

St Bartholomew's Catholic Church

Frs Deodat Msahala, Paul Antwi-Boasiako CSSp & Deacon Paul Milligan

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Sunday 17th May 2015

World Communications Day

The Ascension of the Lord (Year B)

Mass Times and Intentions

The Ascension of the Lord

6:15 (Saturday eve)

Welfare of Teresa Forkan

8:30 Angelo Orlandazzi RIP

10:00 Nigel Sequeira RIP

11:30 Patrick John Lacey RIP

(Plainchant Choir singing)

4:00 May Devotions:

Rosary and Benediction

5:00 William O'Sullivan RIP

Monday 18th May –

07:30 Helen Maduka (ACE studies)

10:00 Hervé Yoo Foo RIP

Tuesday 19th May

7:30 Welfare of Barry Breese

10:00 John Joseph Flood RIP

Wednesday 20th May

7:30 Mrs Horan RIP

10:00 Leigh McGurdy RIP

Thursday 21st May

07:30 Welfare Martin Bergin

& family

10:00 Mervyn Dessa RIP

Friday 22nd May

07:30 Thanksgiving & special

intention - Muoghal family

10:00 Eda Devaney (Birthday)

Saturday 23rd May

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles

10:00 John Hayes RIP

12:00 First Holy Communion

(Family Choir Singing)

Next Sunday 24th May

Pentecost Sunday

6:15 (Sat eve) Fiona Hardy RIP

8:30 John McCarthy RIP

10:00 People of the Parish

11:30 Norma & Tommy

& John Glancy RIP

(Hymn Choir singing)

5:00 Patrick O'Driscoll 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, Sunday, we are celebrating the Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven. Formerly (and still in other parts of the Catholic World), this was celebrated on the 40th day after Easter, a Thursday, on which day, as today's reading from *Acts* reminds us, Our Lord took leave, so to speak, of His Apostles. His physical departure may still be symbolised at Mass that day in the extinguishing of the paschal Candle (symbol of the Risen Christ) following the Gospel.

Jesus had, of course, promised to be with His Church always and, in order to do this, He and the Father were to send the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (again, a numerical association, from the Greek word for 50, i.e. the number of Days after Easter that the Spirit came) to transform those timid Bishops and Priests into fearless crusaders for the Truth. They were Confirmed or 'energised' as it were, to *"..Go out to the whole world..."*, come what may, to proclaim the Good News that Christ is, indeed, Risen and that, through His Body, the Church, with her Priests and Her seven Sacraments, we have a sure and infallible link to our God and our Heavenly destiny. Only our determined refusal can, ultimately, deprive us of the Life promised to us.

In France and Germany, among other countries, the day is a Public Holiday, an echo of the deep Catholic Faith of former times. When England acknowledged herself as the *Dowry of Mary*, 'Holy-days' were, very often, the only extra days off, especially, probably, for the poor – from this, of course, comes our word, *holiday*. Let us resolve to specially mark this day in our families, helping not only our children but, also, those of other faiths we may know, to see the wonder of this day.

Readings in Parish Mass Book:

This Sunday, 17th May – p 276

(Saturday eve 16th May – p 273)

Next Sunday, 24th May – p 290

(Saturday eve 23rd May – p280)

New books will come into use on Trinity Sunday, 31st May.

The second collection today is for World Communications Day.

You will find some information cards in the porch, which also contain the World Communications Day Prayer.

We welcome into the Church, through the Sacrament of Baptism, **Florence Rose Massey.**

Coffee Morning: With the Knights of St Columba, after the 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 Masses. 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.

Congratulations: to **Sinitta Fernandes & Roscoe Hollings**, married here last Saturday.

Thank You:

The collection for May 10th was **£2235.13:** £1590.93 (baskets) & £644.20 (standing orders).

This week:

Wednesday 20th May:

Rehearsal for First Holy Communion Mass at 6:30pm

Thursday 21st May:

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

Please see note overleaf.

Saturday 23rd May:

The third and final First Holy Communion Masses will take place at 12:00 on Saturday.

The Going Forth Mass and party follow at 5:00pm on Sunday 7th June.

Next Sunday 24th May:

Coffee Morning with LIFE Group after the 10:00 & 11:30 am Masses.

Recently Deceased: Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Sonny Jack Martin of Stanford Road 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, Mary Ellen Fox, 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 5: Elizabeth Ayoola, Sandra Hodgson, Emma Morrone, Amanda Squires, Maria Verrilli, Kelly Bello, Livia Pappano.

Could you possibly help keep our Church clean?

Thanks to those who have put their names forward so far. However, 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. Thank you.

The Catenian Rosary Group: There has been a great response so far. Please put your unused or broken rosaries in the container in the porch. See poster for full details.

Mass Intentions: May is **fully booked**, and June is fast filling up. Please see our **new clearer, larger envelopes**, which are now in all the porch areas of the church.

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.

CAFOD – DEC APPEAL FOR NEPAL:

The recent powerful earthquake in Nepal, and subsequent aftershocks, have 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:

The list for the month of May is to be found in the porch.

Confirmation Photographs: – Please note that there are still 3 orders awaiting collection in the porch.

Waste Matters: - For health and safety reasons, you are politely requested **not** to place disposable nappies in the waste paper bin located in the porch.

A DAY WITH OUR LADY OF FATIMA:

Sunday 24th May 2015, at St Boniface Church, Tooting from 1:30pm: Rosary, Benediction, and Holy Mass.

Please see posters in the porch. For full details, please contact Juliette DeMenezes-D'Costa on 09758 537314.

Parish Website: We expect to have this fully updated by the end of May. In the meantime, the newsletter will continue to be uploaded to the website, which you may download and print out for your own use.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

Next **Saturday 23rd May**, our **third and final group of children will be making their First Holy Communion during a special Mass at 12:00.** (NB: There will be a practice in the church on **Wednesday 20th May at 6:30pm**, which all must attend, *with at least one parent*.

The repository will be open 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:

Oghenamaro Ako, Gabriel Bonsu-Amako, Isabella Brugnoli, Lua Christiano, Befekadu Cranwell, Alexis Elworthy, Thomas Hamid, Cory Johnson, Jack Lesslar, Nathaniel Leggett, Conall McDermott, Jayden Mensah, Kamsiyochukw Nwanoneze, Tiegan O'Shaughnessy, Bernard Ofor, Xavier Richmond-Taylor, Zach Richardson & Sean Scott.

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 feel free to visit the Repository when you come to Mass.

Extra help is greatly needed with the **Going Forth Party** on **Sunday 7th June**. It is traditional for us to 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 next weekend, 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 Gift Aid, 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. During the financial year ended April 2014, we reclaimed **£17,687.36** from HMRC!!!

St Bart's Parish Playgroup: meets 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 each visit, 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.

The Knights of St Columba are raising funds for **Mary's Meals**, a charity which provides poor children in Africa with one hot meal a day, giving them the nourishment they need to attend school. A fundraising Dance for **Mary's Meals** is to be held on Friday 5th June, from 7:30 pm to 11:30pm, at the Irish Association Centre, 138-140 Hartfield Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3TG. **Tickets are just £10.00.** There will be a licensed bar and a raffle. Please contact **Bro Melvin Carty**, on 8764 3320 or 07930 366721, for full details.

"Bend it like Beckham" The Musical

St James the Great School has obtained some discounted theatre tickets for this musical. Tickets **£25** each. Info from the school office, including transport arrangements, on **020 8771 3424**.