



Saint Bartholomew's Catholic Church, Norbury

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The Parish Office is open from 9.30am - 3.30pm Monday to Friday (except for Bank Holidays)

A parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO – Registered Incorporated Charity No. 1173050

SUNDAY 15th APRIL 2018

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

The eighth part of our series on our church building.

In the upper side windows (two above the Reconciliation room and the Sacred Heart shrine, and two on the opposite wall) we see the symbols of the **four Evangelists** (Gospel Writers). These images are related to accounts contained in the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel (1:1-21), the Book of Revelation (4:6-8) and the writings of Saint Irenaeus.

Matthew, shown as a winged man, begins his Gospel with Jesus' family tree, His Incarnation and Birth (Mt:1&2).

Mark, depicted as a winged lion, begins his Gospel, quoting the Prophet Isaiah and telling of the last of the Prophets, Saint John the Baptist, '...the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord...'

Luke is represented by a winged ox. Animals featured prominently in Old Testament Sacrifices, but would be superseded in the New Testament by the Once-for-All Sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross. Luke's Gospel begins with an Angel telling the aged and childless Zechariah of the forthcoming birth of his son, Saint John the Baptist. (Lk:1).

John appears as an eagle. His Gospel begins at the Source of all things: the one God in Three Divine persons.

For further explanation of the symbolism, see: <http://www.ewtn.com/v/experts/showmessage.asp?number=306603>. Or for a far more detailed insight, see: <https://catholicexchange.com/the-symbols-of-the-gospel-writers>.

This eight-part 'tour', has, of course, merely 'scratched the surface' of the treasury of knowledge. How much of this treasury do we know? Visual symbols provide a simple, yet vital, resource in leading our children and indeed ourselves to a deeper understanding and practice of the Faith, and in keeping young ones focussed on the Mass until they can use Mass books. We are all, even the 'not so young', prone to distractions and may sometimes, forget why we have come into church. There is much here that can draw us back into contemplation of our Faith. Literate as we are, there is much to be said for the simpler, more visual, aids to contemplation, which, independent of language, can be understood by all, according to their ability. They graphically demonstrate our equality before our Creator.

Of course, whatever the Evangelists recorded for their widely differing Converts, there is one figure who, chosen by God, is a pivotal figure in all accounts of our Salvation, namely our Blessed Lady, whose, "...**Let it be done to me according to your word...**" (her "Yes!" to God; in Latin, her "fiat"), opened the way for the Incarnation. Although we can certainly pray directly to Our Lord, we may be familiar with the expression, "**To Jesus through Mary**". As far as we know, at every one of her appearances on earth, Mary has called on her hearers to, "**Pray the Rosary**".

With our Catholic Faith under constant threat, we are reassured by Christ's words to St Peter, "**...on this rock I shall build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it.**" (Mt16: 18-19). However, we must not be complacent. Jesus gave us the paradigm of prayer throughout His life, including His great gift to us of the Our Father, an integral part of that powerful prayer, the Holy Rosary, given to us via St Dominic.

With this in mind, some of you may be interested in taking part in the forthcoming **Rosary On The Coast**, which takes place in coastal towns around the UK on **Saturday 29th April 2018**. This is a day of Pilgrimage and Prayer for the re-flourishing of our Faith, for the grace to build a culture of Life and for true Peace to reign in the hearts of all peoples and nations. To find the places where this is happening, please go to: <https://www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk/>

Thank you for your generosity

The collection for Sunday 8th April 2018 came to **£1878.00** (£1233.00 (baskets) & £645.00 (Standing Orders)

You were most generous indeed with your Easter Offerings to Father Deo and Father Innocent.

Please speak to Fr Deo or Fr Innocent privately if you would like to know the total amount which you gave.

Next weekend, there will be a second collection for Ecclesiastical Education, the proceeds of which will go towards helping train future priests and deacons, as well as the ongoing formation of clergy. Gift Aiders will find a special **YELLOW** envelope in their boxes, if you have yet to collect them, please do so soon (see below).

GIFT AID SCHEME

A brief "Money Sunday" talk will take place at all Masses on Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th April 2018.

Through the Gift Aid scheme, the parish can reclaim tax you have already paid, **at no extra cost to yourself.**

Please collect your new Gift Aid envelopes for the present tax year from the room behind Our Lady's Altar, where a large number remain. **Some boxes have been re-numbered. In fact, all envelopes for those who give by Standing Order have been re-numbered. In some cases, parishioners give by both Standing Order AND weekly envelopes. If this applies to you, please contact the Parish Office, as you should only have one Gift Aid number, and you will need to be allocated a new number.** Those who give by standing order have also been

allocated a reduced size set of envelopes, which are for second collections (except those where larger charities issue their own envelopes). Standing Orders do not cover second collections, so if you wish Gift Aid to apply to them, you will need these extra envelopes. If you wish to review your standing order, now is a good time to do so.

Please note that if you require an End of Year letter for tax purposes, please request it from the Parish Office.

