

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

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5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*I heard the voice of the Lord saying:
'Whom shall I send? Who will be your messenger?'
I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'*



By joining the call of the first disciples and the miraculous catch of fish, Luke recalls that the present mission of the Church is intimately bound up with Jesus' earthly ministry. From Peter's boat, a symbol of the Church, Christ continues, through his apostles, his preaching and his mission.

Weekend Mass Intentions

Sat: 7.00am—Church opens for Silent Prayer

8.40am—Rosary & Morning Prayer

9.30am—For the Conversion of Sinners

Followed by Confessions until 10.45am

6.00pm—Miss Shiloh Toyosi—Thanksgiving Int.

Sun: 8.00am—Grace Millane—RIP

9.30am—Uzodimma Agbasonu—Anniversary

11.00am—Monica Drosso—RIP

6.00pm—Bernie McDonagh—RIP

Weekday Mass Intentions

Mon: 7.00am—Church opens for Silent Prayer

8.15am—Rosary & Morning Prayer

9.30am—For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish

Tue: 7.00am—Church opens for Silent Prayer

8.40am—Rosary & Morning prayer

9.30am—Marcelina Lukeera—Recovery

Followed by the Chaplet of St Michael

Wed: 7.00am—Church opens for Silent Prayer

8.40am—Rosary & Morning Prayer

9.30am—For a Private Intention

Thu: 7.00am—Church opens for Silent Prayer

8.40am—Rosary & Morning prayer

9.30am—For the Repose of the Holy Souls

Fri: 7.00am—Church will not open this morning

8.15am—There will be no Morning Prayer

6.00pm—Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6.40pm—Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.30pm—Intentions of the Obiwelozor Family

Followed by Devotions to Our Lady of Sorrows

Sat: 7.00am—Church opens for Silent Prayer

8.40am—Rosary & Morning Prayer

9.30am—For the Holy Father's Intentions

Followed by Confessions until 10.45am

6.00pm—For the Intentions of Roza Maria Bikali

CONFESSIONS

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday Morning from after Mass until 10.45am

Confessions are heard in the Sacristy at the front of the church either anonymously or face to face.

Do try to get into the habit of going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a regular basis. It is a wonderful aid to progressing in the spiritual life and allowing Jesus to enter fully into our lives.

We should learn to 'fall in love' with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is a cure for our spiritual ills!

CAFOD

Volunteer for CAFOD in Westminster Diocese

Do you have good public speaking skills and want to help us tackling poverty and injustice? CAFOD needs volunteers to speak on our behalf in parishes and/or schools in the Westminster Diocese about our work in the developing world. To find out more details, or book a place on our next Volunteer information day in London on Saturday, 19th January 2019, call CAFOD on 0208 4496970 or email Westminster@cafod.org.uk

FAITH SHARING FOR SMALL GROUPS LENT 2019

REJOICE AND BE GLAD

"The Lord asks everything of us, and in return he offers us true life, the happiness for which we were created." (Gaudete et Exsultate)

"Rejoice and be glad" invites those who share in it to discover what it means to be a joyful missionary disciple of Jesus Christ.

Commitment Weekend:

Sign up for prayer groups 16/17th February

Leaders Meeting:

Tuesday 26th February at 7.00pm in hall

Small Groups begin meeting:

Monday 4th March and meet for six weeks.

If you have never attended one of our small prayer groups, then please come along on this occasion.

DAY WITH MARY

Saturday 2nd March 2019

A day centred around Our Lady of Fatima. Devotions, celebration of Mass, Confession, talks on Our Lady, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and much more. Day begins at 9.30am. Please join us for a good day.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

February: Human Trafficking: For a Generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

MORNING PRAYERS

The church opens every day at 7.00am This is to give people at opportunity to call into the church to pray quietly before the Blessed Sacrament or to light candles. Maybe if on your way to work or bringing the children to school or if you are just passing by you might just come in for a few moments to offer your day to the Lord quietly. A good way to begin your day. Please do try and take the opportunity to give a little time to the Lord each day in prayer.

Rosary & Morning Prayer usually follow at 8.40am if you wanted to stay for that—see newsletter for details.

MAKE FRIDAY SPECIAL

JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED ON A FRIDAY

Do something positive to say thank you.

Make a sacrifice.

FAST on a Friday—give up a meal.

LEGION OF MARY

Our next Praesidium meeting will be today Sunday 10th February at 4.00pm in the parish hall.

You will be most welcome to join us.

ROSARY for your Intentions

Rosary and Devotions to Our Lady on Wednesday 13th February at 7.00pm. Will meet in the church.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY

Admissions—September 2019

If you wish your child to be considered for a place in our Nursery you are invited to attend a meeting with the Governors in the School Hall on Thursday 21st March 2019 between 6.45pm and 7.15pm.

