

Our Lady of Loreto & St Winefride

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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This Newsletter Cover 2 Weeks

16 & 23 January 2022 Second & Third Sundays in Ordinary Time (C)

Masses & Intentions

Sat 15 6pm	The Blessed Virgin Mary People of the Parish – Care for the Earth
Sun 16	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Day of Prayer for Peace
9.30am	Patrick Bradley RIP
11am	Chance Family - Thanksgiving
Mon 17	St Anthony, Abbot No Exposition or Mass Today
Tues 18	Feria – Unity Octave begins
9.30am	Mina Gordon-Smith RIP (1 st anniv.)
Wed 19	St Wulstan, Bishop No Mass Today (Unity Octave Day 2)
Thurs 20	St Fabian, Pope & Martyr
9.30am	Fr Richard Harriott RIP (Unity Octave Day 3)
Fri 21	St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
9.30am	Ints of Theodora No Exposition Today (Unity Octave Day 4)
Sat 22	St Vincent, Deacon & Martyr
6pm	Pat Jayawardena RIP (Unity Octave Day 5)
Sun 23	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday of the Word of God
9.30am	People of the Parish
11am	Catherine Reidy RIP (Unity Octave Day 6)
Mon 24	St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
8.30am	Exposition & Adoration
9.30am	All Staff at Springfield Hospital (Unity Octave Day 7)
Tues 25	Conversion of St Paul, Feast
9.30am	Roger Wenham RIP (1 st anniversary) (Unity Octave Day 8)

Wed 26	Sts Timothy & Titus, Bishops No Mass Today
Thurs 27	St Angela Merici, Ursuline Order Foundress
9.30am	Joe Browne RIP / Int. of Ursuline Sisters
Fri 28	St Thomas Aquinas, Doctor of the Church
9.30am	Int. of Gerald Donaghy
11am	Exposition & Adoration
Sat 29	The Blessed Virgin Mary
6pm	Tom Gregan RIP
Sun 30	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.30am	People of the Parish
11am	Pat Reed RIP

Readings: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

Resp. Psalm 95: *Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.*

2nd reading: 1 Cor 12:4-11

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 2:1-11

Readings: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

Resp. Psalm 18: *Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.*

2nd reading: 1 Cor 12:12-30

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Spiritual Communion Prayer *My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.*

Our prayers are requested for Mary Birch, Tony Harlow, Fiona Hopwood, Angelo & Maria Lopez, John Napier, Joan Rundle, Raie Smith and Mrs Tran.

Livestream Masses Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri at 9.30am and 11am Sundays via YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvvsj3giEOJemLQxHvMT6g> or go to YouTube and then search Our Lady of Loreto & St Winefride.

We Welcome Fr Peter Burns OSB, from Ealing Abbey, to St Winefride's. Fr Peter will celebrate Mass on Tuesday 18 January, Thursday 20 January and Friday 21 January. The church will open at 9am on these days. There is no Mass on Monday 17 January and Wednesday 19 January, nor is there Exposition on Monday 17 January and Friday 21 January. fr Brian is away 17-21 January. You may remember that my uncle, Patrick Bradley, died on

16 January 2021 from Covid related causes. I will be with the family for a memorial Mass on 17 January and then have a few days holiday.

Peace Sunday is celebrated today Sunday 16 January. There will be a second collection for PAX CHRISTI. There are donation envelopes for Pax Christi in the narthex. The Bishops of England and Wales invite us to make Sunday 16 January a day of prayer for peace and reflect on the theme Pope Francis has chosen for the annual World Day of Peace: *Education, Work and Dialogue between Generations: Tools for building lasting peace.* The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith – where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, Pax Christi works with all who share its values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice.

The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins this week 18-25 January. We had hoped to have an ecumenical service during January but this is not possible given the current situation with Covid. We hope to celebrate together once a new Rector of St Anne's is appointed. In the meantime, we continue to pray for Unity, especially during the Octave. The Journeying Together prayer we pray at the end of Mass each day speaks of 'finding our unity in You ...', so it is a very apt prayer for the Octave, too.

