

This week at St Lawrence's



26th/27th October 2013

Thirtieth Sunday of the Year
(Missal Page 155 – YEAR C)



Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19; Psalm 33; 2 Timothy 5:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14
Thirty First Sunday of the Year (Missal Page 157): Wisdom 11:22, 12:2; Psalm 144;
2 Thessalonians 1:11, 2:2; Luke 19: 1-10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In June 1897, just three months before her tragic death from “*tuberculosis*” at the early age of 24, Saint Therese of Lisieux scratched a graffiti on the door of her convent cell. Using a sharp knife, she wrote: “**Jesus est mon unique amour**” - JESUS IS MY ONLY LOVE.

It was certainly against the Holy Carmelite Rule to put graffiti on the walls or doors of the convent! But that is what Saint Therese did! What she scratched on the door of her cell was the very deepest expression of her life and her faith.

If you or I had to write graffiti on the front door of our house or flat, expressing the deepest sentiments of our life and faith, what would you write? Would you write “*Jesus is my only Love*”? Few of us, I think, would dare to claim that Jesus Christ is the only, or the greatest love, in our life.

By what power can anyone come to prefer Christ to every other love? By what power can we live as true Christians, as true disciples of Christ? By what power can we purify our heart, control our lustful eye, bridle our sarcastic tongue, cleanse our thoughts and desire, tame our spiteful temper, dispatch our arrogance and pride, rise above our moods, and put to flight our greed and selfishness? By what power? Certainly not our own!

The Good News is that Christianity is not based on our power and our good will; neither is it based on our effort, effort, and more effort - muscular Christianity. The Good News is that Christianity is a gift. A grace. It is gratis. Sanctity, virtue, chastity, purity, holiness of life, cannot be won, deserved or grasped. Still less can it be bought or earned. It is never a reward. It is always gift, always gratuitous, unmerited and free! This is the Good News that this Sunday readings tell us about.

Christianity unites people to God and to one another. However, nowadays many religious people forget religion's purpose. They like to puff up their egos, revelling in their ability to live according to the Law. Seeing themselves as better than the rest, they forget that grace only comes to those who realize they are sinners. The tax collector, realizing he is a sinful man, does not focus on himself, but focuses his gaze and hunger on God – *the source of salvation* – and allows God to act in his life.

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 – THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS AND COMMEMORATION OF HOLY SOULS

Masses on All Saints Day, **Friday 1st November**, will be at 06.45am, 9.30am, 12.15pm and 7.30pm. Mass on All Souls Day, **Saturday 2nd November**, will be at 12 noon.

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 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.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

We have been asked to host the refreshments following the 3pm service at Feltham War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, **10th November**. This will be in the School Hall. We need help to set-up, serve the drinks and cakes and then to clean up afterwards. If anyone can help please let Florie, in the Parish Office, know and arrive at the School Hall at 1.30pm on the day.

SPECIAL MASS FOR THE RECENTLY BEREAVED

On **Sunday 17th 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 CONGRATULATIONS

We extend a warm welcome to Zachary Ritchie Dominic Reilly and Veronika Kristian Rodriguez who will be baptised this weekend and offer our warmest congratulations to their families.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The next meeting for children will be on **Saturday 9th November** at 9.45am Parents meet on **Tuesday 12th November** at either 2pm or 7pm in the Parish Centre.

CONFIRMATION

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 7th November** at 7pm in the School Hall.

PARISH NOTICES

CAFOD COFFEE MORNING

The First Friday Coffee Morning for CAFOD will take place on **Friday 1st November** after the 9.30am Mass.

PARKING

Parking around the Church, Presbytery and Parish Centre is very limited and at weekends designated for our elderly and less able parishioners. We are fortunate to have use of the school car park at weekends but it has come to attention that cars have been triple parked and of major concern for us on the grounds of health and safety. Given the limited availability parishioners are encouraged to use alternative local parking facilities. The situation will be monitored over the coming weeks.

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.

LIFE COFFEE MORNING

LIFE will be holding a Coffee morning after the 9am and 11am Masses on **Sunday 3rd November** to mark the 45th anniversary of the foundation of LIFE. Donations of cakes would be welcome.