Applicants for September 2019 are those born between 01/09/2015 and 31/08/2016

Please bring with you the following documents:

Child's Baptismal Certificate

Child's Birth Certificate

TWO current proofs of address

If you do not attend Mass regularly at Mary, Mother of God, Ponders End, it would be helpful to the Governors if you could provide them with a reference from your Parish priest. If you are unable to get this please do not let this be a barrier to your application.

Vacancy for Parish Caretaker—St Edmund's Hall

15 hours per week plus overtime. £11 per hour.

Closing date—Friday 15th February.

Contact: humanresources@rcdow.org.uk

Or complete an online application. You must provide proof of Right to Work in the UK

CHAPLET OF ST MICHAEL

Every Tuesday morning after Mass

For our devotions each week we will follow the Chaplet of St Michael the Archangel after Mass on Tuesday mornings. During this ancient devotion we invoke the help of this powerful intercessor for protection and help in all our difficulties and trials. Please join us.

DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Friday 15th February 2019

6.00pm—Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6.40pm—Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.30pm—Mass

Followed by the Stations of the Cross

Followed by the Novena to Our Lady of Sorrows

"A sword will pierce your soul" - the words of the priest Simeon addressed to Our Lady at the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

CATECHETICS

Catechetical Coordinator: **Muriel Akahi**

Tel: 020 8443 4069 Mobile: 07514 225 506 Email: murielakahi@rcdow.org.uk

FIRST COMMUNION FIRST RECONCILIATION 2019

MASS & PREPARATION CLASS

Sunday 3rd March 2019

The children should be sitting at the front of the church in their groups with their catechists for the 9.30am Mass. Children must be on time for Mass. If they and their families are persistently late for Mass their children will not be allowed to join their group and it will stand as a lost session.

Children should be attending Mass together with their families
From now onwards on a **regular weekly basis**.

- When the children are not sitting with their catechist the parents should bring their children forward to Fr John for a blessing at Communion time at every Mass.
- If a child misses three preparation meetings then their preparation will be delayed until the following year.
- If parents miss two of the parent's meetings then their child's preparation will be delayed until the following year,
- If children or parents arrive more than 15 minutes late for their meetings then it will be counted as a missed session.
- Parents must inform us **beforehand** of any absences. Please call 8804 2149 or 8443 4069 and leave a message.
- All future notices concerning the First Communion Programme will be published in this newsletter.

CONFIRMATION 2019

PREPARATION SESSION

Tuesday 12th February 2019 at 6.45pm in the Parish Hall

It is important that the candidates arrive well in time for their sessions.
Persistent lateness will be counted as a missed session.

CONFIRMATION 2019—CELEBRATION MASS

Saturday 16th February 2019 at 6.00pm in the church

Candidates must arrive in church on time and should sit at the front with their catechist. Persistent lateness will count as a lost session

CONFIRMATION 2019—PARENTS MEETING

Tuesday 26th February 2019 at 8.00pm in the church

Parent's meetings are important and are part of the preparation course. Parents must attend. It is an opportunity for us to give you information about the progress of the preparation and also to inform you of any changes as well as helping them to help their young people by their example and encouragement.

Candidates must be attending Mass on a regular weekly basis.

Confirmation should be seen as a willingness to practice the faith.

- Parents should be supporting their children in their preparation by also attending Mass each week
- Candidates must arrive on time for their lessons and Mass. Lateness will be counted as a lost session.
- If you are unable to attend any meeting please inform us beforehand—call either 8804 2149 or 8442 4069.

Time keeping is of the utmost importance and it will be the parent's responsibility to ensure that the young people are in the right place at the right time. If you are uncertain about any aspect of the programme then please contact us on 8443 4069. Thanks.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019

PARENT'S MEETING

Tuesday 11th March 2019 at 8.00pm in the church.

This is an important meeting for parents who want their children to be prepared to receive their First Holy Communion in 2019. Details of the new programme will be given so attendance is important.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

- Marriages involving a Catholic partner should always take place in a Catholic church before a Catholic priest.
- If your marriage took place in a Register Office or in a church other than a Catholic one then the marriage would need to be convalidated (blessed). Easily done.
- If you have been married before and are not sure about getting married again in a Catholic church then talk it through with a priest who will help you.
- If you have been through a Traditional marriage you will still need to be married civilly and in church for your marriage to be recognised as Sacramental.
- If you have any problems or questions concerning marriage please do not hesitate to talk to a priest.

OUR NEXT MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE:

**Wednesday 3rd April from 7.00pm to 9.30pm
& Saturday 6th April from 9.30am to 5.30pm**

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Baptisms are always by appointment. Parents will be expected to attend a Preparation Course before their children are Baptised. Each course comprises three evenings which last about an hour. Our Baptisms take place on a Saturday afternoon at 2.00pm. Registration forms can be found on the table in the porch of the church. Complete and return to us.

