

St Bartholomew's Catholic Church

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Sunday 10th May 2015

Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

Mass Times and Intentions

Sixth Sunday of Easter

6:15 (Saturday eve)

Thomas Corr RIP

8:30 Mary Savage RIP

10:00 Antoine Shun RIP

12:00 First Holy Communion

Family Choir Singing

4:00 May Devotions:

Rosary and Benediction

5:00 Intention of the Houlihan family

Monday 11th May –

07:30 John Flood RIP

10:00 Lorna Fernandes RIP

Tuesday 12th May

7:30 Holy Souls

10:00 Albert & Eileen Steiert RIP

Wednesday 13th May

Our Lady of Fatima

7:30 Welfare of the Ileomoh family

10:00 John Joel Conroy RIP

Thursday 14th May

St Matthias, Apostle (Feast)

07:30 The Pope, all Bishops,

Priests & Religious

10:00 Edna Graham RIP (Over 55's)

Friday 15th May

07:30 Michael Cafferty RIP

10:00 Don Woodruff RIP

Saturday 16th May

St Simon Stock, Priest (Memorial)

10:00 Priests of the FSSP

12:00 First Holy Communion

Family Choir Singing

Next Sunday 17th May

The Ascension of the Lord

6:15 (Sat eve)

Welfare of Teresa Forkan

8:30 Angelo Orladazzi RIP

10:00 Nigel Sequeira RIP

11:30 Patrick John Lacey RIP

5:00 William O'Sullivan RIP

Daily Mass & Prayer:

Mass: Mon – Fri 7:30am

Morning Prayer of the Church:

Mon - Sat 9:15am

Adoration: Rosary & Benediction

Mon – Sat 9:30am

Mass: Mon – Sat 10:00am

Confessions: Saturday, after 10am

Mass until 11am; also 5pm to 6pm.

A Thought

Today's readings tell of the Spirit of God's Love. In the *Acts of the Apostles* we hear Peter, our first Holy Father, proclaiming the universality (*Catholic actually means Universal*) of God's Redeeming Love. In fact, if any souls are, finally, excluded from Heaven, it will be solely due to their having knowingly refused God's Loving Embrace, an invitation which continues to the very end of each life on Earth. God respects our free will; He will not force us. *Saint John*, next, calls us to love one another as God loves us. God doesn't just love us. He *is* Love itself, shown most clearly in His sending of His Divine Son to suffer and re-open the way to Heaven. The *Gospel Acclamation* and Christ's words to His Disciples re-emphasise His Loving Sacrifice of Himself on the Cross and the message that it is in obeying God that we not only prove our love for Him, but stay safe in His Arms, protected from evil.

Parents will readily understand this: you would move heaven and earth, surely even risk your lives, to keep your children from harm, and they, hopefully, will grow to realise that they are safest when they (maybe reluctantly at times!) allow themselves to be guided by your 'do's and don'ts'. As they grow up they come to understand the great love which, sometimes, means that Mum and Dad will say 'no' or will insist that such and such be done, knowing better than their offspring what lies behind things which may appear very attractive.

It may, sometimes, be hard to convince others of the rightness of the more challenging Teachings of Jesus. However, we need look no further than His own example: When certain of His followers decided to desert Him, unable to accept His Central Teaching on Holy Communion, His Body and Blood as our Food of Life, He did not water things down but asked the Twelve who remained, "*Will you also go away?*". May Love help us pursue the Truth, come what may!

Readings in Parish Mass Book:

This Sunday, 10th May – p 270

Next Sunday, 17th May – p 276

(Saturday eve 16th May – p 273

Coffee Morning: None this week

Thank You:

The collection for May 3rd was **£1691.03**: £1046.83 (baskets) & £644.20 (standing orders).

The recent second collection for Ecclesiastical Education reached **£615.46** (Not £508.61).

Missio: Once again, thanks to all of you who helped to raise a grand total of **£5909.49** during 2014!

This week:

Thursday 14th May:

St Bart's Parish Playgroup meets in the lower hall from 10:00 – 11:30.

Please see note overleaf.

Saturday 16th May:

The second of our First Holy Communion Masses will take place at 12:00 on Saturday.

The third and final of this year's First Holy Communion Masses will take place on Saturday 23rd May. The Going Forth Mass and party follow at 5:00pm on Sunday 7th June.

Next Sunday 17th May:

The Ascension of the Lord.

There will be a **second collection for World Communications Day.**

This collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network, which takes care of media issues in respect of the public profile of the Church and its teaching, being the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

Coffee Morning: With the Knights of St Columba, after the 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 Masses. Why not come along and meet your fellow parishioners for coffee, tea, cold drinks and homemade cakes? There will also be the opportunity to take part in a raffle.

Recently Deceased: Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Mary Downey, sister of Julie McDonagh. Mary died peacefully on May 6th. Julie and family would like to thank you all for your prayers and good wishes during the past few weeks. As ever, as a parish, our sympathy and prayers go out to the family.

