

St Bartholomew's Catholic Church

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

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Sunday 27th November 2016

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Year A)

Mass Times and Intentions:

Sunday 27th November –

First Sunday of Advent

6.15pm (Saturday 26th November)

Carmen Vella RIP

8.30am Christine Nicol RIP

10.00am Dominic Cu Van Tran RIP

11.30am Joe McNamara RIP

(Hymn Choir singing)

4.00pm Benediction

5.00pm Mary Durkin RIP

First Week of Advent:

Monday 28th November

7.30am Margaret Smith RIP

10.00am Welfare of Tony Tambirasa

on the occasion of his 87th birthday

Tuesday 29th November

7.30am Mary Houlihan RIP

10.00am Welfare of Jim Hughes and family

Wednesday 30th November – St Andrew, Apostle, Patron Saint of Scotland (Feast)

7.30am Antonio Galeone RIP

10.00am Welfare and recovery of

Veronica Carson

Thursday 1st December

7.30am Stepano & Maria Martucci RIP

10.00am Deceased members of

the Laskey family

Friday 2nd December

7.30am Kathleen Linehan RIP

10.00am Ioanna Donato RIP

Saturday 3rd December –

St Francis Xavier, Priest (Memorial)

10.00am Dominic F X Mascarenhas RIP

Next Sunday 4th December –

Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)

6.15pm Eugene Lopez RIP

8.30am Jim & Christine Clark RIP

10.00am Albert Rego RIP

11.30am People of the Parish

4.00pm 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, & at call, when a priest is available.

!!!OUR NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!!!

Please note that our email address has now changed and is as stated above.

If you have recently sent an email, but not received a reply, please resend it **to the new address**. There have been and may continue to be some teething problems, and we thank you for your patience whilst they are being resolved.

!!!OUR NEW PARISH WEB SITE!!!

Our new Web site is now live at stbartsnorbury.co.uk.

We hope you find it easy to use and informative, and will enjoy watching it develop over the months ahead. There are many images still to be added, and other features are planned in due course.

Parish Groups wishing to add to, or adjust, their entries should email the Parish Office. Likewise Groups or parish organisations not yet represented, that might like to be listed, should do likewise.

Parish Mass Book: This Sunday Page 82

Today we return to Year A, and we are now using the mustard yellow coloured books, which will take us through to Pentecost.

Thank you for your continuous generosity: Last weekend's collection came to £1849.00 (£1251.00-Baskets; £598.00-Standing Orders)

Thank you also for the **£628.00** which you gave for **Catholic Youth Services**.

A PASTORAL LETTER from Archbishop Peter Smith, will be read at all Masses this weekend as we enter the season of Advent. Copies are available in the porch.

CLERGY SUPPORT FUND CAMPAIGN

Thanks to all who completed cards over the last few weeks. You will be contacted in due course regarding the next step in the process.

Coffee Morning today after the **10.00am & 11.30am** Masses, with **LIFE**, who will be raising funds for **Zoe's Place Baby Hospice**. See: www.zoes-place.org.uk; The **Youth Club**, which will have toys for sale and also have a raffle, will be joining **LIFE**, and they will also be present after the **8.30am** Mass.

The Children's Liturgy Group thank you for supporting their Coffee Morning last weekend. They raised **£100.00** for "Nightwatch".

First Holy Communion Dates

Dates allocated to each child are on display on the right hand notice board in the main porch, closest to the repository. Would parents kindly check the spelling of names and report any changes to the parish office. Letters to parents will be issued for collection next weekend, 3rd & 4th December 2016. Please look out for yours in the porch from that date.

We welcome into the Church, Ethan John Jackson, who was Baptised here last Sunday.

During the last few days of November, the month dedicated to the Holy Souls, our Book of Remembrance will remain beneath the main altar. Please write in the names of those Faithful Departed for whom you would like prayers to be offered up at Masses during November.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Please take your copy of the **CAFOD World Gifts Catalogue** from the porch and **put in your order by 16th December**. The idea is that you give what you can to help those in need, and the money goes towards practical help to children and families in developing communities. You choose whether it goes towards improving health, growing food, the provision of education and skills training, clean water and so on. This Christmas, why not give something to somebody you may never get to meet, and let **CAFOD** deliver it on your behalf.

READERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

The new rota, which includes Christmas Eve/Day and New Year's Eve/Day, both of which fall at weekends, has now been published. Should you find yourself scheduled for a Mass which you cannot attend, please kindly arrange for somebody to take your place.

The next rota will run from 9th & 10th January 2017 to 13th & 14th February 2017. Please do your best to advise us as to your availability and indeed to your non availability via the parish office no later than 12th December 2016, as it will be necessary to release the rota before the Christmas holiday period.

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 parishioners:

Jessica Anane, Juliette Blake, Alan Blaquiere, Anita Blaquiere, 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, 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, Carole Winch, Charmaine Wise, Georgette Yoo Foo.

