

This week at St Lawrence's



26th/27th July 2014



17th Sunday of the Year
(Missal Page 108 – YEAR A Vol. 2)

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Psalm 118; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52
18th Sunday of the Year (Missal Page 111): Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm 144; Romans 8@35, 37-39;
Matthew 14:13-21

Dear Friends,

A young French doctor from Nantes made her several proposals of marriage. But no wedding took place. She declined. It was not to be. The girl he wanted so much to marry had her heart set on a life of service to the sick. But that was not to be either. Why? Because she was far too sick herself. She had chronic asthma, frequent chest pains, an aneurism and gastritis, a tumour on the knee (leading to bone decay). Abscesses formed in both ears, causing tinnitus and partial deafness. In this terrible state she died. She was only thirty-five years old, and had been a nun for less than twelve years. Her name: *Sister Marie Bernarde*. We know her today as **Saint Bernadette of Lourdes**.

Lourdes is among the greatest places of healing in the world. But there was no miracle of healing for Bernadette. She lived with much suffering and pain. And she died with much suffering and pain. Over five million pilgrims visit Lourdes every year, from all over the world. Perhaps you have been. Some of our brothers and sisters have been there this week praying for each one of us, and now are just on their way back to London. Many pilgrims are sick, very sick. Some are incurable, including the dying. Some are old, some young. Very few of these sick pilgrims are healed physically. The cancerous return home with their cancer. Paralytics return home still paralysed. Because the true miracle of Lourdes is not the healing of sick bodies – although this may happen. The true miracle of Lourdes is the healing that takes place within: true spiritual healing.

The healing ministry of the Church, at Lourdes, or indeed anywhere, even here in St Lawrence, is not a substitute for proper medical treatment; nor is it an alternative to the National Health Service. True healing takes place when every obstacle that prevents us from embracing our Cross is removed. This is the most profound healing of all. True healing brings a peace that cannot be destroyed by cancer, or by any other disease. True healing gives an experience of the love of God that no sickness can crush. True healing is the fruit of a deep faith that can trust ALL God's purposes and plans. This kind of faith never doubts God's presence. It is a faith that can praise God even in a situation that appears to mock the very notion that God is a caring, loving, merciful, Father. This kind of faith confounds the '*wisdom of the world*'; a fake wisdom, a false wisdom: a wisdom that insists that happiness is not possible without health, wealth and success. So true faith is the real lasting, miracle of Lourdes. It is a moral miracle. And this is the healing that I need, that you need. A deep, inner healing. We pray for inner healing, the only healing Bernadette knew; a grace that come through the primary sacrament of healing in the Church – the Eucharist, the Holy Mass. May God bless you all.

Fr Fortunato

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

We extend a warm welcome to Miles Ashton Cayetano, Khloe Jade Blythe, Tasana Payne and Juan-Carlos Garcia-Vershay who will be baptised this weekend and offer our warmest congratulations to their families.

CONFIRMATION 2015

If you are in Year 9 or above and would like to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2015 please register with Bridget Brinkley at one of the following times.

Tuesday 2nd, Thursday 4th September – 3.00pm to 5.30pm
Tuesday 9th, Thursday 11th September – 3.00pm to 5.30pm
Saturday 6th September – 9.30am to 11.00am

Please come to the Church where you will be asked to complete a registration form. The programme will begin on Thursday 2nd October.

EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Would you like to find out more about the Catholic Faith? Have you been searching for a deeper meaning for your life? Do you share your life with a Catholic, perhaps you are supporting your husband or wife bringing up your children in the Catholic Faith.

If you would like to find out more about the Catholic Church or you thinking about becoming a Catholic please contact Bridget Brinkley on 020 8890 2367 or by e-mailing at

bridgetbrinkley@rcdow.org.uk.

PARISH NOTICES

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING

There will be the usual First Friday Coffee Morning after the 9.30am Mass on **1st August**. The early bird Mass will take place at 06.45am.

PASTORAL CARE

If you know of someone (a neighbour, a friend, a member of your family) who is unwell at home or in hospital or unable to get to Church any longer, and if you think they would value a visit from one of the Priests or Sisters, please let Florie in the Parish Office know. They may be out of sight but they shouldn't be out of mind.

IN CASE YOU ARE ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.....

In light of data protection please indicate on entering hospital that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain. Also state that you would like the RC Chaplain to visit you.

ST LAWRENCE'S PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group meets every **Thursday from 7.30pm to 9pm** in the Presbytery. A time of prayer and thanksgiving. Reflecting on scriptures. Intercessory prayers for the parish and wider community. New members welcome
The Prayer Group will be taking a break for the summer during the month of August.