Sick and Housebound:

Jessica Anane, Mary Aroganampillai, Juliette Blake, Stefan Czarnecki, Fr Andrew Fernandes, Elaine Gunther, Anne Harris, James McDonald, Ajitha Mahatantila, Peter Mendonca, Edgar Ming, Anne Priddy, Idy Rastrick, Frederic Saint-Rose, Elizabeth & Alice Scott, Jeannette Storace-Rutter, Edythe Thirlwall, Ethelda Williams, Georgette Yoo Foo.

Please inform us if you know of anybody else who would like to be added to the list of sick and housebound, and if they require a priest to visit.

Baptism course: Wednesdays 20th & 27th May 2015.

At 8:00pm in the room behind the sacristy.

Sessions for July will be announced in due course.

Church Cleaning This Week: Group 4:

Agnes Campbell, Anna Howard, Sharon Leonidas, Juliet Mensah, Sophia Smith. **If anybody is no longer able to come along, please advise the Parish Office.**

Could you possibly help keep our Church clean?

We remain desperately short of cleaners. If you would like to help, please make yourself known to either of the clergy, or contact the Parish Office.

The Catenian Rosary Group:

Thanks for the great response so far. Please continue to deposit your unused or broken rosaries in the container in the porch. Please see poster for full details.

Mass Intentions: May is **fully booked**, and June is fast filling up. We shall shortly be introducing new, larger and easier to use envelopes for the receipt of Mass Intentions.

Employment opportunities in Catholic Schools:

Please see the notice board for all advertisements.

Leaflets and posters for display in the porch:

Please kindly request permission from the clergy, or leave any items for display with the parish office. You are respectfully asked not to place any items without the knowledge of the clergy. Thank you.

CAFOD – DEC APPEAL FOR NEPAL:

The recent powerful earthquake in Nepal, just a few days ago, has left thousands dead, with survivors in tremendous need. We reach out to them in prayer and solidarity. CAFOD, as part of the DEC, asks urgently for your financial donations, so that life-saving food, water, shelter and emergency supplies may be provided. You may donate by phone on: 0500 85 88 85 or online at: www.cafod.org.uk/Nepal Please see posters in the porch.

Please pray for the priests of our diocese:

On the right hand “tall” noticeboard in the porch, when you face the altar, you will find, each month, a list of various priests of our diocese, each one having been designated a special day on which you are kindly asked to remember them in your prayers. Do take the opportunity to look at this list and kindly pray for the intentions and welfare of the clergy. Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

Next Saturday May 16th, our second group of children will be making their First Holy Communion during a special Mass at 12:00. (Please note that there will be a practice in the church this coming Wednesday 13th May at 6:30pm which all must attend. The repository will be opening specially during this practice.

We ask you to pray for all our First Communion Children as they prepare to meet Our Lord Jesus Christ in this Sacrament for the very first time. Those receiving their First Holy Communion will be: **Joshua Alexis, Stefan Campbell, Jaiden Colley, Orla Courtney, Vincenzo Freier, Oliver Holtz, Malina Janecka, Bella Jessop, Max Lara, Bonnie McGing, Eleanor Martins, James Mercer, Cassius Morrison, Daisy Riley O’Regan, Jack Savage & Stanley Shoulder.**

The third and final Mass will be on Saturday May 23rd at 12:00, with a practice on Wednesday 20th May at 6:30 pm.

Many people like to give gifts to their children to commemorate this special occasion. With this in mind, **the Repository** has available a wide range of cards, books and gifts for First Communions. Please visit the Repository when you come to Mass.

Help is needed with the Going Forth Party on **Sunday 7th June**. It is in keeping with tradition that we call upon the parents whose children celebrated this sacrament last year (2014), to assist in organising *this* year’s party. If you can help in any way please call Teresa Furtado as soon as possible, on 07742 911152. Many thanks in advance.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES:

New envelopes will be available from the weekend of Pentecost, **23rd & 24th May 2015**. Please collect them from the usual room on the right hand side of the passage way at the very front of the church. A member of the Gift Aid team will be on hand to deal with any questions you may have. This is also a good time to consider, if you do not already do so, making your contributions to the Parish, using the Gift Aid scheme, **provided that you are a tax payer**. The great advantage is that if you give regularly, using the Gift Aid Scheme, the Church can claim back 25p for every £1 you put into the collection. And all you have to do is sign a form! If you wish, you may also pay by standing order for regular donations. Gift Aid is a vital source of income for the parish. In fact, during the financial year ended April 2014, we reclaimed **£17,687.36** from HM Revenue & Customs!

St Bart’s Parish Playgroup: We meet every Thursday during term time, from 10:00 – 11:30 in the lower hall. We welcome all under 5’s accompanied by a parent or carer. A small charge of £1.50, covers one adult and one child, plus 50p per additional child. It is a great chance for the adults to socialise with others in the local community, whilst the children have fun. Snacks and drinks are provided for all.

“Bend it like Beckham” The Musical

St James the Great School has obtained some discounted theatre tickets for the musical “Bend it like Beckham” at the Phoenix Theatre, London, on Thursday 18th June. Return Transport to and from the school and the coach will leave at 6:00pm. Tickets are £25 each, available via the school office on 020 8771 3424.