

NEWS AND VIEWS

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.

Parish Christmas Confessions/Penitential Service will be held Tuesday 21st at 7pm. There would be guest priests so all are encouraged to come.

December Diary

Tuesday 21st 7pm: **Christmas Penitential Service and Confessions.** Guest priests will be available.

Christmas Liturgy

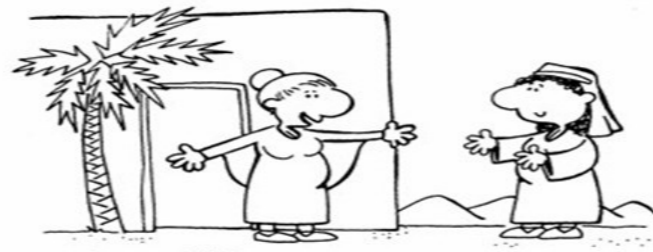
Friday 24th 6.30pm **Vigil/Children's Mass.**

11.30pm **Midnight Mass**

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

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



Parish Office closes from Friday 24th Dec. at 3pm to reopen on Tuesday 4th Jan. The priests will be available for essential services and Masses during the period would be held as usual. We want to thank our Parish Office Team (POT) for their gracious and selfless service through the year.

Christmas raffle prize winners:

Hamper: Jessie Mullee. **Biscuit baking kit:** Jane Saines. **Rhubarb & ginger gin:** KC. **Rhubarb & ginger gin:** Rita Avanzi.

Gordon's gin: Milly. **McGuigan chardonnay:** Michael Kelly. **Bostani chocolates:** Lisa Pablot. **Ferrero collection:** Maria Piroli. **Ferrero collection:** Frances Quinn. **Biscuits & chocolates stack:** Tracey Shevlin. **£5 John Lewis gift voucher:** Valentine Olayemi. Please collect your prize from the parish office during office hours. Thank you, everyone, for your support.

100 Club December draw: The 1st prize of £168 went to no. 36, 2nd prize of £56 to no. 83. 3rd prize of £28 to no.35, and the 4th prize of £28 to no. 22. £280 was raised for parish funds. January draw is on Friday 7 January after the Parish Quiz on Zoom. There will be 5 prizes, with the first prize reduced to 25% and a 5th prize of 5%. **NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!**

First Holy Communion 2021/2022 diary dates: Dec. 19th, Jan. 9th at 10.15am. Please enter through the parish car park.

Christian Stewardship: (12th December 2021)

Envelopes: £279. **Loose:** £303.75. **Contactless:** £118.86. We also receive £500 weekly from standing orders. Thank you for our continuous support of our parish.



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 of Advent Year C
19th December 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

Last week we celebrated "Gaudete" Sunday when the church encouraged us to rejoice because our Lord is near. On this fourth and last Sunday of Advent, we gradually approach the fulfilment of God's promise to us. The gospel of this Sunday presents us with the visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. In spite of her pregnancy, Mary still found time to visit her cousin in order to share her joy and to assist her. This is a proof of her spirit of hospitality, generosity, humility, love and her faith in God who chose her. This is why she is blessed. It was not only Mary that visited Elizabeth but also, the Divine Child and Prince of peace did. Hence, this visit was divine. The visit of Mary to Elizabeth was not a mere coincidence. It was a well thought plan of God, which was executed at the appropriate time. This season, God has planned to honour each one of us personally with a divine visit. This visit is not by an accident. Rather, it is a well-planned visit. He knows the way to where we live, he knows our house number, he knows the number of our flat, and he knows exactly the number of our room. He comes quickly to visit us personally in order to bring about some remarkable changes in our lives. This season brethren, what we are about to have is a divine visitation and encounter with the child Jesus. This encounter will fill us with the Holy Spirit who will empower us as he empowered Elizabeth. This divine encounter with Christ will bring us transformation and it will provoke peace and greater joy in our hearts as it did for Elizabeth and the child in her womb. Finally, soon and very soon, we shall hear a knock at our door, and hear the voice of Mary the new arc of the covenant bearing the divine child. They are close to us. So, let us put finishing touches to our preparations for the coming of our salvation

Mass Times & Intentions

19th – 25th December 2021

Sat 18th Vigil Mass 6:30pm: Bridget King (RIP), Mary & Tom Doyle, John Fahey (ANN), Ann Heekin & family, Maureen Mohan & Family (INT)

Sun 19th 9:00am: Tom Mehmet (RIP), Essien-Oku family, Clement, Maura O'Leary, Maureen Tayler (INT)

11:30am: Caroline de Vasconcellos, Johnny Walsh, Paddy Geraghty, Agnes & Michael Heneghan, Mary Slattery, Martin, Ellen & Michael Togher (RIP), Chris Kelly (1st) (ANN), Mary Mahon, Ronan & Brede, Georgina, Alice, Eugenia, Mary Aherne & family, Joyce McDaid (INT)

6:30pm: Tony Glackin, Katie Howard (RIP), Joe & Una Nevin (ANN), Nevin family, Philip & Tunu, Ekanem & Uche, Amy & Larry, Udoh family, Essien-Oku Family, Eyo & Theresa, Margaret Togher, Fr Kevin McDevitt (INT)

Mon 20th 12 noon: Johnny Walsh (RIP), Mick Lawton, Nula Kelly, Florence Gibbons, Mary & Tony Shevlin, Babs Kavanagh (INT)

Tue 21st St. Peter Canisius 12 noon: Bridie & Charlie Redmond, Frances Herlihy, Paraic Patten, Mary, Peter & Brendan Hehir, Con O'Leary (RIP), Mavis Ball, Winnie Harrison (ANN), Kitty McCarthy, Essien-Oku family, Tunu Etim-Bassey, Ella Humphreys, Mary Mullee & family, Breeda Morris & family, Mary Hansberry (INT)

Wed 22nd 12 noon: Jeremy Platten, Helena Walsh & family, Malan family (INT)

Thur 23rd St. John of Kanty 12 noon: George Carr (ANN), Christie De Cruz (birthday), Cronan Hehir (INT)

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

6:30pm Vigil / Children's Mass

11:30pm : Midnight Mass

Sat 25th The Nativity of the Lord: Masses at 9:00am and 11:30am.



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 ...

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



A thief stole a television set from a house, as he ran out, a drunk who is resident in that house gave him a hot chase. The more the thief ran, the more the drunk increased his pace. The thief could not run anymore and dropped panting under a tree. The drunk caught up with him and sat next to him panting too. After a while, the thief broke the silence and asked the drunk 'Why are you chasing me?' the drunk replied 'You forgot the remote control.'

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 his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this: But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 79)

**R. God of hosts, bring us back;
Let your face shine on us
and we shall be saved.**

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

R.

R.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name. **R.**

SECOND READING Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.' Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the handmaid of the Lord:
let what you have said to be done.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

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.
Amen.

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.
Amen.

Mass	Readers	Stewards
Sat. 6.30pm	Carmel Cannon	Joan Fitzgerald/Bernie Shevlin/Jeanette Fayers
Sun. 9.00am	Rachel McConigal	Raiza/ Gabriel E-Oku
Sun. 11.30am	Mark Renner	Bernie Shevlin / Ignatius Etukudoh
Sun. 6.30pm	Joanna Hemmingway	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 Okerefor 07830000919, Jeanette Fayers 07738929756, Joan Fitzgerald 07811419531

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