

# This week at St Lawrence's



1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014

ALL SAINTS  
(Missal Page 184 – YEAR A Vol. 2)

Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12  
ALL SOULS DAY (Missal Page 187)

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Missal Page 192); Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Psalm 45;  
1 Corinthians 3:9-11, 16-17; John 2:13-22



*Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,*

Recently, as you may know, the final report on the Extraordinary Synod on the Family was issued, and so today, **Solemnity of All Saints**, our Pastor and Cardinal Vincent Nichols in his *Pastoral Letter* will share with us his first-hand lived experience of the Synod. I encourage you to listen attentively to the letter when read out at Mass.

Here, few personal *brushstrokes* on the matter. The Church's teaching on marriage and family (which entails sexual morality) is *good news*. It's good news because it's the truth about love, and true love is the fulfilment of the human person. We read in Scripture that '*God created man and woman in His own image and likeness*': calling them into existence through love, since '*God is Love*'. We often think of this verse in terms of God's love for us. But even before this, God is love *in himself*. God is in himself a **life-giving Communion of Persons**. The *Father* from all eternity is making a gift of himself in love to the Son. And the *Son*, eternally receiving the gift from the Father, makes a gift of himself back to him. The love between them is so real, so profound, that this love *is* another eternal Person: the *Holy Spirit*.

Among other things, this is what our being made in the image and likeness of God reveals: we are called to love as God loves, in a *life-giving communion of persons*. And we do this specifically as male and female in marriage. The male is disposed in his very being toward making the gift of himself to the woman. And the woman is disposed in her very being toward receiving the gift of man into herself and giving herself back to him. And the love between them is so real, so profound and sacramental, that, God willing, it may become another human person. When we search out the true meaning of sexuality, we touch on the core of our being as men and women. This is good news.

But if this is such "*great news*", you might ask, why do so many people dispute the Church's teaching? If someone has a bone to pick with Catholic Church, it's almost always related to sex. Whether it's Church teaching about contraception: "*C'mon, get with the modern world*"; – divorce and remarriage or same sex couples: "*How insensitive can you get?*" While popular opinion holds that a Christian perspective on sex is downright negative, what we actually discover by reflecting on the Scriptures is that sex in God's plan is more awesome than any human being could possibly dream. What does it mean: *God's original plan*? This means marriage is only marriage, and sex is only sex, to the extent that they participate in God's free, total, faithful, and fruitful love, *self-giving love*. This norm – God's original plan of love prior to sin – is the proper basis for addressing all the many questions and objections that people are posing today about the Church's teaching on sexual morality and marriage. Unfortunately I haven't got space to explain everything here, but please do come and talk to me if you have any queries on the matter and need help.

Let's celebrate today the *Feast of All Saints* and commemorate *All the Faithful Departed* tomorrow. All Saints, All Souls. Let us keep these two days with Faith, Hope and Love. May God bless you all.

*Fr. Fortunato*

## NOVEMBER – THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

### FEAST OF ALL SAINTS AND COMMEMORATION OF HOLY SOULS

All Saints Day will be celebrated on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and All Souls on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November with Masses at 9.30am, 12.15pm and 7.30pm and Mass in Polish at 8.30pm.

### NOVEMBER LISTS

Available at the back of Church, please fill in and place in the Book of Remembrance at the foot of the altar.

### BLESSING OF GRAVES

Fr Chris and Fr Fortunato will be available on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** to pray over and bless the graves of parishioners buried in local cemeteries. If you would like to have the grave of a loved one blessed, just turn up and wait by the main gates of the cemetery for Fr Chris or Fr Fortunato.

*Hatton Cemetery - 12.45pm; Bedford Cemetery - 1.15pm;*

*Feltham Cemetery - 2.00pm; Hanworth Crematorium - 2.45pm (for those whose ashes are buried there); Borough Cemetery - 3.30pm and Hounslow Cemetery - 4.00pm.*

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – HELP NEEDED

Could you help on Remembrance **Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> November**, to set up the School Hall, prepare and serve refreshments (soft drinks, tea and biscuits) and tidy the school afterwards? If so, please give your name in at the Parish Office and come to the School at 1.30pm to get everything ready before the service at 3pm at Feltham War Memorial.

### SPECIAL MASS FOR THE RECENTLY BEREAVED

On **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November** at 6pm we shall be celebrating a special Mass to pray for the peaceful repose of parishioners, who have died over the past year and to pray for the comforting of their families. Please come along to offer the support of your prayers to those who are grieving. The Bereavement Support Group will be providing refreshments and a listening ear in the Parish Centre after the Mass.

## SACRAMENTS

### BAPTISMS

We extend a warm welcome to Emilia Boska, Arya Araba Isabella Sackey and Coen Pfumbi Smart who will be baptised this weekend and offer our warmest congratulations to their families.

### CONFIRMATION

Parents of candidates attending Confirmation Preparation this autumn are reminded that the first Parents Session will be on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November** in the Parish Centre at 7pm.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The Children's session is on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November**, please arrive promptly at 9.45am on. The Parents Meeting will now be on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November** instead of Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

### MONDAY 'WALK WITH JESUS' GROUP

The Monday 'Walk with Jesus' Group will take a break next week as its half term and will resume again on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** at 5.00pm.

