



St Lawrence Catholic Church

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Diocese of Westminster Charity No: 233699

Parish Priest: Fr. John Byrne - Mobile: 0787 905 8732 Email: johnbyrne@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Sisters: Sr. Katherine O'Reilly, Sr. Nora Gorman, Sr. Mary O'Malley

Pastoral Assistant: Bridget Brinkley - Email: bridgetbrinkley@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes

Third Sunday of Advent

16th/17th December 2017

Readings: Parish Mass Book Year B, Volume 1: Page 87: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11; Psalm: Luke 1:46-50; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24;

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Next Week: Fourth Sunday of Advent: Page: 90: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16; Psalm 88; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38



Today is 'Gaudete Sunday' which means 'rejoice'. The entrance antiphon says 'rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice. The Lord is near'. These final days of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth are sacred. Perhaps this week as we prepare for His coming we should ask ourselves how our Advent makes us better people, a people of faith.

So we light the 3rd Candle and pray:

We light this candle for all those who are struggling with financial concerns, job loss or seemingly insurmountable debt. May its light remind us that you, Lord, are the Great Provider, and that it is you who gives us our daily bread. Give us the strength we need to take whatever steps we can; deliver us from excessive anxiety; draw us to people and programs that may help us.

We light this candle for all those who wrestle with the chains of addiction. Lord, help us to name and to face anything that enslaves us in all its forms. May this candle bring your light to the secret and not-so-secret activities that can imprison us. Hear our prayers for deliverance and freedom; help us and those we love to know the freedom to which you call us.

Our Father

Hail Mary

Glory Be

FR. JOHN

Sunday Mass: 6pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9am, 11am, 1pm (Polish) & 6pm.

Weekday Mass: Monday-Friday 9.30am; Saturday 12noon;

Morning Prayer: Monday-Friday 9.15am,

Novena to Our Lady: Tuesdays 10am,

Exposition and Benediction: Saturdays 11am,

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession):

Saturday 11am and 5pm

MESSAGE FROM FRANK MACKEN & FINANCE TEAM REGARDING THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES

The Christmas offering Envelopes for the current financial year (Apr '17 – Apr '18) have been incorrectly dated April 1st 2018. They should have been dates 25th December 2017. The error was caused by our suppliers and has only recently come to light. Please be advised that it will be in order to use the envelope for your Christmas offering for this year 2017. Your co-operation and continued support is greatly appreciated.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR SERVICES

Services at St Lawrence's over Christmas will be as follows:

Sunday 24th December: (Saturday 23rd 6pm Vigil Mass), Mass at 9am, 11am, 1pm in Polish.

Christmas Eve: 6pm Family Mass; 8.30pm Vigil Mass; 10.30 Carols followed by Mass at 11pm.

Monday 25th December - Christmas Day: Mass at 9am, 11am and 1pm (in Polish) No Evening Mass

Tuesday 26th December - Feast of St Stephen: 9.15 Morning Prayer, 9.30am Mass, 1pm Mass in Polish.

Normal schedule 27th December to 30th December

Sunday 31st December: (Saturday 30th 6pm Vigil Mass), Mass at 9am, 11am, 1pm in Polish, 6pm. **New Year's Eve:** Prayers and Mass from 10.30pm led by the African Community)

Monday 1st January - New Year's Day: Mass at 9.30am, 1pm (in Polish)

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Fr John will be available to hear Confessions before Christmas on:

Tuesday 19th December - Exposition and Confessions 7.00pm-8.00pm; **Friday 22nd December** – Confessions 10.15am-11.15am and **Saturday 23rd December** – Confessions 10.00am-12.00noon

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

For the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve all children are invited to come dressed as a character from the Nativity – angel, shepherd, wise man, even an ox, ass or sheep! Please could children also prepare a birthday card for Jesus and bring it with them to the Family Mass. They will be asked to place it by the crib during the Offertory. This Mass is primarily for families and children.

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS

If you are planning on attending the vigil Mass and are an Altar Server, Reader or Eucharistic Minister please put your name on the list in the sacristy. We also need Welcomers and Stewards for the Mass, offers to Fr John please.

CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS OR CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

If you would like a lift to and from the Church for the Midnight Mass which will start at 11pm (Carols at 10.30pm) or the 9am, 11am on Christmas Day, please leave your name, address and phone number at the Parish Office. We also need drivers for this. If you could offer a place in your car to someone who would not otherwise be able to get to Church at Christmas please let us have your name and number and an indication of how many places you can offer.

POLISH MASS

There will be Mass in Polish at 1pm on **Christmas Day, on 26th December and 1 January.**

FILIPINO COMMUNITY

There will be Mass on **Saturday 30th December at 3.00pm** followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre.

MASS LED BY THE AFRICAN COMMUNITY

The African Community invite you all to join in a special *Vigil Mass* to bring in the New Year on **Sunday 31st December.** The programme starts at **10.30pm** with a Rosary, Devotions to the Divine Mercy, Songs of Praise, Holy Mass and finishes with Benediction.

CHRISTMAS CRIB APPEAL

Our Christmas Crib Appeal is for the Catholic Children's Society (Westminster)

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

Please pray for Neiva Botelho and Sophia-Grace Chinyerem Ohaegbu who were Baptised this weekend and offer our warmest congratulations to their families.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

We will meet again on **Tuesday 19th December** at 7.15pm.

PARISH NOTICES

UCM

The UCM will be holding their Annual Christmas Party on **Monday 18th December** 7pm for 7.30pm. Members are reminded to bring their suggested party item. Charge for Party £3.00 and donation of £2 per head for Charity.

CAROL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

This beautiful service organised by Lodge Brothers Funeral Service will be held in Church **this Sunday 17th December at 3.30pm.** All are invited along to remember our departed loved ones at this special time of year and to light a candle for them.

CHURCHES TOGETHER CAROL SINGING

Churches Together will be Carol Singing at Asda on **Monday 18th December from 7pm – 8.30pm** to raise money for CRISIS. Come and join in.

SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY

The Parish's annual Senior Citizen's "Christmas" Party will take place on **Sunday 7th January** from 12noon to 4pm. Please put your name down on the lists in the porch if you would like to come or if you can help. Details from Philomena Franklin on 020 8751 2153 or 07963 001403.

OVER 50'S

The Over 50's will meet again on **Wednesday 3rd January 2018.**

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Thank you for your generosity, a sum of £327.45 was collected for Christmas Flowers.

REST IN PEACE

The following funerals will take place at Hanworth Crematorium:

1. Stella Ivy Gomes RIP (known as Sally) on Tuesday 19th December at 10.20am
2. Tony Moore RIP on Thursday 28th December at 10.20am

Thank you for your generosity in last week's collection:

9th/10th December: Envelopes £680.17; Loose: £667.92

Standing Orders: £667.00 **Total: £2,015.09**

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 16 th	11.00 11.00 12.00 12.45 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Ray Palmer and Daisy & Bernard O'Neill RIP Baptism of Neiva Botelho and Sophia Grace Chinyerem Ohaegbu Sacrament of Reconciliation In Thanksgiving Atumah Family
Sun 17 th	09.00 11.00 13.00 15.30 18.00	Mary D'souza in Thanksgiving Ofelia Petate RIP (1 st Anniversary) Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Carol Service of Remembrance (Lodge Brothers) Benedicto & Virginia Masulit in Thanksgiving – 35 th Wedding Anniversary
Mon 18 th	09.30	Vineetha & Joseph Perera RIP
Tues 19 th	09.30 19.00- 20.00	Laura Da Silva and Family (Intentions) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation
Wed 20 th	09.30	Matthew Rodrigues RIP (Anniversary)
Thurs 21 st	09.30	Freddy Britto RIP
Fri 22 nd	09.30 10.15- 11.15	Patrick Hanlon and Bernadette Cimpoiias RIP Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sat 23 rd	10.00 10.00 12.00 12.45 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Deceased members of the O'Hanlon Family Baptism of Alex John Diego Slyne Sacrament of Reconciliation Kathleen & John Hourihan RIP
Sun 24 th	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00 20.30 22.30 23.00	Eamon O'Brien RIP John Igboanugo Jnr RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) CHRISTMAS EVE Children's Christmas Mass Vigil Mass Carols Christmas Mass of the Night

Sanctuary Lamp: Jacinto Do Rosario RIP