

This week at St Lawrence's



9th/10th May 2015



Sixth Sunday of Easter
(Missal Page 264– YEAR B Vol. 1)

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Psalm 97; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Missal Page 269): Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 46; Ephesians 1:17-23;
Mark 16:15-20

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Jesus's familiar words from John's Gospel: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you", reveal the deepest longing God has for his children. Having heard these words so many times, perhaps we fail to take the opportunity to contemplate them and consider how startling they truly are. The perfect and eternal love that exists between the Father and the Son is the same love that Jesus has for us. This revelation is enough, if we truly believed it, to get us hopping, skipping and, yes, even jumping down the street. Winning the biggest lottery win ever couldn't even compare with the treasure and riches of knowing that Jesus has as much love for us as the Father has for him. The challenge for us is, as I said many other times, whether we allow such love to touch our lives and actually excite us? Do we allow the divine love to permeate into our very being and give us joy?

Today, God calls us tirelessly to grow and deepen in the lively awareness that we are loved by Him. We can often feel daunted because we think we have to get our minds round it *BUT* 'stop using your mind' and rather 'open your heart'; allow God's love to pierce and expand your heart so that you can love everyone like He loves you. We will hear in the Gospel, Jesus continuing to exhort us to remain united to him. This expresses with great effectiveness that Christian life is a mystery of communion with Jesus. The secret of spiritual fruitfulness is union with God, union that is realised especially in the Eucharist, also rightly called "Communion".

Over the next few weekends some of our children will receive for the first time in their life Jesus as they make their First Holy Communion. What a milestone of joy! St Maximilian Kolbe used to say: 'if angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion.' Therefore, my wish and invitation to children, parents, family and all gathered here in St Lawrence's: today if we but paused for a moment to consider attentively what takes place in this Sacrament, I am sure that the thought of Christ's love for us would transform the coldness of our hearts into a fire of love and gratitude. May God bless you all.

Fr. Fortunato

SACRAMENTS

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We offer our warmest congratulations to the following children who will be receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend -

Saturday 9th May at 12.00noon

Allana Isabel Solis, Bartosz Figiela, Daniel Genesis Santos,
Faith Emmanuelle Samson, Kieran Matthew Sotelo, Kristen Rose Dauz,
Leo Rafael Viveiros, Mark Omoese Okwelegbe, Samuel Olamilekan
Ogunojemite, Shireen Emilie Rodd, Tatyana Rodriguez, Tristan James
Almoneda Siasat, Yasmin Amanda Rose James, Zahra Angelina Khatri

Saturday 9th May at 6.00pm

Jessie Abum Opoka, Joshua Ellis, Madison-Rayne Eugenie Tydings,
Sofia Caterina Freitas Vieira, Tiago Lionardo Freitas Vieira

Sunday 10th May at 11.00am

Ana Luisa Santos Rodrigues, Antoine Larrieu, Ayeshah Elizabeth Blondin,
Hugo Andrade Moderno, Jamie Hoang Nguyen,
Jomima Krissa Aurora Adrineda, Nicole Victoria Kozłowska,
Roberts Patrick Vancans

We pray that they will continue to grow in the love of the Lord.

CONFIRMATION

Please also keep our 41 young people in your prayers as they approach their Confirmation day. Candidates please remember your meetings with Fr. Chris and Fr. Fortunato in the coming weeks. If you have missed your meeting please contact Bridget immediately.

PARISH NOTICES

SATURDAY MORNING CHANGES

There will be **no** 11am Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions on **Saturday 16th and 23rd May**. Instead there will be special First Holy Communion Masses at 12 noon, to which everyone is invited.

UCM

The UCM will meet on Monday 11th May at 7.30pm. Members are asked to recollect days in their lives that they always remember. Let us all share that memory.

THE LIFE OF CHRIST

On **Tuesday 23rd June** we are hoping to travel to Guildford for the amazing five-hour open air version of the Life of Christ. The performance starts at 10.00am and finishes at 4.00pm, and adult tickets are £18.00. If you would like to go please give your name, contact details and full payment to the Parish Office and we will let you know the travel plans. The closing date for bookings is Thursday 21st May.

NEPAL EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Thank you for your generosity, a total of £711.66 was collected for the CAFOD Nepal Earthquake Appeal.

PARISH BARBECUE

The Parish Barbecue will take place on **Saturday 20th June** in the Parish Centre, more details to follow shortly. Please mark this date in your diary.

