

This week at St Lawrence's



12th/13th October 2013

Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year
(Missal Page 149 – YEAR C)



2 Kings 5:14-17; Psalm 97; 2 Timothy 2:8-13; Luke 17:11-19
Twenty Ninth Sunday of the Year (Missal Page 152); Exodus 17: 8-13; Psalm 120
; 2 Timothy 3:14, 4:2; Luke 18:1-8

Dear Friends

In our Diocese of Westminster this Sunday is also the great *Feast of St Edward the Confessor*, one of the last Anglo-Saxon kings of England.

Ronald Knox, in a sermon at Golders Green parish that takes the name after King Edward, preached: *"When we venerate Saint Edward, we venerate a failure. We do so advisedly. Not because success in life necessarily falls to the grasping and the unscrupulous, so that success itself should be mistrusted by Christians as a sign of rascality. Nor that there have not been great saints who were also great kings, great statesmen, great warriors – Saint Oswald, Saint Dunstan, Saint Joan of Arc. But because we will not let ourselves be blinded by the lure of worldly success so as to forget that the true statesmanship is exercised in the council chamber, and the true warfare fought on the battlefield of the human soul."*

Hence the Church can canonize a failure – even make a failure the patron saint of his country. If we have eyes of faith this will not be strange to us. What matters is what God wants us to be. What matters is how God measures success.

This is what the Church tells us through the Mass's readings today. From the worldly perspective, the worst thing a powerful person can do is to admit his/her weaknesses to others. If done so, the person loses his/her position of power. Naaman the Syrian in the first reading, a man of power, like King Edward, is an example of humility. He does not let embarrassment stand in the way of admitting to his weakness. By doing so, Edward is made saint and Naaman is healed and offers right praise to God. Like Naaman, admitting one's weaknesses is the first step to proper worship, is to have eyes of faith. We too are called to have eyes of faith, though we need first the gift of faith. Only the Church can give us this gift.

May God Bless you all.

Fr Fortunato

Contact us:

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Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipers

Assistant Priest: Fr Fortunato Pantisano

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

Catechetical Co-ordinator: Bridget Brinkley

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes (Office Opening Hours 9am-1pm – Mon-Fri)

NOVEMBER

BLESSING OF GRAVES

Fr Chris and Fr Fortunato will be available on Sunday 3rd 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; Bedfont Cemetery - 1.15pm;
Feltham Cemetery – 2.00pm; Borough Cemetery – 3.00pm
and Hounslow Cemetery – 3.30pm.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM REQUESTS

If you have recently completed a Baptism Request Form, Bridget Brinkley will be in touch shortly to arrange a time to meet with you. Please note we currently have a large number of requests for baptism and will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

PARISH NOTICES

PARISH AUTUMN FAITH SHARING COURSE – “TEACH US TO PRAY”

The faith sharing programme commences this week and will run for six weeks. If you have joined a group, Group Leaders will have book for you. Programme booklets can be used by individuals, by family groups or within faith sharing groups, and are available at the back of Church. Cost £1.50 each.

MASS INTENTIONS

We will be taking Masses for next year from Monday 18 November 2013. The arrangement suggested for 2013, will stand i.e. each person wanting to give a Mass can offer **3 Masses** to be said at St Lawrence's **for the year**. Any intentions over that are to be sent to the Missions. This will allow every parishioner to be able to have a Mass Intention said in Church. Please think carefully about the intentions you wish to give. If it's for several members of your family, try and group them into 'Deceased members of the xxx family', the same applies to thanksgiving intentions.

ANNUAL REPORT

A couple of copies of the Diocesan Annual Report are available at the back of Church for anyone wishing to borrow a copy to have a read. Kindly return the report when you have finished.

THANK YOU

ST LAWRENCE'S SCHOOL SECRETARY

Hello. My name is Carol McIlwrath, although most of you will know me as Mrs Martin, or Ms Coles, in the School Office. I joined the school in September 1996 and retired this summer due to ill health. I just wanted to thank all those who I have met, or had dealings with, over the last 15+ years, for the support you all gave me whilst I was the school secretary. I have met many lovely people amongst the parents, governors, staff, parishioners & Friends, and the children were a delight. I wanted to let you all know how welcome I always felt in the community and how very sad I was to have to retire, but unfortunately was unable to continue working. Many thanks for the cards and messages I have received over the last 18 months whilst I have been ill. My very best wishes to you all, especially the children I have known, many of whom are adults themselves now!

SCHOOLS

NEW DATES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER FORM SIGNING

Fr Chris will be available to sign forms for Secondary School transfer at the following times:

October: Tuesday, 15th, Monday 21st, Friday 25th – 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Please come in with your child and wait in the Church.