Recently Deceased:

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Josie McMillan**, a former parishioner of many years, mother of Andrew McMillan of the Polyphony Choir and long standing member of our Union of Catholic Mothers. Josie died on Monday 21st November 2016.

Kathleen (Kitty) Bayles, of Scott Close, who died on Sunday 20th November 2016.

Our sympathy and prayers as a parish go out to the families.

Church Cleaning: Group 1 this week:

Ena Holland, Mary Icheke, Eileen McCarthy, Nancy McNamara, Kathleen O'Toole, Nwamaka Offor, Polin Rajaratnam.

We are still greatly in need of others to share the load.

Please could you give up some time to help clean the church?

The Repository

The Repository is now open, and Christmas stock is now in. You are advised not to delay, as stock is selling fast!

The Catholic Truth Society – CTS

Advent and Christmas titles may now be found in the rack beside the Repository. You will also notice a version of the Simple Prayer Book in Polish and English. If you would like a booklet which you cannot see in the rack, please ask us to get it for you.

Towards Advent 2016 - a Festival of Catholic Culture to be held on Saturday 26th November in Westminster Cathedral Hall, SW1. Further details: towardsadvent@blogspot.com; and on the poster.

Advent Reflections

The Archdiocese of Southwark is once again making available to us all a scripturally based series of reflections on the theme of stewardship. (You may recall a talk by Teresa Keogh on that very subject a few weeks ago.) If you would like to sign up for daily emails, please go to: <http://eepurl.com/bP6Bp9>

TO ALL OUR ALTAR SERVERS:

Please sign up for serving at Christmas.

We need servers for all Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, and in particular the 6.15pm Family Mass and Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. (NB There is no 5pm Mass on Christmas Day). We encourage older servers in particular to do their best to support Midnight Mass.

Practices for Christmas Eve Masses will be held on

Sunday 18th December 2016 as follows:

@ 6pm (for the 6.15pm Family Mass;

@ 6.30pm (for Midnight Mass).

Please be sure to sign up on the sheets in the sacristy.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING SAFEGUARDING:

We are a fortunate parish, in that there are a number of volunteers willing to give their skills, experience and time to assist the numerous groups that take place in the church. As the safeguarding lead, I am keen for this practice to continue. It is important that all prospective volunteers are deemed appropriate to undertake the role they wish to assist with, before doing so. The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) formerly known as the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) is the safeguarding process the diocese use for all regulated activity within the parish, to ensure the safeguarding of vulnerable groups, including children and vulnerable adults.

Any individual wishing to undertake a volunteer role within the church must undertake a DBS process with the parish. Oftentimes prospective volunteers have an existing enhanced DBS from their current place of work and are under the misapprehension that this will suffice. A paper DBS is not portable and therefore cannot be used by the parish, as evidence that an individual is deemed fit for the role they wish to undertake. The exception is if an individual has an online DBS account, then the diocese as a registered organisation must be given permission by the individual, for the diocese to access their account to ensure that a satisfactory enhanced level is in place. That being said, the portability of an online account is very limited. If for instance your DBS is an enhanced level for children and adults and your role in the church is just for children, then the diocese is not permitted to see the DBS due to the adult component and vice versa if your role on the church is just for adults. Individuals with an online DBS account will still need to complete a safeguarding declaration form and follow through with the necessary ID verification process. These complicated factors are the reason why the diocese are keen for individuals to undertake a parish DBS. If you have any questions about this, then the diocese are happy for individuals to contact them directly during office hours on **020 7261 1606**.

For those who do not have an online DBS account, please pick up a 'pack' from the parish office to begin the parish DBS process. Within the pack is an application form, two reference request forms (you must get your referees to complete this), an ID verification and safeguarding declaration form. Completing these forms does not mean that the DBS process has been complete. Once the application form and two references have been completed, I can then contact the diocese for the actual DBS form. This is posted to me and I will then contact the individual to arrange a time for them to complete it and bring original documents as required to verify ID. I will then send your DBS form to the diocese with your ID and safeguarding declaration form. The diocese will send your form and documents off for processing and you will be informed in due course of the outcome. A satisfactory enhanced level check is required in order to undertake the role you wish to assist with.

Facilitators of groups and prospective volunteers, please contact me directly to seek advice and guidance **before** engaging in any activity. It is imperative that we follow through with the expectations of the diocese to ensure the safety of all.

Nana Bonsu-Amako Safeguarding Lead. Mobile No: 07849 108715

St James the Great Christmas Fayre:

This takes place at the school on Sunday 4th December 2016 from 11am to 3pm. Please see the poster in the main porch for details, including how to book a table at this important fundraising event. To get in touch, email: friends@stjamesthegreat.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 your opportunity to do so.

Gift Aid givers: You are kindly asked NOT to use old envelopes. Please contact the Gift Aid team or the parish office with any queries.

Catholic School Open Days & Catholic job opportunities.

Please see the special yellow folder in the porch for information.