The Cycle of Prayer for OT before Lent: [1] Peace on Earth (esp 2nd Sunday in OT); [2] Openness to the Word of God (esp 3rd Sunday in OT); [3] Justice & Peace in the world (esp on Racial Justice Sunday 13 February); [4] Christian Unity (esp during the Octave 18-25 January); [5] Victims of Trafficking and those who work to combat it (esp on Day for Victims of Trafficking 8 February); [6] the Sick and those who care for them (esp on World Day of the Sick 11 February); [7] the Unemployed (esp on the Day for the Unemployed 27 February).

Bishop Emeritus Howard Tripp celebrates the 42nd anniversary of his episcopal ordination on 30 January 2022. Bishop Howard was our Area Bishop for many years and is now lives at St Peter's Residence, 2a Meadow Road, London SW8 1QH. St Peter's is a care/residential home under the care of the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of: Patricia Jayawardena who died on 15 December. One of the priests from St Elizabeth's, Richmond, will officiate at Pat's funeral service on 20 January at 12noon at Mortlake Crematorium. All are welcome. Please also pray for **Tom Gregan**, brother-in-law of Anne Gregan, who died on 1 January. Tom's Funeral Mass is at St Winefride's on 4 February at 9.30am with the committal at Mortlake Crematorium at 10.40am. The Funeral Mass for **Harry Sweeney**

(father of Karen Alford) is in Scotland on 27 January. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession Saturdays at 5.15pm and usually after weekday Mass. It is also possible to arrange another time – have a word with fr Brian.

Volunteers Needed! I mentioned in the Sunday homily last week that in Baptism we are all brought into the life of God, made sharers in the divine life, and become members of the Body of Christ, the Church. As such, we all share in the life and mission of the Church. I would dearly love personally to invite you to share in the life of our parish community, the Church in Kew. This is a personal invitation, even if I cannot speak to you one-to-one at the moment. You will see on the red notice board in the narthex some sign-up sheets for (1) **Welcomers** (2) **Junior Church** (3) **Youth Work** (4) **First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion** and (5) **Confirmation**. I am asking you, on behalf of your parish, to consider helping in one of these areas of parish life. You have been given gifts by God and those gifts, already in evidence in your life, can also be shared in the life of the parish. Yes, we sometimes think: I can't do that; I don't know anything about that. As in so many areas in life, we know more than we realise and we discover this (and learn more) as we actually do it. Also, we learn from each other and grow in our life of faith as we work together and share in the mission of the Church to make Christ known, to spread the Good News. Please do sign up for one of these areas of parish life (ministries) and discover what a difference you can make to the lives of others and to your life.

A New Calendar Year is now in its third week. We are still living with the uncertainty of these days. However, that uncertainty and the importance of following sensible and safe protocols is placed in the context of the **Certainty of Our Faith: The Word Made Flesh**. God who loves us and the Son of God who is in our midst. Can I offer a word of encouragement in this regard? The sacrifice and goodness of so many people over these two years is truly a light shining in our world. For us, it is part of the greater Light who is Christ. The Magi – the Epiphany on 6 January - were guided by the Star and the Scriptures. They came to Bethlehem (meaning literally 'House of Bread') to meet the Christ child. How are we guided? Yes, in the same way: by the Scriptures and the Bread of Life. Where? In the Mass, the Eucharist. Let us encourage each other to come together to celebrate the Mass, especially the weekend Sunday Mass. Our lives are immeasurably enriched when we open them to Christ in the Eucharist. We all yearn for 'normality'. Normality for the Christian in centred in the Mass. Perhaps it's no bad thing to

remind ourselves of what our Bishops wrote before Christmas:

Honouring Sunday and the Sunday 'Obligation': our Bishops write: *The Sunday Eucharist is a gift; as God's holy people we are called to praise and thank God in the most sublime way possible. When the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ's love. The Sunday 'obligation' is still in abeyance as the virus continues to be prevalent. The Bishops have recently asked all Catholics 'to reflect on the centrality of the Eucharist to their own life of faith and take into consideration their personal circumstances and the reasons as to whether they can now attend [Mass] or otherwise. Should a person feel that grave cause honestly persists in their personal circumstances, there is no sin associated with their non-attendance at Mass, and they are encouraged to devote themselves to prayer at home. This may be achieved either through personal prayer or by participating with a live-streamed celebration of Mass from a Church'.*

WE MISS YOU is an initiative of our diocese to welcome back to Mass those who have not been in church for a while. The greatest evangelisation comes about through ENCOUNTER – look at the way Jesus meets people and transforms their lives. Jesus speaks and acts through us in so many ways. Consider inviting someone to Mass this new year. There is a very helpful booklet '**The Ultimate Relationship**'. Your reaching out will change someone's life. A word of encouragement can sow a seed ...

Altar Servers All who have received their First Holy Communion are invited to join our altar serving team. It does require a commitment but it is a great privilege to serve. It would be wonderful to have servers at all our weekend Masses.

HANDS – FACE – SPACE It is very important that we continue with the COVID-19 protocols in our church building: signing in / using the Covid-19 app and QR code, hand sanitising on entry and exit, wearing a face mask (unless exempt) and social distancing and ventilation of the building with doors remaining open during Mass. The virus is very prevalent, people are still getting ill, still isolating. If you are not feeling well, it is advisable to stay at home.

Please continue to wear face masks during singing to avoid transmission of any possible aerosol particles. This is not as we would wish it to be but we are still living with the virus and we need to be careful.

Junior Church / Children's Liturgy Typically for children in reception to the start of year 3, during term time at the 9.30am Sunday Mass. Information leaflets are available in the narthex. It is very important to complete a registration form for your child(ren) so that we can plan age appropriate sessions. Please put the registration form through the letter box of no 1 Leyborne Park. We also need more volunteers for Junior Church – to help out once or twice per term. We had hoped to resume Junior Church on 16 January but the current uncertain situation with the omicron variant makes this inadvisable. We now hope to resume after half-term.

First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Registration 2022 is now well underway. Registration Ends on Sunday 30 January 2022. Parents of children in year 3 and above (who have not yet made their First Holy Communion) who live in the parish and/or regularly attend Mass here are invited to email kewgardens@rcaos.org.uk with the following information: your child's full name and date of birth, your address, the school they attend and a home contact telephone number. If your child was not baptised at St Winefride's, we will need a copy of their baptism certificate by the end of January. Registration is by email only. Many thanks and we all look forward to our young parishioners growing in their faith. The programme of formation starts on Saturday 5 February 2022 in the church / hall 4-5pm. Full details will be sent once registration is completed.

Parents of First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Children 2022 We will have an introductory meeting for parents via Zoom on Wednesday 2 February at 7pm, to introduce ourselves, look at the programme and answer any questions. Zoom details will be sent in advance of the meeting.

Journeying Together The three gatherings before Christmas have brought forth a great deal of positive feedback which now needs to be collated for the diocese, and, importantly, for us. This will probably take much of January and early February. As mentioned earlier, we hope the groups will meet again and there will be a parish gathering to start the process of discerning priorities for the future. The prayer we pray at the end of Mass focusses our attention on what is truly important: our unity in Christ. *Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.*

An Invitation to: Building a Better Marriage from the Marriage & Family Life Team in the Diocese: Saturday 5 February online 9am-1pm. Booking essential: contact Mrs Carole Batty 07983 524 727 / mfl@rcaos.org.uk. Poster in the narthex.

Getting Married in 2022? It is very important to give plenty of notice – the Catholic Church asks for at least six months' notice. Documents need to be sought, paperwork completed and, very importantly, spiritual and prayerful preparation for the sacrament is crucial. Please do not delay in contacting fr Brian if you plan to marry either at St Winefride's or elsewhere.