OTHER

CHURCHES TOGETHER AUTUMN MEETING

The autumn meeting of The Churches Together takes place on **Monday 28th October** at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. All are welcome to attend.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

The local Council of the Order Knights of St Columba will be having a Recruitment Drive after all Masses this weekend. A member of the Order will be speaking at each Mass. After all Masses members of the KSC will be at the back of the Church with Application for Membership Forms and ready to answer any queries which parishioners may have. All practising Catholic Men over the age of 18 are eligible for membership.

COME ALONG TO MUSTARD SEED

Brand new monthly evenings of Renewal at St Margaret's Catholic Church, Twickenham TW1 1RL (opposite St Margaret's Station). An opportunity to grow in faith in the power of the Holy Spirit. Lively praise and worship-teaching-prayer. Inaugural evening **Saturday 9th November** – 7.45pm for 8.00pm until 10.30pm latest with inspirational speaker *Fr Chris Vipers*. Future dates for your diary: 7th December, 11th January, 8th February. Future speakers: David Payne, Gio Payne, Jenny Baker, Charles Whitehead. Contact mustardseed13@hotmail.co.uk for more information or just come along on the night.

CAN A DIVORCED PERSON MARRY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

To talk about this and answer any questions you may have such as: 'Do non Catholics who have married before in a Register Office need an annulment to marry a Catholic?' 'Will it cost a lot of money?' 'If a marriage has been consummated can annulment still be sought?' Mgr. John Conneely, Judicial Vicar of the Westminster Tribunal, will be speaking about the subject of 'ANNULMENTS' on **Thursday 7 November** at 7:30 at Our Lady of Grace and St Edwards's, Chiswick, and on **Thursday 21 November** at 7:30 at SS Michael and Martin's, Hounslow.

ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH, LOWER FELTHAM

Our congratulations and prayers to St Dunstan's Church in Lower Feltham on the appointment of their new Vicar, Reverend Gillian Toogood, who will be arriving in Feltham in late January.

CHRISTMAS CATALOGUES

Copies of Christmas Catalogues for The Catholic Children's Society and CAFOD are available from the table in the porch.

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. All welcome.

REST IN PEACE

BRUCE BROWNLIE RIP

We pray for the repose of the soul of Bruce Brownlie RIP who passed away recently. His funeral will take place here on **Monday 4th November** at 11.30am. Please also remember in your prayers his children and all the family who mourn him.

JANET WALKER RIP

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

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 26th Sts Chad & Cedd	11.00 11.00 11.45 12.00 12.45 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Benediction Daniel Fogarty RIP Baptisms of Zachary Ritchie Dominic Reilly and Veronika Kristian Rodriguez and Sacrament of Reconciliation Aubrey & Irene Hamlin RIP
+ Sunday 27th 30 th Sunday of the Year	09.00 11.00 13.00 14.00 18.00	People of the Parish Mimi & Papi Ekonzo in Thanksgiving Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Mass led by the African Community Deceased members of the Almeida & Sequeira Families RIP
Monday 28th STS SIMON & JUDE	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Joaozinho De Souza in Thanksgiving
Tuesday 29th Blessed Martyrs of Douai College	09.15 09.30 10.00	Morning Prayer Rodrigues Family in Thanksgiving Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 30th Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Celebrant's Intention
Thursday 31st Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Faye Mary Badejo (Birthday Thanksgiving)
Friday 1st ALL SAINTS DAY	06.45 09.15 09.30 12.15 19.30	Manuel Abalada RIP (Anniversary) Morning Prayer Colin D'Lima RIP (1st Anniversary) Laurie Harvey RIP (Anniversary) Alice Danladi (Birthday Thanksgiving)
Saturday 2nd ALL SOULS DAY	11.00 11.00 11.45 12.00 15.30 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Benediction HOLY SOULS Baptisms of Lucy Alice David Eusebio, Isla Jasmin Bennett and Emily Joan Chrislyn Stanton-Smith Sacrament of Reconciliation HOLY SOULS
+ Sunday 3rd 31 st Sunday of the Year	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	Deceased members of the De Souza Family RIP Augustus Field RIP (Anniversary) Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Peter Everett RIP (Anniversary)

Sanctuary Lamp: Fernandes Family Intentions

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:

19th/20th Oct: Envelopes £981.98, Loose £752.33, Standing Orders £420.00 Total: £2154.31

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.

