

NEWS AND VIEWS

Deanery Mass For the Repose of the souls of priests, religious brothers and sisters will take place on **Friday 24th November at 10am**, all parishioners are encouraged to join us at **St John the Evangelist, 39 Duncan Terrace, N1 8AL**. There will be **No Mass** here in our parish on that day.

Sick and Retired Priest collection: Thank you for so generously supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund collection last weekend. Our priests give us years of dedicated service and it is only right that, together, we ensure they live out their days with dignity and the care they need. If you didn't get the chance to donate, it's not too late. You can give online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. You may also wish to consider becoming a **Patron** of our Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. If so, please take a leaflet home today. Thank you again. Please keep our sick and retired priests in your prayers.

Volunteers meeting: There will be a meeting for all volunteers of our parish here in the meeting room at 7pm on Monday 20th, for those who can not make it physically, there is a zoom link to join. Keep this date.

Christmas Carol Concert on Friday 8th at 6.30pm. Groups or Individual acts are welcome to perform, please kindly (notify Parish Office). The Carol raffle tickets are on sale. We also appeal for the raffle prizes, and hamper donations. Let us make another memorable concert.

Parish Christmas quiz is Friday 1st December at 7.45pm in the Meeting Room. Tables of 6. £5 per person. Come and have a bit of pre-Christmas fun!

Mass Streaming will start from the **10th of December** Masses, if you do not wish to appear online, please avoid the two middle edge front rows of the church. The camera is static and focuses only on the altar. We hope to evangelise to all with this technology.

First Holy Communion dates: Nov. 19th, Dec. 3rd, 17th...more dates after Christmas. **First Holy Communion celebration 2nd June, 2024** Please enter the meeting through the parish car park.

Faith Sharing/Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Every Saturday at 10am in the Meeting Room. While candidates to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church (RCIA) will be supported in their faith journey, it is an opportunity for all Catholics to share and grow in faith

- **Prague/Poland in 25th-31st May 2024:** Cost **£870**, including flight, lodging (sharing), breakfast and dinner. **for 7 days**. Please find the full details on the display glass board in the porch.
- **Next instalment of 25% by December 10th**, to secure booking of flights and hotel reservations. 3rd instalment 25% **March 31st 2024**, Final instalment by **May 10th 2024**. Those who need visa to travel will sort it out by themselves; the tour company will provide hotel reservations to support visa application. Please indicate interest on the sheets provided.

Christian Stewardship: 12th November 2023 **Envelopes:** £195 **Loose:** £547.43 **Contactless:** £114.50 We also receive £500 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for your continuous support for our parish.


November Diary

Monday 20th: **Volunteers meeting at 7pm in meeting room.**
 Every Last Saturday of the month: **Baptism (always confirm in the parish office)**
 Every Saturday at 10.30am: **Faith Sharing/RCIA sessions in the main Sacristy**
 Every Saturday evening after Mass: **Bingo in the meeting room**
 Every Tuesday after the noon Mass: **Parish social forum in the Meeting Room**
 Every 1st Friday: 12 noon **Healing Mass / Holy Hour / Benediction followed by 100 Club in the Meeting Room** 7.45pm **Parish Quiz in the Meeting Room**

PARISH DECEMBER DIARY DATES

- Friday 8th-Christmas Carol Concert @ 6.30pm
- Sunday 10th- Volunteer Mass @ 11.30am
- Friday 15th-17th- Advent Parish Retreat
- Nativity Rehearsal tbc.

S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	E	DISCIPLES	SERVANT	THOUSAND
S	W	E	T	N	A	V	R	E	S	COINS	COUNTRY	MASTER
E	T	O	D	W	A	E	D	M	F	MONEY	EARNED	MORE
N	D	R	N	S	O	E	O	M	A	WONDERFUL	FAITHFUL	HAPPINESS
I	E	M	A	D	N	N	N	F	I			
P	N	A	S	R	E	I	I	O	T			
P	R	S	U	Y	E	R	O	M	H			
A	A	T	O	L	S	A	F	C	F			
H	E	E	H	T	F	E	L	U	U			
R	Y	R	T	N	U	O	C	O	L			



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



Food For Thought

John 13: 34
 "A new commandment, I give unto you that you love one another, as I have loved you."




St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Archway
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+33rd Sunday In Ordinary Time, Year A

19th November 2023



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

The law of gaining: what we keep we lose.
 As the year draws to an end, businesses take stock. Similarly, as the Church's liturgical year draws to an end, the readings invite us to take stock of our life. In the light of that, today's Gospel presents us with the parable of the talents. An employer entrusted his money (talents) to three of his servants while he is away for a long time. On his return, he called the servants to account. The first two, given five and three talents respectively, had traded with the money, risking them in the open market and receiving rich return on their investment - doubling their capital. The Master praised them and entrusts them with greater responsibility - the reward for good work is more work not a good holiday. However, the third servant who was given one talent had hidden it away safely, not wanting to take chances. When he sheepishly returned it, the Master tells him off as lazy and hands the talent to the most productive servant. From the distribution of the talent, we see that everybody is not similarly endowed so expectation will not be the same. Yet, nobody is left empty-handed. People are therefore not competing against each other, only against themselves - excelling in life is not about exceeding the achievement of others but about reaching one's potential. Thus, all have the potential to become something better but we can only get better by putting our potentials to use. What you don't put to use you lose. Taking the one talent from the unproductive servant and giving it to the most productive servant appears like robbing the poor to pay the rich but Jesus powerfully used it to communicate that those who generously share the gifts they have been given are likely to find themselves constantly enriched while those who jealously hoard what they have been given are likely to shrink up and die - it is the law of the Gospel and the law of life. Our faith also increases in the measure that it is shared at the risk of opening it up to ridicule. Our aggressively secularising (Western) society is succeeding in privatising faith - just keep it to yourself. But faith will not grow unless you give it away - unless you find a concrete means of sharing it. You need a way of letting people know what you believe in and why. So, get involved in faith sharing exercises, have a symbol of your faith up somewhere in your work place. As has been the experience of Christianity from the onset, such propagation of the faith has always been risky but it goes with the promise of increased faith.