Please pray for our Sick and Housebound parishioners:

Jessica Anane, Lilian Armstrong, Juliette Blake, Alan Blaquiére, Anita Blaquiére, Barry Breese, Erna Breese, Frances Caulfield, Jean Cowie, Audrey Draude, Teresa Florek-Smail, Raffaella Forte, Giovanni Franco, Rachel Gadd, Elaine Gunther, Anne Harris, Agnes Healy, Evelyn Hyland, David Lacey, Elsie McCleave, James McDonald, Breda McDonagh, Michael Madigan, Ajitha Mahatantila, Gerard Mascarenhas, Charmaine Meli, Mary Meyern, Janina Miller, Maria Parnis, Marion Robertson, Parwar Saib, Frederic Saint-Rose, Alice Scott, Elizabeth Scott, Maggie Sunich, Tony Tambirasa, Edythe Thirlwall, Monica Vergara, Mary White, Ethelda Williams, Carole Winch, John Windsor, Charmaine Wise, Georgette Yoo Foo, Tony Zammit.

If you know of anybody who is sick or housebound, or in a local care home, who is unable to come to Mass, and who would like to receive Holy Communion, Reconciliation, an Anointing or a Blessing, please contact the parish office. Dedicated chaplains meet the pastoral needs of Catholic patients in hospitals.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Of your charity, please pray for the happy repose of the souls of former parishioner **Vivienne Briton**, one of the daughters of Anna Harris. Vivienne died on Saturday 6th April 2018. Also **Tom O'Connor**, brother in law of Ann O'Connor. Tom died suddenly on Easter Sunday. Our prayers and condolences as a parish go to the families.

CHURCH CLEANING IN THE COMING WEEK - GROUP 6 please:

Ann Marie Charles, Islay Cowlin, Susan D'Souza, Susan Flatts, Linda Johnson, Agatha Kyere-Amoako, Obi Ohen, Gloria Osiobe, Carol Thompson, Julie Thompson. *Would you be able to help?*

WELCOME

We welcome into the family of the Catholic Church **Bella Violet Mastroeni**, who was Baptised here last Sunday.

COFFEE MORNING NEXT WEEK FOR LIFE

After the 10am & 11.30am Masses. Come along and enjoy a beverage and some delicious home made cakes. Knitted goods will be on sale. Proceeds to Zoe's Place Baby Hospice: www.zoes-place.org.uk. Many are unaware of this hospice, which provides palliative, respite and end-of-life care to babies and infants from birth to five. All the money raised will help these young ones suffering from life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.

A WORD FROM CAFOD

"Thank you for your support to our Lent Fast Day appeal. Donations to CAFOD until 12 May will be doubled by the UK Government. We are grateful to St Bartholomew's parish for raising £1615.00 this year! We have planned a £5 million programme to combat malnutrition, through which we hope to be able to reach 245,000 people. However, we need the full amount of matched funding to make it happen. You can help us reach the full amount needed for this crucial programme. We still have some way to go yet! To donate please go to cafod.org.uk/lent.

In the meantime, if you would like to Learn more about CAFOD, you are invited to attend a special event on Saturday 28th April 2018. You will need to register in order to take part. Please see the poster in the main porch.

SPUC

Following recent visits to this parish by John Smeaton, Chief Executive of SPUC, a meeting will be held in the hall on Wednesday 2nd May at 7.30pm for all those interested in forming a SPUC group in our parish.

MARCH FOR LIFE - SATURDAY 5TH MAY 2018

This year, the March for Life is taking place in Central London, giving those of us down South a great opportunity to take part. There will be LifeFest18, held indoors, which includes workshops, music and various stalls. There you can find out more about the subject of abortion and about the importance of every human life. It is expected that the Sacrament of Confession will be available in the morning. Then in the afternoon, those who are able are invited to process to Parliament Square, where prominent pro life speakers will give keynote speeches.

Please consider attending this event, details of which may be found on posters in porch areas.

If you would like to know more, you may email: info@marchforlife.co.uk or see the website: marchforlife.co.uk

A HIGHLY IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM FATHER DEO ABOUT THE NEW GENERAL DATA PROTECTION LEGISLATION

As you may all be aware, new General Data Protection Legislation comes into force on Friday 25th May 2018. This is going to affect us all. We are now required to both ensure and indeed demonstrate that we know everybody who has access to the vast amount of personal information we hold in the parish, precisely what information they actually hold and in what format/s. I know that a great number of you currently volunteer for the parish, or may have done so in the past, and therefore you may well have some personal information at your home or office, in a file and/or on a PC, phone, laptop or other device. Please could you let either me or the Parish Office know if this applies to you, so that I can let you know what actions you will need to take going forward. The Archbishop is encouraging all of us to help implement these changes, and I thank you in advance for your co-operation.

THE OVER 55'S TEA CLUB HAS BEEN RELAUNCHED!

