



Saint Bartholomew's Catholic Church, Norbury

Fathers Deodat Msahala & Innocent Ezeonyeasi and Deacon Ged Perkins

159 Ellison Road, London SW16 5DE

Telephone: 020 8679 3545

Email: parish.office159@virginmedia.com

Website: stbartsnorbury.co.uk

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

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark – Registered Charity No. 1173050

SUNDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2017 TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

“Come with me privately to a solitary place...” (Mark 6:31)

This world is very demanding of one's time and energy. How many lives are 'governed' by personal organisers? How often does daily life at home revolve around TV schedules? What do the 'worldly-wise' hold out to us as goals or priorities in a 'successful' life? This list could go on and on. At times, therefore, one needs to step out of one's 'groove' and, detached from the general rush of everyday life, consider the 'bigger picture'.

We have, of course, the example of Jesus who, we read, sometimes withdrew to an isolated spot to pray, thereby making a retreat. (Mark 6:31; see also Mark 1:35-37; Luke 5:15-16). With family and job commitments many may despair of achieving such 'space' amid the cares of life.

If one is able it is good to make a week's retreat, conducted by Priests and Religious, distancing oneself from everyday distractions and spending more time contemplating the things of God, through daily Mass, talks, prayer and Spiritual-reading. For those of us with limited time it can be possible to go on retreats, lasting only a day or two. There are numerous monasteries and retreat houses to which one may go.

For some ideas see: <http://www.catholicfaith.org.uk/Home/Retreats/List-of-Retreat-Centres>



Such options may well not necessarily be open to many of us. However, that does not prevent us from reaching out to tap the sources of Grace which God wills to give us. Mass and Holy Communion, the foundation of Catholic life, are widely available in our Parish on Sunday and offered twice daily during the week. In addition to this treasure, on weekdays and Saturdays, groups meet to pray Morning Prayer of the Church and the Holy Rosary. Maybe, at least once a week, time could be made for an extra Mass or, if time is really limited, to 'pay a visit' to meditate while the church is open.

A church can be a quiet and contemplative oasis in a noisy environment; many busy people, where churches are open all day, will pop in and, perhaps, just for a few minutes, pour out their hearts before Our Lord in the Tabernacle; they 'recharge their spiritual batteries' and can go on to face the rest of their day. For many of us, however, our 'retreat' times are those precious minutes before and after Sunday or Holy Day Mass. May we make the most of these opportunities!

"Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God." (Matthew 22:21).

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's collection came to **£1,921.00** (£1,276.00 in baskets; £645.00 in standing orders.).
The **CAFOD** Harvest Fast Collection has now reached **£1826.00**, with money still coming in!

THE UCM thank you for helping them raise **£133.00** at their Coffee Morning last Sunday.

TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY.

There will be a second collection for **MISSIO** today. Please use the special **MISSIO** envelopes provided for this collection, especially if you wish to Gift Aid your contribution. **Please do not use your normal parish envelopes.**

We welcome Bishop Pat to say the 10am Mass today, which he does so in recognition of the enormous contribution our Parish makes to Missio, and to honour two of our parishioners, both very much involved with MISSIO, by the award of the Diocesan Medal. We raise around £10,000.00 per annum just through the red MISSIO collection boxes! This would be an excellent opportunity to sign up as a supporter of MISSIO. To do so, please contact our organiser, **Cynthia Jouan**, who will arrange for you to receive one of their special red collecting boxes.

We welcome back Fr Deo, following his Ongoing Formation week in France.

COFFEE MORNING TODAY

After the 10am 11.30am Masses with LIFE. Please come and support the vital work of LIFE. There will be tea, coffee and sale of knitted goods. Proceeds to Zoe's Place Baby Hospice: www.zoes-place.org.uk/liverpool

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Collectors are asked to kindly count the numbers present at all Masses this week, including Saturday's Vigil Mass. Please write your numbers on the chart on the shelf in the porch. This is the final weekend for the Mass Count.

