



ST MATTHEW CATHOLIC CHURCH, WEST NORWOOD

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28th Sep 2024

Parish Newsletter

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

TODAY'S MASS READINGS: Parish Mass Book, from page 138

1st Reading (Num 11:25-29). 2nd Reading (James 5:1-6). Gospel (Mark 9:38-45,47-48).

Next Sunday's Reading: 1st Reading (Gen 2:18-24). 2nd Reading (Heb 2:9-11) Gospel (Mk 10: 2-16)

REFLECTIONS

"For months the chapel was decorated with artificial flowers. While they looked pretty, they lacked one vital thing—they emitted no scent. Then one day someone brought in a small bunch of fresh bluebells and placed them on the altar. As soon as you walked into the chapel you notice the difference. The fragrance given off by the little bluebells filled the entire chapel. How the genuine article shines out, how it makes its presence felt. It doesn't have to be big. Even the dew lessens the heat. Jesus said in the gospel that anyone who gave one of his disciples even a cup of cold water would be rewarded. The 'cup of cold water' is a symbol of small kind deed. Few of us are given the chance to perform great deeds. But the chance to give a cup of water (to show little kindness) can come to our way several times in the course of a day. A small act of kindness can turn winter into summer at least briefly for another person. It becomes a small but significant stepping stone for that person. Deeds don't have to be big in order to be of help and comfort to the person to whom they are done. They just have to have a certain quality. The quality is warmth. All deeds which come from the heart have this warmth."



Parish Priest: Fr Celestine Ekwueme

Email: celestineekwueme@rcaos.org.uk

PARISH INFORMATION AND FAITH NEWS

PRAY WITH THE POPE

Pope's October Prayer Intention: For a shared mission. When bishops and laypeople meet for the second part of the Synod on Synodality during October, the faithful are asked to pray that "the Church continues to sustain a synodal lifestyle in every way."

Prayer For Month of October: We trust God for His wall of salvation to abide around us and our family in 2024. Thus, for October, **we are praying for our wall of salvation to abide in strength and remain unshakable throughout 2024. Amen.**

PARISH NOTICES

International Day : Final preparatory meeting, Friday 4th October by 7:30pm at the parish hall. Please everyone is invited.

Parish Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and Ushers Meeting: This important meeting will hold on Saturday 5th of October by 11am at the parish church. This meeting is mandatory . Thank you.

Day of Retreat: Readers and Extra Ordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist in the parishes within the Deaneries of Camberwell, Lewisham and Lambeth will meet at Bishop Thomas Grant School, Beltrees Grove, Streatham London, SW162HY on Saturday 26 October 2024 for a day retreat. You are encouraged to attend. Programme is at the notice board.

Southwark Catholic Youth Service. The Southwark Catholic Youth Service has a [number of activities in 2024](#) for youth and young adults. For regular updates on forthcoming events, sign up to its network at www.tinyurl.com/scysnetwork. For queries on youth activities email youth@rcaos.org.uk

The Month of October should be considered in all countries as the month of the World Mission. The Penultimate Sunday, the day proclaimed 'World Mission Sunday', is the high point. That day will be celebrated in all the local churches as a feast of catholicity and universal solidarity. On that day Christians the world over will recognise their common responsibility with regard to the evangelisation of the World.

CAFOD Family Fast Day is on Friday 4th October. Your donations this harvest will help their mission to fight again poverty and injustice. Envelopes at rear of church.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: For the past 50 years Worldwide Marriage Encounter has been offering marriage enrichment retreats all around the world. Focused on couples who want to enrich their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage, the retreat offers a unique experience. It's a chance to explore your relationship at a deeper, more intimate level, regardless of how long you have been together. Thousands of couples in the UK have benefited from a Marriage Encounter weekend retreat, the next non-residential retreat is from 21-22 September 2024 at **Church of the Annunciation, Burnt Oak, London, HA8 0HQ**. Why not find out more at wwme.org.uk

International Day and Ticket Sales: Our Parish Feast Day and International Day Celebration is on Sunday October 6 2024. Mass will be 11am. No 9am mass on this day. Please help support the event in any way you can. Buy or help sale the raffle ticket as well.

MASS OFFERINGS: We have spaces for mass offerings. If you want mass offered for your intentions or for your friends, speak to Fr C.

An evening for young adults with Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati - 31 October. Archbishop John will be giving a talk on Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati's life at an event hosted by the Southwark Catholic Youth Service on 31 October at St George's Cathedral. The event for 18-40 year olds starts at 6.30pm, with Eucharistic Adoration and praise and worship led by One Hope Project.

The Second National Mass Count takes place at all Masses this weekend.

