



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 14th JANUARY 2018

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B

On the *First Sunday of Advent 2017 AD* ('Anno Domini' i.e. 'The Year of Our Lord') we began our *Liturgical New Year*. As 2017 drew to a close, we remembered the Holy Innocents, massacred by Herod in his quest to destroy Jesus, also renewing our prayers for the innocent Unborn still being slaughtered through Abortion. We honoured the Holy Family of Nazareth, Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the perfect model for all families. At midnight, as 2018 began, we were privileged to be invited to begin this new *Anno Domini* with Our Lord at Mass, receiving Him in Holy Communion. Later that day we celebrated *Mary, the Holy Mother of God*, through whose loving, '... *Be it done unto me...*', Christ could come into the world, enabling mankind to make a new beginning on the road to Heaven, previously closed by Original Sin. Last Sunday we celebrated *the Epiphany* (or manifestation) of Our Lord. Three Kings (or Magi) representing the Gentile, or non-Jewish peoples, knelt down to adore the King of kings lying in the manger, offering gifts signifying His Kingship, His Divinity and His Saving Death.

New Year is a traditional time to make *Resolutions* which, hopefully, will improve our lives, either correcting faults or, perhaps, increasing the good efforts we are already making to correspond with God's Grace. As part of this renewal process we were recently offered what perhaps, for some of us, served as a wake-up call, i.e. '*How long is it since I went to Confession, admitted that I was in the wrong and asked to be reconciled with God?*'. To this end we were offered a whole day during which we had the privilege and joy of Adoring Our Saviour, exposed in the Monstrance on the Altar and, through His Priests, of receiving the sure knowledge that, having repented of and confessed our sins, we are forgiven. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, like the Father of the Prodigal Son, Our Lord picks us up, telling us, through Father, '... *your sins are forgiven you... Go and sin no more...*'.

What form, for Catholics, might New-Year resolutions take if they are to rise above 'run-of-the-mill' ones (good as these may well be) and make a difference not only to our bodily but, more importantly, to our Spiritual Life? Regular Confession must surely be a priority on many lists! Are there opportunities to help not only ourselves and our Families but also others, of Faith or unbelieving, who, knowing that we are Catholics, look to us, consciously or not, for a lead?

Honouring the Holy Family highlights the fundamental Truth that our Families, core units of Society, living according to God's Law, can and must be a force for change; resolutions provide many opportunities for the ongoing Religious formation of Parents and Children. In times when Marriage and the Family are under attack, our Witness is more crucial than ever!

A good starting point for decision-making is Prayer in the Home; do we encourage our Children to say morning and night Prayers and Grace before and after meals? If we are eating in a public venue will any of our fellow-diners be aware of our Faith as we say Grace Before Meals together? Do children have the best example of all, their Parents' own prayers? How often do we pray as a Family, maybe saying the Rosary or the Chaplet of Divine Mercy each day? Do we discuss our wonderful Faith? One is never too young or too old to go 'exploring'. Are resolutions needed here? How often do we take our children to Mass? Of course there are Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation but how often, hectic as life can be, have we considered going as a Family to Adoration and Mass on Saturday mornings during the year and also on weekdays during school holidays *in addition* to the days on which we are obliged to attend? Many of our children have the privilege of being Altar Servers and would, therefore, be given more opportunities to exercise this Ministry through serving at weekday Masses. How often do we and our Children go to Confession? Is it, for us, an indispensable part of our Catholic life? When out and about could we pay a visit to Our Lord in the Tabernacle when we happen to pass by a Catholic Church, just spending even a few minutes before the Blessed Sacrament? Practice will achieve far more than words! Could a spiritual 'extra' be the subject for a resolution?

What will *you* resolve to do this year?

Thank you for your generosity

Collection totals for the past few weekends are as follows:

24th December 2017 - £1717.00 (£1072.00 in baskets; £645.00 in standing orders;

31st December 2017 - £1779.00 (1134.00 in baskets; £645.00 in standing orders;

7th January 2018 - £2564.00 (£1919.00 in baskets; £645.00 in standing orders.