Sick and Housebound: *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.*

Please pray for our Sick and Housebound parishioners:

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Thomas George Grogan**, late of Copley Park, former teacher at BTG School, who died on Sunday 1st October 2017. Our thoughts and prayers as a parish go out to his family.

The funeral of **Canon Gerald Charles Coates**, who died on Tuesday 10th October 2017, is expected to take place at Arundel Cathedral in early November, followed by burial at Steyning, where he had been Parish Priest.

CHURCH CLEANING IN THE COMING WEEK—GROUP 5 PLEASE:

Elizabeth Ayoola, Kelly Bello, Sandra Hodgson, Emma Morrone, Amanda Squires, Maria Verrilli.
Please could you help clean God's house, just once every six weeks? Kindly contact the parish office.

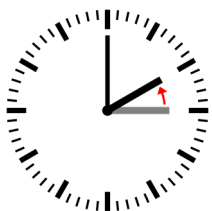
UNCOLLECTED FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CERTIFICATES

The following have yet to collect their certificates from last year: BENESA; JARDIM; NUNOO; PENNANT.
The following certificates remain uncollected from this year: MISZCZYSZYN; NWAFOR. This is an important record and reminder for the children concerned of the first time they received Our Lord in Holy Communion.

USING THE HALL

Will all groups using the hall please ensure that they keep the entrance door closed at all times, and make arrangements for the door to be manned in order to admit only those who are expected. We have been made aware of unauthorised persons attempting to gain access. The safety of all hall users is of paramount importance.

Please report any sightings of strangers to the parish office or clergy. If necessary, call the police.



END OF BRITISH SUMMER TIME

A timely reminder that clocks go BACK one hour next Saturday night/Sunday Morning, which means an extra hour in bed, not that most of us actually ever notice the difference!

If you forget to adjust your clock, you might turn up an hour early for Sunday Mass!

SCHOOL REFERENCES FOR 2018 ENTRY

Dates for remaining school reference interviews are clearly posted in all porch areas.

Please note that there is no need to make an appointment to see Fr Deo at these sessions.

The remaining interview sessions are for reception, infant and primary entry. (Secondary interview sessions are now over.) At least one parent or guardian should attend with the child. It is the responsibility of parents and guardians to ensure that they make a note of the relevant dates when attending Mass. Indeed, in order to obtain a reference for your child, it is a condition that you attend Mass here regularly together with your child. Please note that you may also need an interview if your child is moving to a higher level within the same school, or if your child's place on a waiting list needs to be maintained. Please check with schools if you think that either of these situations might apply to you. Also, if you are new to the parish, you may also need to seek a reference from the parish priest of your previous parish. If you have moved out of the parish in the past three years, and you require a reference, please contact the parish office forthwith.

SCHOOL OPEN DAYS AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CATHOLIC SPHERE

There are a number of these, too numerous to mention separately in this newsletter. This applies particularly to school open days. Please take a look through the yellow folder in the porch to see what might interest you. Due to the enormous response to the recent Open Day at St James the Great, arrangements have been modified in order to facilitate visits from prospective families. This means that in November and December, guided tours of the school will be available at **10am & 11am on the first and second Tuesdays of the month.** The Admissions Secretary,

Helen Stock, will be on hand to answer any questions you may have concerning the admissions process.

If you are unable to make the times given, by all means contact Helen at the school on 020 8771 3424.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME CATECHISTS AND HELPERS URGENTLY NEEDED

We are very short of catechists to help with the First Holy Communion Programme. If you are a parent or guardian of a child who is on the 2018 programme, and you would like to offer your help, please contact the parish office as soon as you are able. Fr Deo and Teresa Furtado would be happy to hear from you. DBS checks may be required, so we need to get things moving in good time for January 2018 to avoid the burden falling on just a few people.