Mass Times & Intentions 19th – 25th November 2023

Sat 18th Vigil Mass 6:30pm: John McGee, Alan Mullee, Seamus Mullee, Marian & Mick Sullivan, Mick Garvey (RIP), Tom Mehmet (2nd), Joseph Birney (2nd) (ANN)

Sun 19th 9:00am: Tom Mehmet (2nd), (ANN), Harold Bradley, Fr Ugo, Raphael, Essien-Oku family's ints (INT)

11:30am: Brendan Nelson, Patrick Edwin John Knight (RIP), Tom Mehmet (2nd), Kay Stokes (2nd) (ANN)

6:30pm: Edward Sweeney, Stuart Livermore (RIP)

Mon 20th 12 noon: Bridget Walsh, James Browne (RIP), Maria Felecidade Po Pires (100th birthday) (INT)

Tue 21st Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 12 noon: Kitty Waldron (posthumous 102nd birthday) (RIP), Fr Ugo, Bridie O'Connor (Get well) (INT)

Wed 22nd St Cecilia 12 noon: *Funeral Mass of John Foley*

Thur 23rd St Columban 12 noon: Caroline Earley de Vasconcelos (2nd), Hugh Munro (ANN), Thank you in time of grief for friends & family of Mary Earley (INT)

Fri 24th St Andrew Dũng-Lạc & Companions: 10am MASS @ St. John the Evangelist, Duncan Terrace

Sat 25th St Catherine of Alexandria 12 noon: Pietro Piroli, Carlo Avanzi, Mary Duffy (RIP), Christopher Parker, Rose & J.J McGrath (ANN)

Please Pray For

Rebecca Campbell, Ella Humphreys, Rita Avanzi, Jarlet Fallon, Nora Hoare, Ann Larkin, Mary Wallace, Christopher Jerome, John Bruno, Mary Slow, Isabella King, Derek Gomes, Mary Burton, Frank Gibbons, Maria Kuozwatski, Philip Mayne, Bridget Munnelly, Brian Coleman, Shiela Farrell, Mary Theresa Madigan, Christopher Nelson, Paddy Essang, Padra Williams, Phillip Duggase, Terry Earley, Elizabeth Earley, Mary Mullarkey, Mary O'Connell, Bernadette Ikwuka, Margaret Togher, Mary Dunne, Lina Piroli, Christy & Maria Christopher, Lourdes Sisneros, Angela Fairbank, Emmanuel & Magdalene Debonne, Douglas Meyers, Sylvia Traynor, Danielle, Lilian Montague, Frances Quinn, Tony Colbert, Kathleen Panayiotou, Maureen Walsh, Gabby Mehmet, Freda Glackin, Maureen Currie, Joan McGonigal, Emo Essang, Madeleine Hourihan, Stella Anakor, Jacinta, Marie Therese Tourette, Mary Gallagher, Gloria Munian, Brian Robinson, Teresa O'Dea, Percy Shackell, Ola Gam-Ikon, Private Intention, Eddy Renwick, Ralph Nwosuh, Gino Avanzi, Nicholas Stephens, Anastasia Nervais, Margaret Foley

Parish Projects

1. Replacing expired Church meeting room roof (Abbey Roofing) £20,000 + VAT
2. Refurbishing 722 Holloway Road, Church reclaimed property (Ozzy Home Repairs Ltd) £17,900 + VAT
3. New Security Gate around Parish Carpark/ Exit on Holloway Road (Harling Security Solutions) £25,522 + VAT

Donations towards the projects would be highly appreciated. Donations so far received **£2,285.49** Thanks.

Parish is served by the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans) Congregation of the Holy Spirit
Parish Priests: Fr. Moses Enchizena CSSp, Fr. Remigius Ndubuisi CSSp, Fr. Oliver Ugwu CSSp, Fr Isah Katuka CSSp
Parish Office Team: Patricia Essien-Oku, Maureen Taylor, Mary Aherne, Joan FitzGerald, Seminarian Francis Hoang Son
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)
Pastorals/Devotions: Confessions Sat.11am, 6pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Meditative Rosary: Sun. 10.30am **Healing Mass/Holy Hour/Benediction:** First Fridays 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

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

OPENING PRAYER

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full of lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. 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 Proverbs 31: 10-13.19-20.30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her; from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax; she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 127)

R. O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

R.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.

R.

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake

you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia

Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful. And I will give you the crown of life. Alleluia

GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third is one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Mass	Readers	Eucharist Minister	Stewards
Sat. 6.30pm	Joanna Hemingway	Jackie O'Shea	Joan Fitzgerald/Jeanette Fayers
Sun. 9.00am	Ann Waldron	Innocent Teme	Essien E-Oku/ Gabriel E-Oku
Sun. 11.30am	Ignatius Etukudoh	June G. & Roxanne	Bernie Shevlin/Joseph Baffoe
Sun. 6.30pm	Bridget O'Dea	Sem. Francis & Michelle C	Joe 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,
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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: Joan Fitzgerald 07811419531, Maria Okerefor 07830000919, Jeanette Fayers 07738929756, Evette Parnell-Ogu

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