About Liturgy: Eucharist's Epiphanies Year C in the Lectionary cycle is the only one in which the three traditional themes of epiphany occur on three consecutive Sundays: epiphany to the Magi, Jesus' Baptism, and the sign at the wedding feast at Cana. Each time we celebrate the Mass God manifests Himself to us in a number of ways: (1) *Introductory Rite*: we are given the chance to be aware that God is calling us into the divine Presence and asks us to be aware of our sins which block the full experience of God and neighbour in our lives; (2) *Liturgy of the Word*: God is truly present and speaks to us, often in terms of promise and fulfilment, at times exhorting us to right living, reminding us of God's unconditional love, at times challenging us to change our ways. In the epiphany of the Word we are invited to respond with a renewed commitment to follow Jesus as disciples; (3) *Liturgy of the Eucharist*: in the bread and wine over which the words of consecration are prayed, Christ is truly present and we are given his very Body and Blood for our food and drink. This epiphany reveals God's tremendous love for us and God's desire to come close to us and for us to come close to God. Our dignity is revealed – we are and are becoming the very Body of Christ; (4) *Concluding Rite*: we are sent out to be the epiphany of God's presence in our everyday living. The Mass, and in a very particular way the Sunday Mass on the Day of the Lord, is a truly wonderful epiphany of God. As we are transformed through our participation and sharing in the Eucharist, we are reminded to be the Presence of Christ in our world. What does God do for us? – He sends His Son to be our Saviour and then God trusts us to be the epiphany /manifestation of God's Presence.

Crib Offerings during the Christmas period go to **Friends of the Holy Land** (FHL) and the **Catholic Children's Society** (CCS). The FHL help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel. The CCS has been doing hugely important work during the pandemic supporting thousands of vulnerable children and families. Their Southwark Crisis Fund provides immediate help for local families who are facing real hardship and have nowhere else to turn. The crib will remain in place until 2 February, Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas.

Holocaust Memorial Day, Sunday 30 January 2022

Please see the notice in the narthex which has the invitation from Richmond Synagogue and Richmond Council to share in this important event.

Weekly Collection Baskets are now located on the inner side of the central swing doors in the main body of the church. This is for added security as there has been some difficulty with the baskets in the narthex. There continues to be a basket at the side door.

Southwark Catholic Directories 2022 are available in the narthex @ £4. Please place the money in the wall box.

Going into Hospital – Important Information It is no longer the case that hospitals will ask you your religion and would you like a visit from a priest. You must make known to the hospital that you wish to receive a visit from the priest / deacon / extraordinary minister assigned to the hospital. Families of patients also need to be aware of this where the family member is unable to request the presence of a priest. All hospitals have a dedicated full-time priest chaplain or a rota of priests who visit on a regular basis.

Food for Thought from the Longer Rules of St Basil the Great (d379) – ***We possess an inborn power of loving: Having received a commandment – to love God – we possess the power to love implanted in us at the moment we were constituted. The proof of this is not external, but anyone can learn it from themselves and within themselves. For by nature we desire beautiful things though we differ as to what is supremely beautiful; and without being taught we have affection towards those near and dear to us ... Now what is more marvellous than the divine beauty? What has more charm than the magnificence of God? What yearning of the soul is so keen and intolerable as that which comes from God upon the soul which is cleansed from all evil and cries with true affection: 'I am wounded with love'? Ineffable wholly and inexplicable are the flashes of the divine beauty.***

A Prayer for PEACE *Do not use harmful words in talking. Use only helpful words, the kind which build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you. And do not make God's Holy Spirit sad; for the Spirit is God's mark of ownership on you, a guarantee that the Day will come when God will set you free. No more shouting or insults. No more hateful feelings of any sort. Instead, be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you in Christ. (Ephesians 4: 29-32)*

All good wishes and prayers for the coming week. fr Brian.