

St Bartholomew's Catholic Church

Frs Deodat Msahala, Paul Antwi-Boasiako CSSp & Deacon Ged Perkins

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Sunday 30th October 2016

Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Year C)

Mass Times and Intentions:

Sunday 30th October – 31st Sunday in OT

6.15pm (Saturday 29th October)

Leopoldine Rebello RIP

8.30am Thanksgiving – Kiran Bacchus

10.00am Erna & Barry Breese

62nd Wedding Anniversary

11.30am Those suffering in Syria & Iraq

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction

5.00pm People of the parish

Thirty first week in Ordinary Time:

Monday 31st October

7.30am Welfare of Abdul & Melody Mukhtiar

10.00am Holy Souls

Tuesday 1st November - ALL SAINTS

(Solemnity) - Holiday of Obligation

7.30am The intentions of Pope Francis

10.00am Sick and housebound parishioners

7.00pm People of the parish

Wednesday 2nd November – ALL SOULS

The commemoration of all the

Faithful Departed

7.30am Holy Souls

10.00am Holy Souls

Thursday 3rd November

St Martin de Porres, Religious (memorial)

7.30am Martin Keane RIP (Foundation Mass)

10.00am Leopoldine Rebello RIP

Friday 4th November

St Charles Borromeo, Bishop (memorial)

7.30am Christine Strain RIP

10.00am Holy Souls

FIRST FRIDAY – Adoration until 2pm.

Saturday 5th November – Our Lady

10.00am Holy Souls

Next Sunday 6th November – 32nd Sunday in OT

6.15pm (Saturday 5th November)

Intentions of the Buckley family

8.30am Andy & May Byrne RIP

10.00am People of the parish

11.30am Francis Butler RIP

(Polyphony Choir singing)

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction

5.00pm Ellis Foundation Mass

Daily Mass & Prayer:

*Mass: Mon – Fri: 7.30am

*Morning Prayer of the Church

Mon - Sat 9.15am

*Adoration & Benediction.

Mon – Sat 9.30am

*Mass: Mon – Sat 10.00am

*Rosary: Mon – Sat 10.30am

*Confessions:

Saturday, after 10.00am Mass, until

11.00am; then in the afternoon from 5.00pm

to 6.00pm, and at call, provided that a priest is available.

Parish Mass Book: This Sunday Page 157

Thank you for your continuous generosity:

Last weekend's collection came to £1961.00
(£1,363.00-Baskets; £598.00-Standing Orders)

You also gave most generously to MISSIO,
with a total of £747.00.

Today we welcome and indeed thank

Teresa Keogh from the

Diocesan Stewardship Team.

She will be speaking at all Masses on the
subject of the spirituality of discipleship.

SCHOOL REFERENCES FOR 2017

Interview sessions have now **ended**. We shall
shortly be sending out completed reference
forms to those schools which provided them.

Parish Website

Should our website be inaccessible, the
Polyphony choir is kindly hosting the newsletter
for us. Please go to: www.polychoir.co.uk and
click on "Newsletter" at the top of their home
page. In the meantime, a brand new website is
under construction and is not far from
completion. Please watch this space!

Coffee Morning TODAY!

The Polyphony Choir will be in action
today after the 8.30am, 10.00am & 11.30am
Masses. Come with empty stomachs to break
your fast with a sumptuous breakfast and the
by now famous (infamous?) unique chocolate
cake! Not for the fainthearted! - Well, maybe
just a small piece???

Thanks from LIFE for the **£148.00** raised for
LIFE HQ two Sundays ago at their coffee
morning. Please see: www.lifecharity.org

Rota for Coffee Mornings 2017

Any individual, family or parish group
wishing to book the hall for Coffee mornings
next year, kindly contact the parish office to
confirm availability of dates. If there is a
good cause for which you would like to raise
funds, this might be a good opportunity.

First Holy Communions 2017

Confirmations 2017

The deadline has now passed for both.
No more applications may be accepted.