PARISH MINISTRY			MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK	
READERS:	28th/29th	5th/6th	Saturday 28 September	Vigil Mass 26th Sunday
6:30pm:	Ann Doe	Preetha	6:30pm	Jane Beresford RIP
9am:	Savio/Elliza	No Mass	Sunday 29 September	26th Sunday in Ord Time
11am:	Sinead/Juliana	TBC	9am	Frances Rowlings RIP
EUCXHARISTIC MINISTERS:			11am	Chinwe Ifi & Gladys Egonu
6:30pm	Jenny	Russell	Monday 30 September	St Jerome, Priest.
9am	Albertina	Albertina	9:30am	No Mass
11am	Patience	Kereine	Tuesday 1 October	St Therese of Child Jesus
CLEANING:			6:30pm	Adoration
Albertine/Justine/Justina	Chika/Patience/Juliana		7pm	Holy Souls
<p>This month the main liturgical feasts are St. Thérèse (October 1), Guardian Angels (October 2), St. Faustina (October 5), St. Bruno (October 6), Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7), St. Callistus I (October 14), St. Teresa of Jesus (October 15), St. Hedwig and St. Margaret Mary (October 16), St. Ignatius of Antioch (October 17), St. Isaac Jogues, St. John de Brébeuf and Companions (October 19), St. Paul of the Cross (October 20), St. John Paul II (October 22), St. Anthony Mary Claret (October 24) and Sts. Simon and Jude (October 28) .</p> <p>The feasts of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4), St. John XXIII (October 11) and St. Luke (October 18) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy.</p>			Wednesday 2 October	The Guardian Angels
			9:30am	KC Abraham RIP
			Thursday 3 October	Feria
			11am @ BH	Catherine Odogwu; W/being
			Friday 4 October	St Francis of Assisi
			12 noon	UCM
			Saturday 5 October	Vigil of 27th Sunday
			6:30pm	Noel & Valery Guest RIP
			Sunday 6 October	27th Sunday in Ord Time
			9am	No Mass
11am	For our parish			

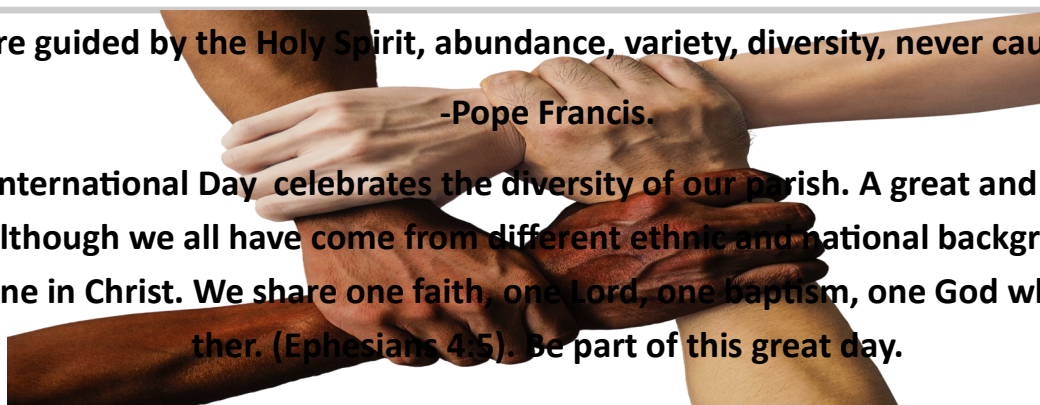
UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Second collection for CAFOD 6 October.**
- **Second collection for Catholic Agency for the Support of Evangelization, Sunday 15 September**
- **Parish International Day and Feast Day, next preparatory meeting, Friday 6 September by 7:30pm @ Parish Hall**

“If we are guided by the Holy Spirit, abundance, variety, diversity, never cause conflict”

-Pope Francis.

Parish International Day celebrates the diversity of our parish. A great and true gift of God. Although we all have come from different ethnic and national backgrounds, we are all one in Christ. We share one faith, one Lord, one baptism, one God who is our father. (Ephesians 4:5). Be part of this great day.



WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED IN OUR PARISH COMMUNITY , AND THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME, MAY THEY REST IN PEACE. AMEN.



HOSPITAL CONTACTS: If you or a member of your family are admitted to our local hospitals, do please let the hospital's Catholic chaplain know.

St George's Hospital: Fr Peter Littleton
(02087253069 or 02086721255)

Kings Hospital: To be provided

Croydon University Hospital: To be provided

St Thomas' Hospital: To be provided

RAFFLE DRAW ITEMS

We have received many items from individuals for the raffle draw and autumn fair shop sales. Thank you to many of you that have made donations for this. More donations are welcome.

PARISH SCHEDULES

Sunday Mass Times :

6:30pm (Sat), 9am and 11am

Week Day Mass Times:

Tuesday ; 7pm

Wednesday & Friday; 9:30am

Thursday; 11am @ British Home

First Fridays; 12noon.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Tuesdays; 6:30pm

Baptisms, Marriage, Funerals: Contact the Parish Office.

Youth Club:

4:30pm Every 3rd Saturday

RCIA: Contact Parish Office

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 5:30pm to 6:15pm and on call.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Open Office: Fridays 10am to 12:30pm and 2:30pm to 4:30pm.

Other days with appointment, please.

UCM:

12noon Every First Friday

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Wednesdays; 7:30pm @ the Church.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP

Sundays; after 11am mass @ the Divine Mercy Altar

We are grateful for all you do to support the parish.

Setting up a Standing Order is the most efficient way to make a donation to the parish without incurring fees. You can use the following details for one-off donation or to set up a Standing Order or Direct Debit. NatWest Bank: Account Name: RCAS Norwood West, Sort Code: 60-23-19; Account Number: 44115369. Thank You!