Course begins on Thursday 21st March 2019 at 7.00pm

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

To help our children to know their basic prayers, what Mass is all about and generally help them to understand their Catholic faith. It is open to children aged between 4ys and 9ys. If you would like your children to join our Sunday School which would take place on a Sunday morning then please come and register them. You will be welcome.

Next Sunday School is on Sunday 17th February. Begins at 9.15am in the parish hall. Please don't be late.

ADULT BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION

We run an ongoing programme for adults who might be interested in becoming Roman Catholics, or who want to be Baptised and/or Confirmed or who simply want to know more about the Catholic faith. The group usually meets on a Monday evening in the parish hall at 7.30pm. Come along or call 8804 2149 for more information.

Enquiry time—No meetings at the present time

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

'Our Lady Queen of Peace'

20th—27th August 2019

£769 for 8 days / 7nights

Details can be seen on the notice board and a booking form can be picked up from the sacristy. Bookings should be made by March 2019

Includes flights, hotel half board and excursions. Booking forms now available from the Sacristy.

Medjugorje is a place of peace and holiness, strongly influenced by Reconciliation, the Blessed Sacrament & Mass and by prayer. All under the strong influence of Mary, Our Lady of Grace. Please join us.

BIBLE STUDY

The next meeting of the Bible Study Group will be on Tuesday 26th February at 8.00pm.

MINISTERING TO THE SICK AND THE DYING

Most Catholics have been faithful to the Church all of their lives. Attending Mass regularly and receiving the Sacraments of the Church. It has been important for them to commit themselves to their faith in this way—and it is wonderful. It is so important that this does not come to an end when they are sick at home or when, sadly, they have not long to live. It is at this time that they are in most need of the Church and what it is able to offer them—Holy Communion, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, Confession, and the Last Rites. Please do your best to ensure that your loved ones, friends and neighbours receive all the spiritual help and support that they need and at the end a Catholic funeral. If you would like further information or help in this then please contact the parish house. Thank you.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL

If you, or maybe a relative or friend, are going into hospital then please call us on 020 8804 2149 and we will then contact the chaplain or parish which serves the hospital to ensure that your spiritual needs are looked after during your stay.

HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Do you know of someone who is housebound and unable to come to Mass and would like a visit or to receive Holy Communion? If so please contact the parish house and we will arrange a visit.

ARE YOU SICK?

The Sacrament of the Sick is available to anyone who is ill or who is preparing to go into hospital for surgery or treatment. It is important for anyone who is suddenly taken ill, especially if they are in danger of death. If you, or anyone you know, wishes to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick then please contact the parish house on 020 8804 2149 and we will arrange to come and administer the Sacrament.

NEED TO SPEAK TO A PRIEST?

If, in the case of an emergency, you are unable to speak with Fr John then please call one of the following:

Enfield Parish — 020 8363 2569, Edmonton Parish — 8803 6631 Cockfosters Parish—8449 6648, Palmers Green—8886 9568

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

North Middlesex—020 8803 6631 (Edmonton Parish) Chase Farm & Barnet—For the moment please contact 020 8363 2569

Catholic Singles

Single, separated, widowed or divorced. Catholic Singles helps practising Catholics meet other Catholics; supports Catholic Parishes and Charities, donating thousands of pounds; provides a strictly confidential service; sends members a monthly bulletin called *Catholic Networking*; publicises events free of charge. **£10 annual membership plus an initial donation.** Free information with no obligation: CATHOLIC SINGLES, 1 BURLESCOMBE CLOSE, ALTRINCHAM, WA14 4UX. Tel: 01609413498. email: info@catholicingles.org.uk

Bible/Faith Study Group

The Bible/Faith Study time will begin again on **Tuesday 26th February 2019 at 8.00pm** in the parish hall. The topic that we will be looking at is the Book of the Apocalypse/Revelation which is the last book of the Bible and traditionally attributed to St John the Evangelist. Not always an easy book to understand and to come to terms with—and sometimes very much misunderstood. Come and join us as we look at this interesting part of the Bible in a very simple way.

FRIDAY DROP IN LUNCH

Every Friday from 12.30 until 2.30pm in the parish hall. Anyone is welcome to come and eat. The food is good and there is no charge and the company is good. Please join us.

FOOD BANK

Thank you for all the help that you give in so many ways in the many things we undertake in the parish. We would like to build up our food bank so as to be able to help the people who come seeking support and help. Please can you help by bringing along some simple food items: sugar, tea, coffee, pasta, cereals, tins of soup, beans and fruit etc. There is a box in the porch of the church in which you can place your items and donations. Very many thanks.