## PARISH NOTICES

### UCM

The UCM will meet on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** at 7.30pm. Sr Monica is going to give a talk on her work as Chaplain at the airport.

### FIRST FRIDAY CAFOD COFFEE MORNING

There will be the usual First Friday CAFOD Coffee Morning after the 9.30am Mass on **7<sup>th</sup> November**. The early bird Mass will take place at 06.45am.

## FAITH TRAIL – INTER-FAITH EVENT

St Lawrence's and the Centre for Spirituality and Cultural Advancement present the next of the Bi-monthly events, titled *Christian Faith*. It will take place at St Lawrence's Church at 12.45pm on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November**. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

## QUIZ NIGHT

The Social Committee invite you to a Quiz Night in the Parish Centre on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November** from 7pm onwards. Tickets: £4.00 each, available from the repository.

## ZIMBABWEAN COFFEE AND CAKE SALE

On **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November** after the 9am and 11am Mass there will be a Coffee and Cake sale in aid of Zimbabwean Orphans. Donations of cakes would be helpful. Please speak to Helen Hurley for more information or offers of help.

## HELP WANTED

We are looking to recruit a volunteer gardener/groundsman for the Church. If you have any time to spare please contact the Parish Office for details.

## STORAGE NEEDED

Do you have any spare garage/shed space for items needing to be stored from the old Parish Centre? *Thank you to the families who have taken the tables and chairs.*

## OTHER

### SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND

The annual collection for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund takes place next weekend. There are now 80 sick and retired priests in the diocese and many of them need support as they get older. Please give as much as you can afford as the *Fund* relies on donations...and, if you pay tax, don't forget that you can add 25p to every £1 that you give (at no extra cost to you) by completing the Gift Aid declaration on the back of the donation envelope. (You can also make a donation online at [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)).

### HOUNSLOW DEANERY NEWS (CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY)

Copies of the latest Hounslow Deanery News are available from the table in the porch.

### CHRISTMAS CATALOGUES

Copies of Christmas Catalogues CAFOD are available from the table in the porch.

### ST FRANCIS XAVIER FEAST

On **Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2014**, West London Goans will be celebrating the Feast of St Francis Xavier, the patron saint of Goa at St Lawrence's School Hall from 1pm - 7pm. Full details on notice board. All welcome.

## REST IN PEACE

### BRIDGET PAGE RIP

We pray for the repose of the soul of Bridget Page RIP who died during the week and also remember in our prayers all who mourn her. Her funeral will take place here on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November** at 11.00am.

## PARISH CENTRE BUILDING FUND UPDATE

**Our Target £250,000.00**

Number Pledges received as of 30 <sup>th</sup> October	73
Total amount pledged as at 30 <sup>th</sup> October	£29,811.80
Total amount banked as of 28 <sup>th</sup> October	£ 9,615.00

## Mass intentions and other services this week:

<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup></b> Feria	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	<b>Alice Danladi in Thanksgiving</b>
	12.45	Baptisms of Emilia Boska, Arya Araba Isabella Sackey and Coen Pfumbi Smart
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
+ First Mass of Sunday	18.00	<b>People of the Parish</b>
<b>+ Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b> ALL SAINTS	09.00	<b>Anne Sheridan RIP (Anniversary)</b>
	11.00	<b>Augustine Field RIP (Anniversary)</b>
	13.00	<b>Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)</b>
	18.00	<b>Patrick Osuji RIP (First Anniversary)</b>
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup></b> ALL SOULS DAY	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	<b>HOLY SOULS</b>
	12.15	<b>HOLY SOULS</b>
	19.30	<b>HOLY SOULS</b>
	20.30	<b>Polish Mass (Msza sw.)</b>
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup></b> St Charles Borromeo	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	<b>Deceased members of the Masulit Family RIP</b>
	10.00	Novena to Our Lady
	11.00	<b>FUNERAL MASS – BRIDGET PAGE RIP</b>
<b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup></b> Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	<b>Pasqualina Fierro RIP</b>
<b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup></b> Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	<b>Francis, Piedade, Roque &amp; Inacia Dias RIP</b>
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup></b> Feria	06.45	<b>Deceased members of the Layton &amp; Fernandes families RIP</b>
	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	<b>Laura Khahura RIP (Anniversary)</b>
<b>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup></b> Feria	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	<b>David &amp; Avelina Edwards in Thanksgiving (Wedding Anniversary)</b>
	12.45	Faith Trail – Inter-Faith Event
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
+ First Mass of Sunday	18.00	<b>Annette Lynch RIP (Anniversary)</b>
	19.30	<b>Polish Padre Pio Group Meeting</b>
<b>+ Sunday 9<sup>th</sup></b> THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA (REMEMBRANCE DAY)	09.00	<b>Christina Ugowe in Thanksgiving</b>
	11.00	<b>For the War Dead</b>
	13.00	<b>Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)</b>
	18.00	<b>People of the Parish</b>

### Sanctuary Lamp: Gabriel Danladi RIP

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

25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> October: Envelopes £896.95, Loose £739.47, Standing Orders £420.00 Total: £2056.42  
**Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699**

### Contact us:

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