FOR THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY

Please note that during the months of July and August there will not be a Mass in Tagalog as Fr Cirinio is away.

RETREAT AND HEALING SERVICE

There will be a retreat at St Lawrence on the Thursday 14th August from 7.00pm to 10.00pm led by Fr Lawrence Mascarenhas. An evening of evangelisation through preaching, teaching, confession, intercessory prayers, adoration and Holy Mass. For further details please contact Marinha Braganza.

OTHER

DAY FOR LIFE

July 27th is the day in the Church's year dedicated to celebrating the dignity of life – will this year call upon young people in particular to protect and cherish life from conception to natural death. www.dayforlife.org.

DAY FOR LIFE PRAYER

*Holy Mary, Mother of Love,
holding in your arms, the fruits of your womb,
graciously look upon our earth and remove from it
all that hardens our hearts and dims our eyes
to the preciousness of human life,
from the moment of conception to natural death.
Through the example of your tenderness
teach us the ways of compassion and love
that we may build up the civilisation of love among us
and a society that is truly worthy of the human person.
Help us to reject all that contributes to a culture of death,
and to work with others of goodwill
in promoting the culture of life.
Bring us ever closer to your Son,
so that we may know the fullness of life that he offers us
and come to know that life more perfectly,
with you, and all the angels and saints,
in the eternal life of Heaven. Amen.*

ECUMENICAL DAY CONFERENCE

A one day conference entitled "Christian Unity Since Vatican II: Memory, Present, Where Now?" will take place from 10am – 4.30pm **on Saturday, 15 November 2014** at Farm Street Church & Centre, 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH. Cost £10 per person to include coffee/tea and biscuits (bring own packed lunch). The conference is being organised by Churches Together in Westminster in conjunction with The Society for Ecumenical Studies, and is kindly being sponsored by the Catholic League. Places are limited, so advance booking is essential.

PILGRIMAGES

DOWRY OF MARY PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

The Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham takes place on **Sunday 7th September**. A coach **will leave from here at 7.15am** to arrive in time for the welcome of flags and banners from different countries, so come in your national dress. Mass at 12 noon will be followed by a picnic and procession, which will end with Benediction. Please come prepared for all types of weather and bring a packed lunch and drinks. We will return home about 8.30pm. The cost of the day will be £16.00 per person. Please sign up on the list in the porch. **To secure your seat please post your money in an envelope, clearly marked with your name and "WALSINGHAM", to the Parish Office.**

SANTIAGO AND FATIMA – 9 – 14 SEPTEMBER 2014

All those going on this pilgrimage please send your final payments to Pax Travel as soon as possible. A coach will pick up St Lawrence's pilgrims from **Browells Lane at 5am on Tuesday 9th September**, then pick up pilgrims from St George's before making its way to Gatwick. The cost of the coach will be £12.00 per person. Please put your money in an envelope clearly marked with your name and "Santiago", to the Parish Office.

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 26th Sts Joachim & Anne	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	11.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	Gloria Pereira RIP
	12.45	Baptisms of Miles Ashton Cayetano, Khloe Jade Blythe, Tasana Payne and Juan-Carlos Garcia-Vershay, Sacrament of Reconciliation
+ First Mass of Sunday	17.00	Pedro J Cuizon RIP
+ Sunday 27th 17 th Sunday of the Year	09.00	John Katala Kabuye RIP
	11.00	Intentions of Catherine Jackson
	13.00	Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)
	14.30	Mass led by the African Community
	18.00	People of the Parish
Monday 28th Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Valmo Fontana RIP
Tuesday 29th St Martha	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Gerry Ward (Intention)
	10.00	Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 30th Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Phyliss Osborne RIP
Thursday 31st St Ignatius of Loyola	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Luis Caetano Monteiro RIP (1st Anniversary)
Friday 1st St Alphonsus Ligouri	06.45	Deceased members of the Mwaura Family
	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Austin Mahon RIP
Saturday 2nd Feria	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	11.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	Roy Hussey RIP (1st Anniversary)
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
+ First Mass of Sunday	18.00	Harry & Philomena Booker RIP
+ Sunday 3rd 18 th Sunday of the Year	09.00	Holy Souls – Lourenco Family
	11.00	Ian Dias RIP
	13.00	Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)
	18.00	People of the Parish

Sanctuary Lamp: Michael Matthews RIP

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

Figures not available at time of printing

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699

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

Contact us:

9 The Green, Feltham, TW13 4AF

www.saintlawrences.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipars

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

Catechetical Co-ordinator: Bridget Brinkley

020 8890 2367

feltham@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Fortunato Pantisano

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes