



Saint Bartholomew's Catholic Church, Norbury

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

A parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO – Registered Incorporated Charity No. 1173050

SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2017

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A



Today we remember the souls of all those who have died in wars, especially those of the twentieth and twenty first centuries. Today's date is the nearest Sunday to the date of the Armistice which ended World War 1 on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. Many of our Parish families, looking back through their generations, will have discovered the names of those among their forbears who risked and, often, lost their lives fighting those who threatened life and liberty around the world. Whether we know these dead or not, we owe them a massive debt; they have a right to expect our prayers; their deaths bought freedom for countless millions of people, including ourselves, who came after them.

So how do we repay this debt? Certainly through offering Prayers, Masses and Sacrifices for the repose of their Souls; in the heat of battle many, possibly, would have died unprepared. Many may do so today. It is an act of Charity to pray daily that anyone now living apart from God will accept the Grace of Final Repentance, offered until they draw their final breath in this world.

"WHEN YOU GO HOME, TELL THEM OF US AND SAY, FOR THEIR TOMORROW WE GAVE OUR TODAY."

There is yet another obligation placed on our shoulders. These men and women died in defence of Human Rights, fundamental to which is the Right to Life itself! It is, consequently, up to us, living in the 21st century, to oppose those who, as we well know, believe that they 'know better than God' and seek to impose 'agendas' which directly oppose the Laws of our Creator. Confusing Love with license, they can seriously mislead many. News of conflict is constantly on our TV screens; these conflicts do not necessarily involve force of arms and physical destruction. They may (depending on the issue) involve the killing of the Soul as much as the Body. There is a great and indeed ever present need to stand up for what is right.

Far more than words, the examples of lives lived maybe, at times, heroically in willing obedience to God's Laws, can bring the unenlightened to see the Beauty and Wisdom of the Church's Teachings. Today Catholics may well be required to be 'counter-cultural'. If we were to live contrary to God's Holy Will, that would set a bad example to others and would make a mockery of those who sacrificed their lives for us so that we might be able to exercise our Free Will unimpeded, to say nothing of mocking our Lord whose Passion, Death and Resurrection give meaning and purpose to our Prayers for the Faithful Departed.

It is truly good to condemn unjust aggression and to mourn and pray for those who strove against it on our behalf. As ever, if we are to be credible witnesses of the Truth, we must, *'practise what we preach!*

**"THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD, AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD,
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN.
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING,
WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM."**

Thank you for your generosity

Last week's collection came to **£2020.00** (£1375.00 in baskets; £645.00 in standing orders.).

Today there is a **second collection** for the **Archbishop's Fund for Diocesan Administration**, which helps to meet the cost of the central administration of the diocese. Gift Aiders should use the special BLUE envelope from their boxes, marked "**Archbishop's Administration Fund**". Gift Aiders who give by standing order, please take your boxes from the Gift Aid office if you wish to contribute, as Standing Orders do not cover second collections.

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, Janina Miller, 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.

CHURCH CLEANING IN THE COMING WEEK - GROUP 2 PLEASE:

Barbara Baichu, Jackie Byrne, Mary Duah, Doris Fosua, Helen Igbedion, Mary Odusanya, Victoria Okonko. Could you help clean God's house, just once every six weeks? If you are interested in joining our cleaning teams, or have recently volunteered to help, but you have not been contacted, kindly contact the parish office.

THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

You will find our Book of Remembrance located beneath the main altar. You are invited to enter on its pages the names of all those whom you would like to be remembered at Masses during the month. Please ask for assistance if you cannot reach the book. A pen has been provided, which is attached to the book. If you would like to make an offering in respect of Masses for the dead, please use the Holy Souls wall boxes in the main and gallery porches.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Our uniformed groups will be attending the 11.30am Mass today, to honour those who have died in wars. The Plainchant Choir will be singing. A wreath will be laid in honour of the war dead, and the colours of our uniformed groups will be lowered in respect. Also, at 10.30am today, during the civic ceremony at the local war memorial by Streatham Common North, John Byrne will be laying a wreath on behalf of St Bartholomew's.

BLESSING OF GRAVES AT STREATHAM PARK CEMETERY, ROWAN ROAD

This will take place this afternoon. Upon entering the cemetery, proceed past the car park and then either side of the office building; go to the end of the road ahead; then turn left and proceed towards the new tombs, which you will see on the right hand side along that stretch. There we shall gather at 2.45pm for a prompt 3pm start. Please be prepared for poor weather, and keep an eye out for passing cars, and of course look after the more vulnerable among us. We shall hold a short service of remembrance, including readings, prayers, psalms and hymns, and a general blessing of graves. Following this, those priests present will make themselves available to bless individual graves. Please remember that it may be muddy and wet, and our priests are not so agile as they once were. Please do not be disappointed if it is not possible for the graves of any of your loved ones to be blessed. The cemetery covers a very large area. Please also remember that all priests need to return to their parishes in good time for evening Mass. The cemetery gates close promptly at 4pm, and it will get dark very quickly.

THE YOUTH CHOIR

We hope to make an announcement shortly regarding the launch of this choir. We know that many of you want to become involved. Please keep an eye on the newsletter, so as to be ready when we are in a position to get started.