The **SPUC** White Flower appeal takes place today. Please give generously to support this most worthy organisation which flies the flag for the Unborn both nationally and internationally. We look forward to welcoming the Chief Executive of SPUC, Mr John Smeaton, himself a son of South London, who will talk to us in greater detail about the work of SPUC, in the hope that a branch might be started here at St Bartholomew's. John's visit will now take place in two weeks' time, that is during the weekend of 3rd & 4th March 2018. See www.spuc.org.uk

CHRISTMAS THANKS

The great Solemnity of the Nativity of Christ at Christmas was wonderfully celebrated here at St Bartholomew's. Those who made it possible are too numerous to mention, and they know who they are. Their number includes servers, choirs, flower arrangers, lighting technicians, cleaners, those who put up the crib, the decorations and the tree kindly donated by a parishioner; Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, the children with their Nativity Tableau, and indeed all who took part in the celebrations by attending them. Thank you all so much!

A WORD OF THANKS FROM YOUR PRIESTS, FATHER DEO & FATHER INNOCENT

We were both overwhelmed by your great generosity towards us in the Christmas Day collection, which is by tradition, as with Easter, your personal offering to your priests. If you would like to know how much you gave us in total, please enquire of Father Deo. Thanks also for the many cards and gifts which we received from parishioners in celebration of the birth of Christ. May God bless you and your families abundantly throughout the coming year.

WELCOME

We welcome back Father David Standley, who will say the 10am & 11.30am Masses both this Sunday and next. Our thanks to him for helping us whilst Fr Innocent is on holiday. Fr Innocent returns on Wednesday 24th January.

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 Blaquiére, Anita Blaquiére, 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, Kathleen Lawrence, Elsie McCleave, James McDonald, Breda McDonagh, Michael Madigan, Ajitha Mahatantila, Gerard Mascarenhas, Charmaine Meli, 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 5 please:

Elizabeth Ayoola, Kelly Bello, Sandra Hodgson, Emma Morrone, Josephine Ofili, Blessing Otite, Amanda Squires, Maria Verrilli. If you can spare an hour or two every six weeks or so, or perhaps more often, to help clean the House of God, please get in touch with the parish office, so that you may be allocated to a group. We do need more people to come forward so as to avoid the burden landing on those who clean on a regular basis.

THE APOSTOLATE OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Bishops of England and Wales, mindful of the Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress which is due to take place in Liverpool in September this year, have decided to develop the practice of Eucharistic Adoration across the country. As a result of this initiative, our own Archdiocese of Southwark is putting together a Diocesan Adoration Lay Team in order to promote, expand and consolidate Eucharistic Adoration across the See of Southwark. You are therefore invited to attend a Special Information Meeting at the Centre for Catholic Formation at 21, Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS on Saturday 3rd February 2018 at 11am through to 12.15pm, with registration from 10am. Refreshments will be served. If you would like to attend this event, please inform the parish office no later than Wednesday 24th January 2018, as numbers must be given soon after that date. Please see the posters in the porch which contain the necessary information regarding this splendid initiative. We are most fortunate in this parish to have daily adoration before 10am Mass, as well as a whole day each Advent and Lent, when we hold our Days of Penitence. It is hoped that such practices will spread across the archdiocese, so that the faithful might have greater access to the Real Presence of Christ, the Bread of Life, placed in the Monstrance upon the altar.

!!!PARISH DIARIES - AVAILABLE NOW FROM THE REPOSITORY!!!

Hurry along to the Repository to pick up your 2018 St Bartholomew's diary! This year we have two different ones. The newer type has pictures of our church and also contains some well loved prayers. We hope you will purchase one. The diaries include advertisements from local companies, some of which are owned and run by parishioners.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSES 2018 AND ARRANGING BAPTISM

If you are considering Baptism for your child, you will need to attend a Baptism Preparation Course. This only applies if you have not been on such a course in the three years prior to this Baptism. In the first instance, please complete a Baptism Details Form, which you will find in the main porch. Please read it carefully, noting all the requirements, and complete it in full before handing it in to the parish office or to one of our clergy. The January Baptism Preparation Course is now full. The next course will be held in April 2018. The course will run across two consecutive Tuesday evenings, 17th & 24th April at 8pm. You must attend both sessions.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP

The Children's Liturgy group need some adult supporters willing to come to our sessions about once a month to help supervise the children at the 10am Mass on Sundays. We have to adhere to a strict adult/child ratio and have plenty of group leaders but simply require another adult present. Anyone wishing to sit in on a session and see what is involved should speak to Linda Harries (07770 623 230) or just come to a session and introduce yourself to the Catechist. A DBS check will be required to be carried out on every adult, so please be prepared to complete forms and provide documentation. As a reminder, all children from school nursery age up to year 2 are welcome to attend - Year 3's are expected to remain in the church to support their First Holy Communion learning.