REVEREND DANIEL HUMPHREYS

On **Saturday 27th June** at 10.30am Daniel will be Ordained to the Priesthood in Westminster Cathedral. All are very welcome to this beautiful ceremony – and are advised to get there early for a good seat! He will be celebrating his first Mass the day after, Sunday 28th June, at 11.00am at St Mary and St Joseph, Poplar (travel details from the Parish Office). Then on Sunday 5th July we are immensely privileged to welcome “Fr Daniel” to celebrate the 11.00am Mass, followed by a big party in the School. This promises to be a wonderful day and a great opportunity to welcome him home!

OTHER

A SPECIAL KIND OF RETREAT...

A Foyer de Charité Retreat will be held at the Sion Community, Brentwood from **Sunday 12 July (6pm) – Saturday 18 July (2pm)**. The theme is **God's Plan for the Fullness of Time**, and the preacher will be Mgr. Keith Bartrop, with help from Foyer members and past retreatants. Foyer retreats are held mainly in silence, with three talks a day, and offer a holistic way of deepening our faith in the Church's teaching and our life in Christ. The Foyers are communities of consecrated lay people living with a priest in order to help others grow closer to Christ and live the Catholic faith more fully. For further information or to book a place, contact Mgr. Bartrop: 07879 953953; St. Mary of the Angels, Moorhouse Road, Bayswater, London W2 5DJ; keithbartrop@rcdow.org.uk.

THE CATENIAN ROSARY GROUP AND ROSARIES ABROAD

The Catenian Association are appealing for unused or surplus rosaries we may have in our cupboards and drawers that they could send to third world countries. See poster on noticeboard for further details.

VOLUNTEER WITH CAFOD!

Could you inspire young people to put their faith into action? Do you have the time and skills that you could use to help CAFOD's work? The CAFOD Westminster team are looking for volunteers to help us with schools and youth work in your local area. Full training is provided! If you would like to be part of our team, please contact CAFOD Westminster on 020 8449 6970 or email westminster@cafod.org.uk for an application form. DBS clearance is required.

EXPLORE (LASTING RELATIONSHIPS AND MARRIAGE)

Would you like to know more about being a volunteer for Explore? Come along on Thursday **14th May at 7.30pm** to St Edmund's Presbytery (213 Nelson Road, Whifton) for an informal presentation, chance to ask questions and a glass of wine! Explore works in high schools to facilitate a dialogue between a married couple and a group of young people about marriage and lasting relationships. For more information please contact Mary McGhee on 07786 737437.

STOREHOUSE FOOD BANK

Storehouse was started in 1996 by Riverside Vineyard Church who support those in the community who were struggling by themselves. Some suggestions for suitable items for the shopping list are available in the Church porch. A collection box is in the Church and the items will be collected by Storehouse each week.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

World Communications Day is celebrated next weekend, Ascension Sunday. On this day we are encouraged to pray for communications professionals, especially those who work in the media. Please support the second collection next weekend which provides the funding for the Catholic Communications Network.

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 9th Easter Feria	12.00 17.00 18.00	First Holy Communion Sacrament of Reconciliation First Holy Communion
+ Sunday 10th SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Celebrant's Intention First Holy Communion Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) People of the Parish
Monday 11th THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Deceased members of the Phan Family
Tuesday 12th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30 10.00	Morning Prayer Fr Gerry Burke (Intentions) Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 13th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Celebrant's Intention
Thursday 14th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Ignatius Abreu RIP (Anniversary)
Friday 15th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Manuel Carlos Mendes RIP
Saturday 16th Easter Feria	12.00 17.00 18.00	First Holy Communion Sacrament of Reconciliation First Holy Communion
+ Sunday 17th THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	First Holy Communion First Holy Communion Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) People of the Parish

Sanctuary Lamp: Raphael Danladi (Intentions)

Thank you for your generosity in last week's Offertory Collections:
2nd/3rd May: Envelopes: £1,321.48 Loose: £879.50 Standing Orders: £548.42
 Total: £2,749.40
Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699-

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

Contact us:

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feltham@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipera

Assistant Priest: Fr Fortunato Pantisano

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

Pastoral Assistant: Bridget Brinkley

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes

May is the month of Our Lady, an inspiration to discover the Rosary afresh and to use it more in our own personal and parish prayer life. Our Church Repository has Rosaries, prayer books and prayer cards to help us on that path.



PARISH CENTRE BUILDING FUND UPDATE AS AT 06/05/15

Our Target £250,000.00

No. of pledges: 139 Bucket Appeal: £1,206.89
 Total amount pledged: £56,238.31 Total amount banked: £27,861.47