ALTAR SERVERS - PLEASE READ

At the Sunday 10.00am Mass, we are greatly blessed to have so many Altar Servers present. However, having so many servers at this one Mass means that it's difficult to give all the new servers a particular job every Sunday. And we realise that getting experience of doing all the different Altar Serving jobs is really important in the first few months after training. We really do need to have some additional servers at both the 8.30am and 11.30am Masses. Therefore we should like to ask whether any servers who normally attend the 10.00am Mass would be both willing and able to swap to either of these other Masses? We understand that this would most likely mean parents and guardians possibly making changes to their Sundays too. So, if it is possible for you to help in this way, would you please let Cathleen Nicholls or Jed Murphy know. Many thanks.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Are you interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith, or do you know somebody who is thinking of becoming a Catholic? Please contact either of our priests or the parish office as soon as possible. Our catechists are prepared to impart their knowledge of the faith to those ready to make the journey towards becoming Catholics.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES 2018

These are scheduled to take place in January, April and July next year. The first course is expected to be run on both Saturdays 13th and 20th January 2018. To join these sessions, and/or to book a date for your child's Baptism, please complete a Baptism Details Form, available from the Church porch, and hand this in to the parish office.

BLESSED SACRAMENT ALTAR CANDLE STAND

In order to reduce the risk of fire, please use only the votive lights provided at the Blessed Sacrament Altar. Also, please do not take candles from there and place them anywhere else in the church.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

This year's catalogue is now available in the porch areas. Please would every family take a copy home and consider helping our poorest brothers and sisters by giving to CAFOD's work in this special way. You can choose which particular gifts your money will be used to provide for those in very great need.

THE CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY (CTS)

There is now a good stock of booklets relating to Advent and Christmas. Please take a look in the rack which is situated on the wall just outside the Repository. If there is anything you wish to obtain, but you do not see in the rack, please contact Ann Daniels via the parish office, so that your request might be fulfilled. All booklets are designed so that they may be carried in your pocket or bag, and are thus easily available to you whenever you have time for a moment of reflection during your busy day. Why not check on the CTS web site for details and what they have in store for their 150th year? You may even download CTS booklets onto many portable reading devices.

See: <http://www.ctsbooks.org>;

THE REPOSITORY

In addition to the many books, diaries, calendars and devotional items which are always held, the repository is now fully stocked for Christmas, including cards, calendars, diaries, nativity scenes etc. Demand is always very high. So as to avoid disappointment, please don't delay your purchases until the last minute. When it's gone, it's gone!!

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL THOSE USING THE HALL

Will all groups using the hall please ensure that they keep the entrance door closed at all times. They should make arrangements for the door to be manned in order to admit only those who are expected. A doorbell will soon be fitted. There have been recent attempts by unauthorised persons to gain access. The safety of all hall users is paramount. Please report any sightings of strangers to the parish office or clergy. If necessary, call the police.

THE PILGRIM - NOVEMBER ISSUE

Please take a copy of our diocesan newspaper from the porch. Though there is a marked price of 50p, we do not make a charge. If you would like to make a contribution, kindly put it in the wall box marked "Papers & CTS".

IN THE COMING WEEK

UCM - Usual meeting in the upper hall on Monday 13th November from 2pm - 4pm in the St Charles Room.

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 provide free play, crafts, reading and rhyme time for the young ones. Refreshments available. We charge £2 for the first adult and 2 children, then 50p for extra people. Please contact Betania on 07876 785746.

CONOR ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCING -TRADITIONAL IRISH STEP DANCING

Those who attended the Parish AGM were entertained by this group. Boys and girls aged 5 upwards may attend classes at St Andrew's or St James the Great schools on Saturdays. Contact Bridie Willis on 07801 814748.

NEWSFLASH!!

SAFARI EXPEDITION TO TANZANIA 2018

A meeting for all those who have put their names down for Fr Deo's Safari will be held in the upper hall on Saturday 2nd December at 7.30pm. This meeting will be primarily to discuss the itinerary for the safari. A further meeting will be held in March 2018. Please advise any of your friends from other parishes of the details of this meeting. There are still a few places available on the safari, so if you are interested, please contact Fr Deo or the parish office as soon as possible.



Parish Masses This Week

Sunday Masses: Vigil, Saturday 6.15pm; Sunday: 8.30am, 10am, 11.30am and 5pm
Parish Mass Book: This Sunday - p.152

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 & 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 12th November 2017 THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	6.15pm (Sat 11th November)	John Grealley RIP
	8.30am	Sheilagh Goodspeed RIP
	10am	Celia Moran RIP
Uniformed Groups in attendance <i>Benediction</i>	11.30am (Plainchant Choir)	For all those killed in wars
	4pm	
	5pm	People of the parish
<i>Thirty Second Week in Ordinary Time:</i> Monday 13th November 2017	7.30am	Aires Fernandes RIP
	10am	Intentions of Erna & Barry Breese
Tuesday 14th November 2017	7.30am	Harry Mellor RIP
	10am	Welfare, blessings & thanksgiving - Onwuekwe & Ilobi families and friends
Wednesday 15th November 2017	7.30am	Thanksgiving & special intention - Muoghalu family
	10am	Albert Rego RIP
Thursday 16th November 2017	7.30am	Welfare of Andrea Furtado
	10am	Hervé Yoo Foo RIP
Friday 17th November 2017	7.30am	Stella Chok Wing RIP
	10am	Thanksgiving - Michael Mensah
Saturday 18th November 2017 Our Lady	10am	Holy Souls - freedom from Purgatory
Next Sunday 19th November 2017 Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.15pm (Sat 18th November)	David Davies RIP
	8.30am	Ian Dallas RIP
	10am	People of the parish
	11.30am (Hymn Choir)	Ezinne Grace Florence Ezike RIP
<i>Benediction</i>	4pm	
	5pm	Maria dos Ramos Miguel RIP