YOUTH CLUB

The club meets on Friday nights from 6.30pm until 9.30pm in the hall. Membership is open to those aged between 10 and 16 years inclusive. A small charge of £20 per term per member applies. New members are welcome, as are potential new helpers. Please contact Eddie Sanders on 020 8333 0690.

MISSIO

Promoters and Boxholders are kindly reminded that collection is now due for this month of January.

VOTIVE CANDLE STANDS

You will notice, looking around the Church, that all our votive candle stands have now been replaced, since they have failed after many years of service. Also, in line with Health and Safety requirements, we have now replaced the candle stand in front of the Blessed Sacrament Altar with an electric one.

This means that the only wax candles you will see in use will be those on the main altar and the Blessed Sacrament altar and Our Lady's altar. The Consecration candles will still be used at particular feasts, as will the Paschal Candle and, at Easter, the candles lit during the Easter Vigil. There have been a number of serious fires across the country, directly connected with candles, and so we have followed advice to significantly reduce the risk of fire. The candles carried by our servers use oil, thus reducing the incidence of wax being dropped onto flooring. It is just as good as the real thing.

A DAY WITH MARY - SATURDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2018

This event is only 1 month away now. Please look out for more details in the coming weeks. These events are popular throughout the archdiocese and indeed the whole country, and will no doubt attract interest from many devotees of Our Blessed Lady. Please mark your diaries so that you may attend if you are able to do so.

In the meantime, there will be another Day with Mary at Our Lady of Grace, Charlton, which is the parish in which Fr Paul now serves. This will take place on Saturday 3rd February 2018. Please see the poster in the main porch.

TOWARDS THE BEATIFICATION OF VENERABLE FR AGNELO DESOUZA

Next Sunday 21st January 2018, all Parishioners, especially those with any Goan connections are welcome to attend a special Mass @ 2.00pm at St John Fisher Church 207, Cannon Hill Lane SW20 9NQ to pray for the beatification of Ven. Agnelo. This will be followed by refreshments in the hall. Do invite friends and come along with a plate of food and something to drink for sharing. Contact Rita Aguiar 0208 542 0885 for further details.

READERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

The next rota will run for the four weekends of 3rd/4th February to 24th/25th February 2018.

Please check these dates and kindly contact the Parish Office by next weekend at the very latest. Only a few people seem to respond to requests regarding the rotas. Please be pro-active in advising of your availability.

If you are interested in reading at Mass, or would like to be considered as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please see Father Deo or Father Innocent. We tend to rely on the same few people to carry out these most important ministries in our parish, and we hope that others may come forward to spread the load.



Parish Masses This Week

Sunday Masses:	Vigil, Saturday 6.15pm; Sunday: 8.30am, 10am, 11.30am and 5pm	
	Parish Mass Book: This Sunday - p.127	
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 (<i>Rosary & Benediction in May & October</i>) <i>On First Fridays - Adoration after 10am Mass, closing with Benediction at 2pm</i>	
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 14th January 2018 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.15pm (Saturday 13th Jan)	Eddie Carr RIP
	8.30am	People of the parish
	10am	Welfare of Jonanathan D’Souza Walker (Birthday)
	11.30am	Anita Donadio RIP
<i>Benediction</i>	4pm	
	5pm	Holy Souls
Monday 15th January 2018	7.30am	Welfare of Karim Bacchus
	10am	Welfare of Rose & Tony Storry
Tuesday 16th January 2018	7.30am	Holy Souls
	10am	Welfare of Mary Kenny
Wednesday 17th January 2018 St Anthony, Abbot (Memorial)	7.30am	Welfare of Roy Durrant
	10am	Intention of Bridie Addison
Thursday 18th January 2018	7.30am	Clarice Durrant RIP
	10am	Hervé Yoo Foo RIP
Friday 19th January 2018	7.30am	Private intention
	10am	Stany Naganathan RIP
Saturday 20th January 2018 Our Lady	10am	Thanksgiving - Vincent Icheke (Birthday)
Next Sunday 21st January 2018 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6.15pm (Saturday 20th Jan)	Ana Pinto Carmina RIP
	8.30am	John Joseph Murphy RIP
	10am	Pietro Mobile RIP
	11.30am (Plainchant Choir)	People of the parish
<i>Benediction</i>	4pm	
	5pm	Kathleen Linehan RIP