

This week at St Lawrence's



2nd/3rd January 2016

The Epiphany of the Lord
(Missal Page 115 – YEAR C Vol. 1)



Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12
Next week: Baptism of the Lord (Missal Page 118); Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 28;
Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

WELCOMING A NEW YEAR

A new year stands on my doorstep
ready to enter my life's journey.
Something in me welcomes this visitor:
the hope of bountiful blessings,
the joy of a new beginning,
the freshness of unclaimed surprises.
Something in me rebuffs this visitor:
the swiftness of the coming,
the boldness of the entrance,
the challenge of a year's good-bye.
Something in me fears this visitor:
the unnamed events of future days,
the wisdom needed to walk love well,
the demands of giving away and growing.
A new year stands on my doorstep,
with fragile caution I move
to open the door of its entrance.
My heart leaps with surprise,
joy jumps in my eyes,
for there beside this brand-new year
stands my God with outstretched hand!
He smiles and gently asks of me:
can we walk this year together?
And I, so overwhelmed with goodness,
can barely whisper my reply:
Welcome in!

SACRAMENTS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

On Saturday **16th January** parents can choose their First Holy Communion dates with Bridget in the school hall between 10.00am and 11.30am

"WALK WITH JESUS" MONDAY GROUP

The "Walk with Jesus" programme for the Monday group meet on **Monday 11th January** from 4.30pm-5.30pm in the Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School commences on **Sunday 10th January** from 10am to 10.45am.

PARISH NOTICES

SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY

The Parish's annual Senior Citizen's "Christmas" Party will take place on **Sunday 10th January** from 12noon to 4pm. The list is now closed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Finance Committee will meet on **Tuesday 12th January** at 6pm in the Presbytery.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

There will be a meeting of the Knights on **Tuesday 12th January** at 8pm in the Presbytery.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR REVIEW MEETING

There will be a Review Meeting on **Tuesday 19th January** at 6.30pm in the Presbytery.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

St Lawrence's School Governing Body are looking to recruit two new Foundation Governors. These Governors represent the Diocese of Westminster and are appointed by the Cardinal. Foundation Governors should be practising Catholics who do not currently have children here at the School. If these Governors have a legal or financial training or experience, all the better. Please speak to Fr Chris to find out more.

VOTIVE CANDLE STANDS

Thank you to the three families that have taken up the offer to donate a candle stand. There is still an opportunity for the other stand at £300.00, if anyone would like to give one in remembrance of a loved one or in thanksgiving please see Florie in the Parish Office.

RECEPTION CLASS ADMISSIONS 2016

The dates and times that Fr Chris will be available to see families are on the notice board in the Church porch. To make an appointment to see him please put your name on one of the lists. Make sure you bring your child with you for the appointment, along with their Baptism Certificate and your Certificate of Catholic Practice.

ST LAWRENCE'S PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group will reconvene on **Thursday 14th January** at 7.30pm in the Prayer Room. All welcome.

YEAR OF MERCY

The Cardinal has prepared *A Pilgrimage Companion for the Year of Mercy* by way of explanation and to help us experience God's mercy to the full. Copies of the book are available at the back of Church at £1.00. Please put your donation in the wall box marked 'CTS'. Thank you. There are also some Year of Mercy leaflets and prayer cards available at the back of Church.

TEN TEN THEATRE

Parents and guardians with children in St Lawrence's school are encouraged to attend a session **at drop off on Wednesday 6th January**. The session is a wonderful opportunity for parents and guardians to engage with the work that the children will be doing with the Ten Ten Theatre company. Ten Ten presents stories and workshops teaching relationship education rooted in the Catholic ethos. All of the work that they present is age-appropriate and it is intended to support parents by exploring various topics such as freedom and rules, service, change and vocation. The session will be led by two professional actors and will involve a mixture of performance, personal reflection and an opportunity to share and respond to the material presented. Parents will also leave with a greater understand of the work and be better able to discuss the topics with the children at home.

