

NEWS AND VIEWS

Parish Telephone Line: Unfortunately, we have had no telephone lines working for over a week, BT are trying hard to rectify this unfortunate issue. In absence of the landline, please kindly call the parish mobile **07533726467**. We hope this will be resolved soon.

Volunteers Mass: We thank God for a blessed year and for the commitment all volunteers have shown. May God bless you all.

Help At Home: The first give away will be next weekend, please kindly put down your name in the form and envelope provided and drop it through the presbytery door or in the parish office.

Normal Church Returns From Next Weekend: The Church door will open at **8am-6pm** daily to avail people the opportunity to come in and pray. The offertory will also be received during the Mass, however, those who wish to use the Contactless system can do so at the end or beginning of Mass. The Repository which has undergone some revamp will be open again.

Christmas Liturgy
Saturday 24th at 6.30pm **Vigil/Children's Mass with Nativity Play.** All children between the ages of 4-12 years are to be part of this Mass. Santa's elves would visit at the end of the Mass to bring them gifts.-11.30pm **Carols Service & Lessons followed by Midnight Mass**

Wednesday 25th (Christmas Day): Masses at 9am and 11.30am.
No evening Mass

Caritas Advent Giving Calendar: Advent is a special season in the Church's year when we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ. This Advent Giving Calendar is designed for you to use this season as a time to think about those who might need some extra support this Christmas. There is more information on the notice board and on the box in the porch.

1st Holy Communion sessions at 10.15am: Christmas break
Please could you all enter the meeting room via the door in the car park and ensure the catechists are present before leaving your child/children.

Dates for Confirmation Sessions: Christmas break. **Jan.** 11th, 25th, **Feb.** 8th, 22nd, **Mar.** 8th, 22nd, Easter break. **Apr.** 19th, **May** 3rd, 17th, **June** 7th, 21st, 28th -(Rehearsal in the Church). **Confirmation Ceremony Sunday July 2nd at 11.30am Mass.**

Christian Stewardship: (11th December 2022) **Envelopes:** £133 **Loose:** £307.40 **Contactless:** £155. **Parish Project- (Help At Home- £2077.97 so far -** We also receive £500 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for your continuous support for our parish.

December Diary

Tuesday 20th 7pm: **Christmas Penitential Service/Confessions**
Saturday 24th 6.30pm **Vigil Mass/Children's Christmas Liturgy** followed by refreshments.
11.30pm **Carols/Lessons leading to Christmas Midnight Mass**
Christmas Day Sunday 25th **Masses at 9am & 11.30am. No evening Mass**
Saturday 31st at 11pm: **New Year's Eve Mass, followed by refreshments in the Meeting Room**
Every Saturday at 10.30am: **Faith Sharing/RCIA sessions**
Every Last Saturday at 12noon: **Baptism**
Every 1st Friday: 12 noon **Healing Mass / Holy Hour / Benediction**

Nativity Rehearsals

Sun 18th Dec: **10am**
Mon 19th Dec: **10am-11am**
Wed 21st Dec: **10am-11am**
Friday 23rd Dec: **10am-11am**
Sat 24th Dec: **5pm Dress rehearsal**
Mass at 6.30pm.

H	A	E	L	H	A	D	U	J	A
E	A	T	O	T	M	B	O	W	D
L	B	I	M	E	O	Y	J	R	E
I	L	U	R	B	M	O	W	A	S
Z	E	R	O	A	L	A	T	H	S
A	S	F	E	Z	H	E	R	C	E
B	E	D	L	I	H	C	O	Y	L
T	P	A	E	L	O	T	E	A	B
M	O	T	H	E	R	S	O	Z	L
D	E	S	I	M	O	R	P	M	E

MARY **JUDAH** **ZECHARIAH**
ELIZABETH **CHILD** **LEAPT**
WOMB **BLESSED** **FRUIT**
MOTHER **JOY** **PROMISE**



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



Woman: "Hello, police department? I've lost my cat and..."

Policeman: "I'm sorry lady, but this is not a police job, you can try calling..."

Woman: "But you don't understand, this is a very intelligent cat. He is almost human. He can practically talk."

Policeman: "Well, in that case ma'am, you'd better hang up. He may be trying to call you right now."