The first meeting took place on Friday 13th April 2018. From now on we shall be running a Tea club every Friday from 2pm to 4pm in the upper hall. Do come along and catch up with old friends and new over a cuppa and cake? Enjoy various forms of entertainment each week, such as bingo, films, singalongs etc! The world is your oyster! We look forward to seeing you! Further information may be found on the eye-catching posters in the porch areas!

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME

Session 6 for candidates takes place in the hall this coming Wednesday 18th April 2018 from 7.30pm - 9pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

Session 8 for candidates, "Fruit of the Vine" in the upper hall next Saturday 21st April 2018 from 10am - 11.30am. Please would candidates ensure that their work is up to date, as Fr Deo will be collecting in all their books.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES 2018 AND ARRANGING BAPTISM

In every case, please complete a Baptism Details Form, which you will find in the main porch. The next course takes place across two consecutive evenings, which are Tuesdays 17th & 24th April 2018 at 8pm on both dates.

A further course is scheduled for Saturdays 7th & 14th July 2018 at 3pm on both dates.

REPOSITORY

Confirmation and First Holy Communion items are now available. These events are almost upon us!

AN INVITATION FROM THE POLYPHONY CHOIR

The Polyphony Choir is about to start learning a new, and simple, Mass: *Mass of St. Christopher*, by James Lyon. Parishioners are most welcome to 'come and give it a try' during the short learning sessions that will take place from 20:00 to 20:30 on Tuesday evenings, starting 10th April. Anyone in the parish, *aged 18 or over*, is very welcome to join the Choir for these short, friendly and informal sessions. It's a wonderful, and fun, way of participating in and contributing to the life of our Parish. Just turn up at the side entrance in Ellison Road.

Please feel free to contact Tony Price by email at director@polychoir.co.uk or 020 8647 4435 if you would like further information before coming along.

VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

If you think God may be calling you to serve Him, please have a word with Fr Deo or Fr Innocent. You may like to take a look at the web site: www.southwarkvocations.com or email: info@southwarkvocations.com There are posters in the porch areas too. Please pray for vocations and indeed encourage others to do so.

MASS FOR MIGRANTS

This takes place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark on Bank Holiday Monday, 7th May 2018 at 11am. Please see the poster in the main porch for details of this event, which will begin with a procession at 10.45am.

NATIONAL PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

This beautiful statue, together with Relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco will be at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 21st April 2018 and at our own St George's Cathedral on Saturday 5th May 2018. Please see the poster in the main porch for more details of these two great opportunities to meet Our Blessed Lady.



Parish Masses This Week

Sunday Masses:	Vigil, Saturday 6.15pm; Sunday: 8.30am, 10am, 11.30am and 5pm	
	Parish Mass Book: This Sunday - p.262	
Weekday Masses:	Mon - Fri: 7.30am; Mon – Sat 10am	
Morning Prayer of the Church:	Monday - Saturday 9.15am	
Adoration and Benediction:	Monday - Saturday 9.30am; Sunday 4pm (<i>Rosary & Benediction in May & October</i>) <i>On First Fridays - Adoration after 10am Mass, closing with Benediction at 2pm</i>	
Rosary:	Monday - Saturday after the 10am Mass	
Confessions:	Saturday, after the 10am Mass, until 11am; then in the afternoon from 5pm to 6pm	
Date	Time	Intention
Sunday 15th April 2018		
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.15pm (Saturday 14th April)	Welfare of Philip Yoo Foo (Birthday)
(Youth Club Coffee Morning after Mass)	8.30am	People of the parish
(Youth Club Coffee Morning after Mass)	10am	Thanksgiving & special intention - Muoghalu family
(Youth Club Coffee Morning after Mass)	11.30am (Plainchant Choir)	Martin Kinnarney RIP
Benediction	4pm	
	5pm	Mary Durkin RIP
<i>Third Week of Easter</i>		
Monday 16th April 2018	7.30am	Maria Rebello RIP
	10am	Irma Moodaley RIP
Tuesday 17th April 2018	7.30am	Mrs Catherine (Della) Emery RIP
	10am	Welfare of Zofia Kozlowska
Wednesday 18th April 2018	7.30am	Mary Kenny RIP
	10am	Hervé Yoo Foo RIP
Thursday 19th April 2018	7.30am	Victor Michael Jedrusik RIP
St Alphage, Bishop & Martyr (Memorial)	10am	Dominic Mascarenhas RIP
Friday 20th April 2018	7.30am	Eamon Gillespie RIP
	10am	Hervé Yoo Foo RIP
Saturday 21st April 2018		
St Anselm, Bishop & Doctor of the Church (Memorial)	10am	Pietro Mobile RIP
Next Sunday 22nd April 2018		
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.15pm (Saturday 21st April)	Carmen & Sauveur Vella RIP
	8.30am	Myra O'Shea RIP
(LIFE Coffee Morning after Mass)	10am	Kathy Spicer & Edna Graham RIP
(LIFE Coffee Morning after Mass)	11.30am (Hymn Choir)	George Meyern RIP
Benediction	4pm	
Confirmandi - Rite of Election Mass	5pm	People of the Parish