

This week at St Lawrence's



12th/13th February 2011

Sixth Sunday of the Year (A)

Missal page *old 61/new 64*

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20; Psalm 118; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

Dear Friends,

We Catholics are often caricatured as the people who say "No" – "No" to having fun, "No" to enjoying yourself and as for "living life to full" ... Certainly not! I don't know where this comes from. It may be that sometimes we have misspoken and sounded harsh or judgemental. Or maybe we have been misheard.

The truth is far more challenging, because the Catholic faith is all about saying "Yes". "Yes" to life in its fullness. "Yes" to human flourishing. "Yes" to life as it could, and should, be lived. "Yes" to God's loving plan in creation.

St Irenaeus spoke it beautifully when said, "The glory of God is a human being fully alive". The alternative Opening Prayer at Mass this weekend expresses this wonderfully:

"Father in heaven

The loving plan of your wisdom took flesh in Jesus Christ,
and changed mankind's history by his command of perfect love.

May our fulfilment of his command reflect your wisdom
and bring your salvation to the ends of the earth."

Fr Chris

Contact us:

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Fr Chris Vipera

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Pastoral Assistant: Sister Mary O'Malley

Parish Secretary: Mrs Joanna James (Office hours: 9.30 to 12.30)

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699

THE SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

We extend a very warm welcome to the Christian Church to Kenisha Maame Afua Mason who is due to be baptised this weekend and offer her family our congratulations.

May she grow in the love of the Lord and may the Christian witness of her family increase.

CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS

If you missed out on the Sacrament of Confirmation when you were younger and would like to explore the possibility of getting Confirmed now, please have a word with Sister Mary.

A short preparation will be starting shortly.

COMING UP NEXT SUNDAY ...

EDUCATION DAY

Next Sunday 20th February, we celebrate Education Sunday, a day dedicated to recognising and praying for all those involved in education and there will be a retiring collection for the work of the Catholic Education Service which does so much to support our Catholic schools.

ARCHBISHOP'S VISIT – 11 am MASS

We are delighted that Archbishop Vincent Nichols has chosen to mark this day by celebrating the 11 am Mass at St Lawrence's.

Please could all children and young people come to that Mass in school uniform – whichever school they are at, primary or secondary.

COFFEE MORNING

After the Mass, tea, coffee, and cakes will be served in the *School Hall* to give parishioners an informal opportunity to meet the Archbishop - if you could help by providing a cake, please bring it along to the School Hall just before Mass.

PARKING

Please don't let the parish down by parking inconsiderately!

Parking on the church forecourt will be most carefully "policed" next Sunday to ensure that places are available for the disabled – and for the Archbishop!

If you use the School car park, please park with care – do not block emergency exits or other cars.

And please don't park in the bays along The Green – these belong to the residents and are not for use by parishioners at any time.

PARISH MEETINGS

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Our Social Committee meet on Tuesday 15th February at 7 pm to arrange the calendar of parish social events for the year.

If you have any ideas or would like to offer your help, please do come along – new members will always be welcome.

LOURDES DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE MEETING

This year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Sunday 24th July 2011 to Saturday 30th July 2011. We hope that, as last year, a sizeable group of parishioners will be able to go.

If you would like to find out more, or pick up a booking form, please come to a meeting on Sunday 27th February at 10.15 am in the parish centre.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS & GENEROSITY

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Catholic Children's Society have sent a lovely letter thanking us for our contribution of £953 from the Crib Appeal – a copy is on the notice board.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Thank you also for your very generous response to the appeal for Aid to the Church in Need which raised £1778.68 in donations in addition to £382.49 from the sale of religious artefacts.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

And the Knights of St Columba have written to thank us for "the warmth and hospitality" of our parish during their appeal for new members last weekend.

If you would like more information about the KSC, please leave your details at the Parish Office.

REST IN PEACE

DAVID CUMMING RIP

In your kindness please pray for the repose of the soul of David Cumming RIP who died recently and whose Funeral Mass will be celebrated this Wednesday 16th February at 11.45 am. David was an "old" parishioner – many of you may remember him. May he rest in peace.

DERRICK JURIANZS RIP

"On behalf of my whole family, I would like to thank parishioners for their kindness and support following Derrick's death and particularly for the many Masses which have been offered for Derrick's repose. A Mass for you all will be offered on the Tuesday after Easter, 26th April." *Arlene Juriansz*

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 12th Feria	11.00 11.00 11.45 12.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Benediction Army & Andy Hudson INT <i>(Thanksgiving Mass for the Sacrament of Marriage)</i> Sacrament of Reconciliation Rosary
+First Mass of Sunday	17.00 17.15 18.00	Deceased Members of the O'Hanlon Family
+ Sunday 13th Sixth Sunday of Year	09.00 11.00 12.45 18.00	Vitor Manuel Elias RIP (A) Richard Greatorex RIP (A) <i>Baptism of Kenisha Mason</i> People of the Parish
Monday 14th SS Cyril & Methodius	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Brendan Matthews RIP (A)
Tuesday 15th Feria	09.15 09.30 10.00	Morning Prayer Derrick Juriansz RIP <i>Novena to Our Lady</i>
Wednesday 16th Feria	09.15 09.30 11.45	Morning Prayer Manuel Gonçalves RIP Requiem of David Cumming RIP
Thursday 17th Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Paula de Michelle INT
Friday 18th Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Roma Preston RIP (A)
Saturday 19th Feria	11.00 11.00 11.45 12.00 17.00 17.15 18.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Benediction Patrick Galligan RIP Sacrament of Reconciliation Rosary For the intentions of the Senior Citizens' Party helpers
+First Mass of Sunday	18.00	
+ Sunday 20th Seventh Sunday of Year	09.00 11.00 18.00	Maureen Cruttenden RIP Evelyn Francis RIP People of the Parish

Sanctuary Lamp: Kearns Family INT

Thank you for your generosity in the Offertory Collection last week:

Envelopes £1344.78, Loose £787.88, Total: £2123.66