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 Website: www.stgabes.uk



+ 4th Sunday In Advent Time Year A
18th December 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

THE VIRGIN BIRTH

"All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel'" (Mt 1,22-23). The readings of today understand the virginal conception of Jesus as a divine work that surpasses all human understanding and possibility. "That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit" (Mt, 20), said the angel to Joseph about Mary his fiancée. The Church sees here the fulfilment of the divine promise given through the prophet Isaiah. This can only be understood through faith which connects the mysteries in the totality of Christ's mysteries, from his Incarnation to his Passover. "Mary's virginity and giving birth, and even the Lord's death escaped the notice of the prince of this world: these three mysteries worthy of proclamation were accomplished in God's silence" (CCC 498). Jesus came to "save his people from their sins. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus" said the angel to Joseph. The name "Jesus" means "Yahweh sets free", "God saves", "God helps". To save means to set free from evil. Jesus Christ is the saviour of the world since he came to free the human person from that fundamental evil which has invaded man's inner being throughout the whole course of his history, after the first breach of the covenant with the Creator. The evil of sin is precisely the fundamental evil which comes between humanity and the realization of the Kingdom of God. A mother tells of her daughter complaining that she was afraid to be alone in the dark. The mother said, "Remember that Jesus is with you." The child replied, "I know, but I want someone with some skin on them." In Emmanuel God has taken on our skin. God becomes skin of our skin and flesh of our flesh. God shares with us our trials, pains, temptations, disappointments and fears. So let us rejoice and welcome Jesus our SAVIOUR.

Mass Times & Intentions

18th - 24th December 2022

Sat 17th Vigil Mass 6:30pm: Philip & Tunu, Ekanem & Uche, Amy & Larry, Udoh family, Emo & Paddy, Essien-Oku family, Effy Inam & family, Manny, Lillian & family, Ahano & family, Queeneth & Ekpo, Rotimi, Ugo & family, Emma, IY & Etim family (INT)

Sun 18th 9:00am: Felix Fernandes 1st (ANN), **Halina Szczypta (70th birthday) (INT)**

11:30am: Mary Duffy, Sean Williams, Theresa Reilly, Caroline Earley de Vasconcelos, Michael O'Brien, Bernadette Egan (RIP), John, Anne & Baker family, Lucy Coelho, Dee-Arn Sewell (INT)

6:30pm: Marguerite Innes, Mary Glynn, Bertie Conway, Kathleen Conway, Ina Conway, Frank Conway, Frank Conway Snr (ANN), Carole Baker & family (INT)

Mon 19th 12 noon: Sr. Catherine Boland, Finola Finn (RIP), Colbert family, Donald Hallissey, Eileen Handley, Kennedy family (INT)

Tue 20th 12 noon: Paul Collins, Finola Finn (RIP), Mavis Ball (ANN) **7pm:** Penitential Service

Wed 21st St Peter Canisius 12 noon: Finola Finn (RIP)

Thur 22nd St John of Kanty 12 noon: *Funeral Mass of Carmel Byrne*

Fri 23rd: 12 noon: (RIP), George Carr (ANN), Stella Anakor, Rita Avanzi & family, Michael Quirke, Bridie Ronan, Philomena & Peter Donnelly, Helen & Patrick Shine, Tom Conway, Christina Donoghue, Mary Winston (INT)

Sat 24th 12 noon: Pietro Piroli, Carlo Avanzi (RIP)

6:30pm: Vigil Mass / Children's Christmas Liturgy: Sharon Gaudio, Brendan Nelson (RIP), Christie da Cruz, Margaret Nelson, Nelson family, Fr Moses Enechizena (INT)

11:30pm: Carols / Lessons leading to Christmas Midnight Mass



Rebecca Campbell, Ella Humphreys, Rita Avanzi, Nancy Olaiya, 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 Munnely, Brian Coleman, Shiela Farrell, Tina Okelue, Mary Theresa Madigan, Christopher Nelson, Paddy Essang, Padra Williams, Phillip Duggase, Terry Earley, Elizabeth Earley, 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, Douglas Meyers, Sylvia Traynor, Danielle, Lilian Montague, Frances Quinn, Tony Colbert, Kathleen Panayiotou, Maureen Walsh, Gabby Mehmet, Freda Glackin, Maureen Currie, Joan McGonigal, Emo Paddy Essang, Madeleine, Stella Anakor, Jacinta, Marie Therese Tourette, Mary Gallagher, Gloria Munian, Brian Robinson

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

Parish Priests: Fr. Moses Enechizena CSSp, Fr. Ignatius Quan CSSp, Fr. Oliver Ugwu CSSp

Parish Office Team: Patricia Essien-Oku, Maureen Taylor, 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

Drop down dew from above, you heavens and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

OPENING PRAYER

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of the Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 7: 10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, "Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above." "No," Ahaz answered "I will not put the Lord to the test." Then he said: "Listen now, House of David; are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 23)

R. Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **R**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 1: 1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us."

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 1: 18-24

This is how Jesus Christ became to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins." Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us". When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption, we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Mass	Readers	Eucharist Minister	Stewards
Sat. 6.30pm	Jeanette Fayers	June Gray	Joan Fitzgerald/Jeanette Fayers
Sun. 9.00am	Ann Waldron	Innocent Teme	Essien E-Oku/ Gabriel E-Oku
Sun. 11.30am	Mark Renner	June/Roxanne	Bernie Shevlin/Joseph Baffoe
Sun. 6.30pm	Anna Renner	Michelle Carr	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