REST IN PEACE

JANET WALKER RIP

We pray for the repose of the soul of Janet Walker RIP who passed away recently. Please remember in your prayers her husband Ray. Funeral arrangements to be announced shortly.

OTHER

STREET CHILD AFRICA

This weekend we welcome Sarah Batty who will give a talk at the 11am Mass on the work of "Street Child Africa". Do take a moment to have a look at the display in the porch.

CONSECRATION OF THE WORLD TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

This Sunday, 13th October, Pope Francis is consecrating the whole world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Holy Father has asked that the statue of Our Lady of Fatima be brought to Rome for this most significant occasion. The Consecration expresses our desire to share Mary's complete openness to God and neighbour. To be consecrated to Mary's Heart is to set out on a pilgrimage to her heart, so that with her we may love God more fully and our neighbour in ways that are real. Pope Francis reminds us that devotion to Mary is at the heart of our Catholic faith. As the Holy Father makes this consecration, let us ask Mary to show us how we might more faithfully follow her Son, Jesus, and so love God and our neighbour wholeheartedly.

OCTOBER TORCHLIT PROCESSION - OUR LADY OF WILLEDEN.

Sunday 13th October 7pm. Come and join us at the Shrine as we celebrate Pope Francis' Act of Consecration of the World to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Preacher, Fr Kevin Jordan. The Shrine is located at the junction of Acton Lane and Nicoll Road NW109AX. Willesden Junction on the Bakerloo & Overground. Buses 18,187,206,220,226,228,260,266,487.

FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE

From September 25 through November 3, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. Please join us at the HALF-WAY EVENT on **Tuesday 15th October**, 7pm in the Parish Hall, St James' Church, 61 Popes Grove, Twickenham TW1 4JZ. For more information, see www.40daysforlife/twickenham

ST. IGNATIUS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

is looking for two Midday Supervisors to work Mon-Fri from 11h50am to 1pm to supervise the children during lunch and play. Pay is £1,930pa (or £160pm). For more information please contact Mrs Corbett in the school office on 01932 785396 email: a.corbett@st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk. Closing date for applications **18th Oct 2013**. "

APF OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Next weekend there will be a retiring collection at the end of all Masses for the work of APF Overseas Missions.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER FEAST

On **1st December 2013**, 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.

WHAT'S COMING UP IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

November

Sunday 3rd – LIFE Coffee Morning (45th anniversary) after 9am & 11am Masses

Thursday 7th – Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, 7.30pm

Saturday 9th – New Parishioners' Mass, 6pm

Sunday 17th – Mass for the Bereaved, 6pm

Saturday 23rd – "Good Neighbour Day" part of Interfaith Week – Church & Parish Centre, 2-4pm

Sunday 24th – Youth Mass, 6pm (*Year of Faith ends*)

Saturday 30th – Advent Day of Prayer, 10.30am-2.30pm

December

Sunday 1st – Christingle Workshop, 2.30pm

Friday 6th – RAFA Band Christmas Concert for all the family, 7.30pm

Sunday 8th – LIFE Annual Mince Pie sale after 9am & 11am Masses

Sunday 15th – Lodge Brothers Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving, 3pm

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 12th St Wilfrid	10.30 12.00 12.30 14.30 17.00 18.00	DAY OF PRAYER 10.30am-2.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation Timothy Hurley in Thanksgiving Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation Benediction Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
+ Sunday 13th 28 th Sunday of the Year	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Alfred Deacon RIP Barbara May Light RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Raymond Beirne RIP (4th Anniversary)
Monday 14th Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Gabriel Danladi RIP (A)
Tuesday 15th St Teresa of Jesus	09.15 09.30 10.00	Morning Prayer Ramona Ugowe in Thanksgiving Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 16th Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Janet Walker RIP
Thursday 17th St Ignatius of Antioch	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Avelina Edwards (Birthday Thanksgiving)
Friday 18th ST LUKE	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Mary Boyle RIP (A)
Saturday 19th Feria	11.00 11.00 11.45 12.00 12.45 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Benediction Johnny Soares in Thanksgiving Baptisms of Floyd John Mukasa, Teryl Bediako and Aoife Grace Anna Lynch Sacrament of Reconciliation Andre & Andreza De Souza RIP
+ Sunday 20th 29 th Sunday of the Year	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Dermot Doran RIP People of the Parish Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Roy & Stency Varghese in Thanksgiving

Sanctuary Lamp: Gabriel Danladi RIP

Sunday Mass Times

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

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

5th/6th Oct: Envelopes £1280.42, Loose £766.07, Standing Orders £420.00 Total: £2466.49

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699

October 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.