HELPERS URGENTLY NEEDED BY THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP

Help is needed with the Children's Liturgy Group. Children are welcome to join from School Nursery age through to Year 3. Anybody who is willing to become a catechist or helper in this most important aspect of parish life would be welcome, subject to the usual DBS check. Training will be provided. If you are interested and would like further information, please contact Linda Harries on 07770 623230 or by email: l.harries@gmail.com

ST BARTHOLMEW'S TODDLER AND BABY GROUP

We meet in the lower hall every Thursday during term time from 9.30am to 11.30am. We are looking for more parents and babies and toddlers to join, and in particular those from the parish along with those newly Baptised. We provide free play, crafts, reading and rhyme time for the young ones. Refreshments available, Do come along and make friends with other parents, and perhaps your children will become friends with one another too! We charge £2 for the first adult and 2 children, then 50p for extras. Please contact Betania on 07876 785746.

CONFIRMATION PHOTOGRAPHS

Kindly note that John Taylor provides copies of photographs at his own expense. John should not be left out of pocket for his efforts on your behalf. Please would the following please collect their photographs: CABRAL, CRORKEN. MUTHY, VENEREAU, There is also one set of photos, with no name given, for somebody from ALLEN CLOSE in Mitcham. Could these be yours? Please help us to clear this backlog as soon as possible.

PLEASE DONATE UNWANTED YOUR CURRENCY AND OLD MONEY TO THE SVP

Please continue to help the work of the SVP by putting into the special basket in the porch any old currency, notes and coins, even if they no longer exist, including old UK currency. If you have anything left over from your holidays, perhaps a few Euros, they would be gratefully received. The SVP can get value from them.

THE 1967 ABORTION ACT

8.7 Million abortions have occurred since this infamous act was passed in 1967. On Friday 27th October, the 50th anniversary of its passing into law, please join the Good Counsel Network in praying and fasting for the end of abortion. As well as praying and fasting wherever you are, please consider coming to an all-night vigil of prayer from 7pm Friday 27th October through until 7am Saturday 28th October, at St. James' Catholic Church, George Street, London, W1U 3QY. For further information please see our website: www.goodcounselnetwork.com



Parish Masses This Week

Sunday Masses: Vigil, Saturday 6.15pm; Sunday: 8.30am, 10am, 11.30am and 5pm

Parish Mass Book: This Sunday - p.143

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 (*Rosary and Benediction in May & October*)
On First Fridays - Adoration after 10am Mass, closing with Benediction at 2pm

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 22nd October 2017		
TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.15pm (Sat 21st October)	Sauveur & Carmen Vella RIP
	8.30am	Holy Souls
LIFE Coffee Morning after this Mass	10am (Bishop Pat presiding)	MISSIO, all their supporters and beneficiaries
LIFE Coffee Morning after this Mass	11.30am (Hymn Choir)	Valencio Dourado RIP
<i>Rosary and Benediction</i>	4pm	
	5pm	People of the parish

Twenty Ninth Week in Ordinary Time:

Monday 23rd October 2017	7.30am 10am	Welfare of Mr & Mrs B Freeman Gerard Kearney RIP
Tuesday 24th October 2017	7.30am 10am	Edna Graham RIP Janet & Sampson Adindu RIP & deceased family
Wednesday 25th October 2017	7.30am 10am	Ann Strain RIP Sean Kenny RIP
Thursday 26th October 2017	7.30am 10am	Holy Souls Denis Onwuekwe RIP, family and friends
Friday 27th October 2017	7.30am 10am	Dominic Cu Van Tran RIP UCM intention
Saturday 28th October 2017 Saints Simon & Jude (Feast)	10am	Welfare of Mary Kenny on her 90th birthday

Next Sunday 29th October 2017

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.15pm (Sat 28th October)	John Greally RIP
	8.30am	Helena & Zygmunt Snieg RIP & deceased family
	10am	Salus Fernandes RIP (1st anniversary)
	11.30am	Theodore Vicente Fernandes (1st birthday)
<i>Rosary and Benediction</i>	4pm	
	5pm	People of the parish