CHAPLET OF ST MICHAEL

Will be followed every Tuesday morning in the church after the 9.30am Morning Mass. Together we seek the protection and the intercession of the powerful Archangel Michael.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

The thought is to have a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Medjugorje some time in late August—the exact dates have still to be finalised. If you are interested, and several people have expressed an interest, please try and keep that period of time free in your diaries. More information will be forthcoming shortly.

SYMBOLS OF FAITH—CARITAS

Preparing parents, priests and catechists to work with people with learning disabilities. **Saturday 2nd February 2019 from 10.00am to 2.00pm. Our Lady of Dolors Church Hall, 4 Egerton Gardens, Hendon NW4 4BA.**

The Workshop will enable you to:

Develop an understanding of faith formation for people with learning disabilities.

Understand how people with learning disabilities can be prepared to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.

Share experiences of good practice.

Be introduced to Diocesan resources.

For more information and booking please contact Sue Day at sueday@rcdow.org.uk 07525812513

Or Sue Pratt at suepratt@rcdow.org.uk 020 8202 3999

WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Under the leadership of Cardinal Vincent Nichols. 20th to 26th July 2019

Lourdes theme for 2019—**"Blessed are the Poor"**

Travel options by air, train and coach with budgets to suit.

Pilgrimage Administrator: Elizabeth Uwalaka, Vaughan House, 46 Frances Street, London SW1P 1QN. Tel: 0207 798 9173. email: Lourdes@rcdow.org.uk

See Fr John for booking forms and information.

Our Lady of Lourdes—11th February 2019

Ash Wednesday (Lent begins) - 6th march 2019

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS

February: Human Trafficking:

For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Please remember that you should fast from eating food or drink, apart from water, for at least one hour before the time you actually receive Holy Communion. If you receive Holy Communion in the hand please always remember to place the Host (the Body of Christ), into your mouth before you move away from the Minister. Please come forward quietly and prepare yourself to receive Holy Communion. **Please bow before receiving the Body or the Blood of Jesus** as a sign of reverence. Remember to say a prayer of Thanksgiving after receiving Holy Communion when you are back in your place. **Please always try and be on time for Mass. Arriving late can mean that you have not prepared adequately for the celebration. You should certainly arrive before the reading of the Gospel. Please do not chew gum or eat sweets or biscuits in church. All of this will help us to remember that Holy Mass and receiving Holy Communion are very special events for Catholics. Please also remember to dress reasonably modestly when coming to church. We must not be a distraction**

COME AND JOIN THE PARISH CHOIR

We welcome new members. We are a friendly mixed ability group of adult singers who enjoy singing and praising the Lord, thanking Him for all the blessings He gives. We also need young people to help start a YOUTH singing group. If you play an instrument and have a love of music come along. Contact Danny on 02082456975

THINGS TO REMEMBER AT MASS

When we enter and leave the Church genuflect (bow your knee) toward the Tabernacle. Christ is present for our sake. By allowing our right knee to hit the floor we acknowledge that He is our Lord and God. If someone is physically unable to genuflect, then a good bow is sufficient. During Mass if you pass in front of the altar or tabernacle genuflect reverently. Use the holy water to make the Sign of the Cross.

Please dress modestly—going to church is not a fashion parade and you should never become a distraction or a seduction to others by the way that you look. Please dress modestly

YOUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS

We can receive donations using text messages on smartphones

Just text **PARISH PONDE** and send text to **70800**

£5 will be added to your mobile phone bill as a donation which will come directly to our parish. If you have any questions ask Fr John or call the Diocese on 020 7798 9375. Many thanks.

Please pray for the sick

Agnes Guveya, Agnes Robinson, Marjolaine Babet, Jenna Joson, Josephine Yawe, Pamela Rutabyama, James Scott, Theresa Matovu, Margaret Creed, Agnes Walsh, James Gubagana, Juliet Nabutende, Scola Namyalo, Henry & Justine Rutabyama, Leslie & Violet Fraser, James Scott, Agnes Walsh, Mary Conway, Ailsa Wintle, Dennis O'Sullivan, Ricky Barrett, John Harrington David Kirunda, Margaret Felgate, Marie Francaisa Babet, John Shepherd, Alfie O'Brien, Therese Josephine, Marcelina Lukeera

Pray also for those who have died recently:

Angela McKeown, Ken Addison Snr, Donald Fleur D'Epine, John Brennan, Desmond Paul McAnn, Fr Robert Barry, Marie Lucile Riviere

Anniversaries:

Tommy Brady, Felicity Cleary, Thomas Jules, George Elven, Ann Barker, Robert Chappell, Casimir Wisniewski. Abbie Morahan.