Ten Ten will also be filming part of the parent session for use in a short film which they will use to demonstrate to impact of their work on children and families, and they would very much like to interview one or two parents afterwards. Of course, this is entirely voluntary and the company will not film any parents or children who do not want to be included in the film.

MARY'S MEALS

Mary's Meals is an international charity movement that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where hunger and poverty prevent children from gaining an education. Please bring all your unwanted clothing including bags, blankets, towels, curtains, bedding, shoes, even books to Church on **Sunday 31st January**. Put your clothing etc. (no bric-a-brac or furniture please) into sacks and bring them to Mass where the charity Mary's Meals will be here to pick them up at the 9am and 11am Masses. Amazingly 2 full black sacks of reasonable quality clothing will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year! For more information, visit www.marysmeals.org.uk.

CAR PARKING

There is to be absolutely no double parking in the school car park. This blocks emergency access to the school and Church for ambulances and fire engines. We will be re-enforcing our policy of lowering the bar in the school car park once the designated 20 spaces are full.

Please note that there is NO PARKING on the Church premises except for two marked spaces - one for Fr Chris the other for disabled parking. ALL CAR USERS are asked to find alternative parking from this time forward for the next twelve months. This applies to weekday and weekend parking

There are service vehicles coming in and out of the parish during the day so please DO NOT TRY AND PARK IN THE CHURCH GROUNDS.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ANYWHERE ON THE GREEN AS IT IS FOR RESIDENTS' PRIVATE USE ONLY

REST IN PEACE

DOMINGO ANTAO RIP

We pray for the soul of Domingo Antao RIP who died recently. His Funeral will take place here on **Wednesday 6th January** at 10.30am. Please remember in your prayers his children and all the family and friends who mourn him.

VERA LOBO RIP

We pray for the repose of the soul of Vera Lobo RIP who died last week. Her Funeral will take place here on **Thursday 14th January** at 11.00am. Please keep in your prayers her children and all the family and friends who mourn her.

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 2nd Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	Ildinha Pereira RIP
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	18.00	For the intentions of the Windsor Family
+ Sunday 3rd THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	09.00	Harry Haldane RIP
	11.00	People of the Parish
	13.00	Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)
	18.00	Deceased members of the Bhatnagar Family RIP
Monday 4th Christmas Feria	09.30	No Morning Prayer Thomas Magill RIP (with School)
Tuesday 5th Christmas Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Harry Haldane RIP
	10.00	Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 6th Christmas Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Celebrant's Intention
	10.30	FUNERAL SERVICE – DOMINGO ANTAO RIP
Thursday 7th Christmas Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Joe Rosario RIP (Anniversary)
Friday 8th Christmas Feria	09.30	Harry Haldane RIP
Saturday 9th Christmas Feria	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	Derrick Juriansz RIP (Anniversary)
	12.45	Baptisms of James Alan Fenner and Baby Gomes
	15.00	Wedding – Polish Community
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	18.00	Harry Haldane RIP
+ Sunday 10th THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	09.00	Rose Hagan (Intention)
	11.00	Patrick and Edith Maple in Thanksgiving
	13.00	Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)
	18.00	People of the Parish

Sanctuary Lamp: Holy Souls Galligan Family RIP

Thank you for your generosity in last week's Offertory Collections:

Christmas Envelopes: £2,409.04 Loose: £1,242.40 Total: £3,651.44
26/27th: Envelopes: £979.43 Loose: £648.45 Standing Orders: £541.15 Total: £2,169.03

PARISH CENTRE UPDATE: MONEY BANKED AS AT 29/12/2015 – £63,727.58

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699

Contact us:

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Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipers

Assistant Priest: Fr Biju John

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

Pastoral Assistant: Bridget Brinkley

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes

**Sunday Mass Times: Saturday 6 pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9 am, 11 am,
1pm (Polish) & 6 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - Saturday 11am & 5pm**