First Holy Communion Dates

Dates allocated to each child will be displayed
on the notice board in the main porch **next**
weekend. Would parents kindly check the
spelling of names and report any changes to
the parish office. Letters to parents will then
be issued for collection on the first weekend in
December. Please look out for yours.

URGENT CALL FOR CATECHISTS

Former Catechists are asked to get in touch
with to help with First Holy Communions
and Confirmations for 2017. We still
desperately need extra people in order to
run successful programmes, which are
currently being prepared for both these
vital Sacraments, **most particularly for**
the First Holy Communion programme.
If you might be able to help us, please see
Fr Deo or Fr Paul, or contact Teresa
Furtado regarding First Holy
Communions, or Deacon Ged Perkins
regarding Confirmations.

Becoming a Catholic.

Do you know of anybody who has
expressed an interest in the Catholic Faith?

Perhaps you have discussed it
with a friend or neighbour.

Maybe you have been visiting our church,
thinking about joining us, and would now
like to take the next step towards
becoming a Catholic.

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of
Adults) team will shortly be holding an
introductory meeting. Please contact either
of the priests or the Parish office ASAP.

ANNUAL NATIONAL MASS COUNT:
Would collectors please note that a final
count is needed at the 6.15pm Mass only.

END OF BRITISH SUMMER TIME

Did you remember to put your
clocks BACK one hour last night?
(NB If you reading this at 6:15 Mass
on 29th October, then tonight is the
night to adjust your clocks!)

Don't forget all your watches and various
items which don't update automatically!

We welcome into the Church,
James Ryan Nnamdi Timilehin Okolo,
who was Baptised here last Sunday.

As we enter the month of the
Holy Souls during the coming
week, our Book of Remembrance
will be placed beneath the main
altar as usual. Please write in the
names of those for whom you
would like prayers to be offered
up during November.

Sick and Housebound

If you know of anybody who is sick or housebound, or in a care home, who is unable to come to Mass, and who would like to receive Holy Communion, Reconciliation or Anointing or a Blessing, please contact the parish office.

Please pray for our sick and housebound:

Jessica Anane, Juliette Blake, Alan Blaquiére, Anita Blaquiére, Barry Breese, Frances Caulfield, Fr Gerald Coates, Raffaella Forte, Rachel Gadd, Eamon Gillespie, Elaine Gunther, Anne Harris, Agnes Healy, Joan Huie, Felix Isichei, Mary Kenny, Gladys Laskey, Elsie McCleave, James McDonald, Breda McDonagh, Jose Mcmillan, Michael Madigan, Ajitha Mahatantila, George Meyern, Mary Meyern, Edgar Ming, Peter Ranawake, Marion Robertson, Joe Ryan, Frederic Saint-Rose, Alice Scott, Elizabeth Scott, Maggie Sunich, Edythe Thirlwall, Mary White, Ethelda Williams, Charmaine Wise, Georgette Yoo Foo.

Recently Deceased:

Glenda McGrath, a regular member of our Over 55's group, and a parishioner of St Andrew's Thornton Heath died recently. Her funeral will take place at St Andrew's on Friday 11th November at 10am. Our thoughts and prayers as a parish go out to the family.

Church Cleaning: Group 3 this week:

Brigid Griffin, Joyce Ippoliti, Jeannette Da Silva, Bernie Knight, Antoinette Nwanoneze.

Please could you give up some time to help clean the church? The burden continues to fall on very few people. (Thanks to those who have recently come forward. We really do still need more kind souls to help!)

BAPTISM PREPARATION:

Application forms may be collected from the porch. The next course takes place on BOTH Wednesdays 16th & 23rd November 2016. Keep an eye out for January 2017 dates.

The Repository

We are happy to announce that the Repository is now open! All that now remains is for the carpeting to be fitted, which should be quite soon. In the meantime, please excuse the concrete floor. Christmas stock is now on order, and should be available by November. Thank you for bearing with us during the recent works to correct the drainage issue.

