and Alessandra Knight on john.knight@rcm.ac.uk or on 07512781274.

First Holy Communion 2021/2022 diary dates: Jan. 9th at 10.15am. Please enter through the parish car park.

100 Club January draw takes place after the Parish quiz on Zoom on Friday 7th. Before the usual draw there will be a **special draw, this month only, just for those who subscribe this January and whose number has not been drawn since we started in November 2019.** The prize will be £20. Subs are due in this weekend at church or at the presbytery by Wed 5 Jan. New members welcome.

Christian Stewardship: (19th December 2021)

Envelopes: £278 **Loose:** £300.38. We also receive £500 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for our continuous support of our parish.

January Diary

Thurs 6 The Epiphany of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation): Masses at 12 noon & 7:00pm.

Fri 7th 12 noon: 1st Friday Healing Mass / Holy Hour / Benediction.

Fri 7th 8pm: Parish quiz on Zoom, followed by 100 Club draw.

Sun 9th 10:15am: First Holy Communion candidates meeting in the Meeting Room

Tues 11 7pm in the Meeting Room: Young Adult Catholics meeting

WORD SEARCH, BELOW IS FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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 COUPLE OF LATE CHRISTMAS JOKES!

A guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas. A friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those pretty 4-wheel drive vehicles?" "She did," he replied, "But where in the world was I going to find a fake jeep!"

A man buys a parrot, only to have it constantly insult him. He tries everything to make the parrot stop, but nothing works. Frustrated, the man puts the parrot in the freezer. After a few minutes the insults stop. The man thinks he might have killed the parrot, so he opens the freezer and takes the parrot out. The parrot is shivering. It stammers, "S-s-sorry for being r-r-rude. Please f-f-forgive me." Then, after a moment, the parrot softly asks, "W-w-what exactly d-d-did the turkey do?"



spiritans

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

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Email: archway@rcdow.org.uk Website: www.stgigabes.uk



+ 2nd Sunday after the Nativity, Year C
2nd January 2022



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.

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

"In the beginning was the Word... a light shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower... the Word was the true light that enlightens all men..." Today is the 2nd Sunday in the octave of Christmas. On this Sunday, we continue to savour the joy of the new born king, we continue to greet the Word made flesh that now dwells among us, and we continue to rejoice because, as the wisdom of God, he dispels our darkness and illumines our lives. Today, the church invites us to reflect on the import of Christ's coming to us.

There is a very strong relationship between wisdom and light. In fact, they are synonymous to each other. On the contrary, light, or wisdom, and darkness are opposites. Light is always contra darkness and dispels it. The Book of Wisdom addresses God as the one who "made all things by your word; God's eternal, creative, and illuminating power" (Wis 9:1). Proverbs equally writes: "The Lord by wisdom founded the earth" (Pr 3:19). "Light", "Word" and "Wisdom" are seen as one and the same. This is what they achieve: "For while gentle silence enveloped all things, your all-powerful Word leaped from heaven, into the midst of the land that was doomed..." (Wis 18, 14-16).

This is what the birth of Christ did for us this season. As the wisdom of God, Christ came to banish ignorance by revealing things that are hidden for ages. As Wisdom, He enlightens the eyes of our mind so that we can appreciate God (Eph 18). As light, he not only clears the obscurities of our mind, but also lights up our way. Hence, the psalmist says: "Your Word is a lamp for my feet and a guide for my path..." (Ps 119, 105)

Mass Intentions

2nd - 8th January 2022

Sat 1st Vigil Mass 6:30pm: HOLY GHOST FATHERS

Sun 2nd 9:00am: Alan Mullee, John Joyce, Christopher Columb, Bridget Duneen (RIP), Geraldine Hudson, Kathleen Panayiotou & family (INT)

11:30am: Mary Slattery, Agnes & Michael, Paddy Geraghty (RIP),

6:30pm: MARIST SISTERS

Mon 3rd The Most Holy Name of Jesus 12 noon: Alan Mullee, Joe Birney (RIP)

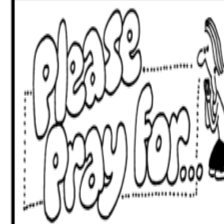
Tue 4th 12 noon: Alf Humphreys, Alan Mullee, Brickley family (RIP), Wendy Winsler, Private Intentions (INT)

Wed 5th 12 noon: Rita Rawlings, Paani Dias, Patricia Gervin (INT)

Thur 6th The Epiphany of the Lord: Masses at 12 noon and 7:00pm

Fri 7th 12 noon: First Friday Healing Mass, Holy Hour & Benediction

Sat 8th 12 noon: Pat Quinn (1st) (ANN), Mary Stephens (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, Mary Mullarkey, Mary O'Connell, Bernadette Ikwuka, Margaret Togher, Geraldine McKeaney, Mary Dunne, Lina Piroli, Pilar, Christy & Maria Christopher, Lourdes Sisneros, Angela Fairbank, Emmanuel & Magdalene Debonne, Douglas Meyers, Sylvia Traynor, Danielle, Lilian Montague, Fr Kevin, Frances Quinn, Tony Colbert, Kathleen Panayiotou, Fr. Aodh, Maureen Walsh, Gabby Mehmet, Freda Glackin, Maureen Currie, Joan McGonigal, Debbie Whitehed, Emo Paddy Essang

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

Parish Priests: Fr. David Atuanya 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 11am, 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

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, splendour 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. **Amen.**

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)

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.

R.

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.

R.

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.

R.

SECOND READING: St Paul to the Ephesians 1: 3-6, 15-18

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: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness. He proclaims: "This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me." Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since though the law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

PRAYER 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.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

Mass

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

Readers

Bridget O'Dea
Ann Waldron
Mark Renner
Tracey Mullett

Stewards

Joan Fitzgerald/Bernie Shevlin/Jeanette Fayers
Essien E-Oku/ Gabriel E-Oku
Bernie Shevlin / Ignatius Etukudoh
Joseph Ogbonna

The Prayer Of the Synod: Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

Attributed to St. Isidore of Seville (560-636), it has been traditionally used at Councils and Synods for hundreds of years. The version below was specifically designed for the Church's Synodal journey from 2021 to 2023.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

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.

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 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