CLERGY SUPPORT FUND CAMPAIGN

If you completed a Contact Card in recent weeks, you will receive a personal invitation to a presentation together with details of the times of the presentations, which is now scheduled to take place in February 2017 in our parish hall. Only one card need be completed per family, as provision will be made for other family members to attend. Please either hand in your completed card with the offertory collection or place it in the box provided in the church porch. For those who would still like the opportunity to take part, there are a number of cards still in the porch, with pencils available for filling them in. Please support this venture to provide for priests of this diocese in their retirement. Thank you.

A day with Mary

Saturday 5th November 2016 at St Peter's Woolwich.
Saturday 12th November 2016 at Sacred Heart Camberwell.
Full details may be found on the posters in the porch, along with details of various specially organised pilgrimages.

Gift Aid givers:

If you are still using Gift Aid envelopes which are out of date, please contact the Gift Aid team or the parish office.

Do you have any leftover holiday currency, pre-Euro notes and coins or any old Pounds Sterling which are no longer legal tender? Please put it in the SVP tray in the porch, or hand to the parish office

Catholic School Open Days & Employment Opportunities:

Please see the noticeboards for these. Also, due to the volume of notices, there is a yellow folder in the porch, which contains a number of posters and cards advertising School Open Days

!!!CALLING ALL EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND READERS!!!

You are invited to attend the annual Day of Recollection, which this year takes place on Saturday November 12th 2016. This commences with registration at 10.30am and closes with Mass at 3.00pm, celebrated by Bishop Patrick Lynch ss.cc. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible, and in any event no later than Thursday 3rd November, so that names may be entered in time. This notice has also been sent out by email to all those whose addresses we hold.

SPEAK UP FOR CAFOD:

Would you like to brush up your public speaking skills and learn how you can help CAFOD by speaking in your parish and/or other parishes? Please join our free 'Speaking Up for CAFOD' workshop on Saturday 26 November 10am-4pm at Romero House (near Southwark Cathedral). To book your place call us on 020 8449 6970 or email: westminster@cafod.org.uk.

A THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

"Help, Lord, the Souls that Thou hast made, the Souls to thee so dear! In prison for the debt unpaid of sins committed here".

These words, throughout the year and particularly in November, recall us to our duty of performing the Spiritual Work of Mercy of praying for the souls of the faithful departed; these include family, friends, acquaintances and also those who we have never known. Almost daily, the news media reminds us of many for whom death comes suddenly and unexpectedly. As we pray for these souls we must also pray for ourselves; may we be prepared in order that death does not take us by surprise. Prayer for the dead goes back to Old Testament times. It is, for us, a recognition that our Christian family extends far beyond the confines of our parish. As members of the Communion of Saints, we have brothers and sisters without number. Some are already enjoying the eternal bliss of Heaven, whilst we are sustained by God's Grace, on Earth. However, for those who have died, the majority with some sins not atoned for, as will apply to most of us, all chances to respond lovingly to God have ceased. Those who have died in the State of Grace are waiting in that state which the Church calls Purgatory where, before they can 'feel at home' in God's presence, they may be cleaned (purged) of all that, from this life, remains between them and God. God knows that, until all traces of sin are removed, a soul will be unable to enjoy His presence. These souls are, of course, assured of Heaven but can no longer do anything to help themselves get there; as with any loving family, fitter members care for the sick and helpless; Saints in Heaven pray; we on earth assist souls in Purgatory through our masses, prayers and other sacrifices.

To emphasise our hope of Heaven we shall, on Tuesday, celebrate All Saints in Heaven. This is designated by the Church as a Holiday of Obligation. On Wednesday we shall commemorate the Faithful Departed, that is All Souls who look to us (maybe some have nobody specifically praying for them) to help them into Heaven.

The imperfect state in which we die is often further highlighted by the priest wearing purple vestments when saying a Requiem Mass. This sombre colour is an essential reminder that, however good our fellow human beings may have seemed to us, they are, with their fallen nature, far from perfect and, therefore, in need of all the help they can get. We owe it, in love, to those who have died (*and this is NOT judging them*) to beg God's forgiveness as He sees they need it. One day we shall be in that state. Please God this loving service will be performed for us!