

This week at St Lawrence's



25th/26th January 2014

Third Sunday of the Year
(Missal Page 127 – YEAR A)



Isaiah 8: 23, 9:3; Psalm 26; 1 Corinthians 1:10-11, 17; Matthew 4:12-23
The Presentation of the Lord (Missal Page 297): Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 23; Hebrews 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-40

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When we look at another person, and love that person, we see and love only the goodness and virtue, which that person has **now**, in the present. This is not how God loves. God loves in a very different way. When God looks at you or me, when he loves you or me, he loves all the **potential** in us. He loves us for the person that we **can** become. God loves all the goodness, virtue and holiness that can be born in us, but which, for whatever reason is still in the future, and is not yet present. God loves the **potential** in us for real change, and for true conversion. He loves us for the future relationship that we **can** have with him.

The experience of this kind of love – **unconditional love** – enables me to change and grow and mature; for without this kind of love, I stay as I am. I stay trapped and fixed in my immaturity, my hang-ups, my anxieties and fears. I cannot move on, because my potential for change is not activated. Only this kind of love can activate all the potential in me. And God invites me to love others with exactly the same kind of love. God invites me to love others as he loves me, in their potentiality. This kind of love is called “CARITAS” or “AGAPE”. God wants to give me the capacity to love others like this – especially those close to me, you for instance who are my family.

God calls us once again to **Conversion**. One of its meaning is that when we look into the eyes of another person, and love in that person all the good that is yet to come to birth, then we are loving just as God loves. This is how Christ loved prostitutes, adulterers, thieves, murderers and sinners. This is how He loved Peter, liar and betrayer and all the apostles. This is how He loved Mary Magdalene, Levi, Zaccheus, and Judas too. God calls us to love in the others everything that is negative, broken, wounded, disordered, ugly, everything that, humanly speaking, makes another person unlovable, unacceptable and unforgivable. Yes, we have to love others even in their sin, their lies, their impurity, their laziness, their violence, their anger and their pride. Because this is how God has loved, and continues to love you and me – in our sin. God patiently and hopefully loves all the potential in us for change. Only this kind of love creates the *environment* and the *energy* that makes transformation, growth and change, really possible in our lives. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. It is called “RESURRECTION”! When the Scriptures in today's Mass remind us how much God has loved us – it is this kind of love, this *Caritas*, this *Agape*, that God offers us; and it is this kind of love, which is our deepest need.

May God bless you all.

Fr Fortunato

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Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipers

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

Catechetical Co-ordinator: Bridget Brinkley

Assistant Priest: Fr Fortunato Pantisano

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes

SACRAMENTS

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our warmest congratulations to Jacek Elwertowski and Malgorzata Frankowska who celebrate the sacrament of marriage this weekend.

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

We extend a warm welcome to Phil Xyler Escorido, David Oghenevngbea Etito and Adam Ashan Pinnalawatta who will be baptised this weekend and offer our warmest congratulations to their families.

CONFIRMATION

The second Confirmation group will meet on **Thursday 30th January at 7.00pm** in the School Hall.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

If you are an adult who for whatever reason has not received the sacrament of Confirmation please contact Bridget regarding our Lenten preparation programme.

RCIA

Please continue to pray for our adults who are exploring the Catholic faith in our Monday evening group.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The next preparation session for Children will be on **Saturday 1st February** in St Lawrence's School at 9.45am and the Parents Session will be on **Tuesday 4th February** at 2.00pm or 7.00pm.

PARISH NOTICES

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Social Committee will meet on **Tuesday 28th January** at 7pm in the presbytery. New members welcome.

POLISH COMMUNITY NATIVITY PLAY

On **Wednesday 29th January** the Polish Community will stage a Nativity Play in the church starting at 7.30pm followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

BARN DANCE

The Social Committee will be hosting a Barn Dance in the School Hall on **Saturday 1st March** at 7pm. Tickets on sale in the repository.

MASS OF HEALING FOR THE SICK

Our Annual Mass of Healing for the Sick will take place on **Saturday 15th February** at 12.00noon. If you require a lift or know of someone who would benefit from attending who would like a lift please put your name on the list in the porch. There is also a list for volunteers to help with transport and catering, if you are able to help please put your name on the appropriate lists.

SCRAP BOOK

In the Font area, there is on display a Scrap Book, beautifully created, capturing moments of our Parish Mission in 2012. Do take a moment to have a look. Thanks to Patti Owen and Kirsty.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your generosity the money collected for the Catholic Children's Society (Crib Appeal) was £652.62 and last week's collection for Pax Christi £229.24.

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Michael Rivers RIP and Kevin Patrick Meade RIP** and keep their families in your prayers.

The funeral of **Kevin Patrick Meade RIP** will take place at Hanworth Crematorium on **Thursday 30th January at 11am**.

The funeral of **Michael Rivers RIP** will take place at Hanworth Crematorium on **Wednesday 5th February at 12noon**.

NURSERY ADMISSIONS 2014 - FORM SIGNING

Fr Chris will be available Nursery Form signing at the following times for St Lawrence's School:

Tuesdays 3.30-4.30pm: February 4th, 11th; March 4th, 11th; April 1st, 22nd

Please come with your child and wait in Church.

OTHER

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR ARCHBISHOP VINCENT NICHOLS

Following the announcement that Archbishop Vincent Nichols will be made a Cardinal, it has been suggested that the parishes in the Diocese of Westminster may make a gift to him as a sign of our congratulation and affection. There will be a retiring collection after all Masses next weekend for "A Gift for Cardinal Vincent for the Church in the Holy Land" (the gift will be offered in his name to the suffering Church in the Holy Land through the charity he helped found, the **Friends of the Holy Land**).

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

This year's Mass will take place at **2pm on Saturday 8th February**. Archbishop Vincent Nichols will preside, and as in previous years, the Mass will include the Sacrament of the Sick. All are welcome, no seat reservations or tickets. If you are bringing a wheelchair please let your parish office know by **27th January** so that a space can be reserved for wheelchair and carer.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

The Archbishop (newly created Cardinal) will be inviting to this Mass on **Saturday 7th June at 3pm** at Westminster Cathedral all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their **10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2014. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) as soon as possible.

PILGRIMAGES 2014

PARISH PILGRIMAGE - MALTA

All those booked to go to Malta, please note your final payment is due to Tangney Tours by **Monday 3rd March**. There will be no reminder sent by Tangney so please make a note of this date.

LOURDES 2014

Fr Chris will be leading a pilgrimage to France by coach for the parishes of Feltham, Heston and Cranford from **19th July to 27th July**. The price is £699 per person based on two people sharing and includes overnight stays in Paray Le Monial, Poitiers and Lisieux including half board accommodation and visits to local Shrines/Cathedrals. 5 Nights stay in Lourdes on a full board basis, joining the Westminster Lourdes Pilgrimage. *Supplementary charges: Single supplement £230.00 per person, Travel Insurance: £34.00 per person.* Booking forms available from the Parish Office. Completed booking forms with deposit should be returned as soon as possible to the Parish Office. Early booking essential.

There will be a meeting to go through the itinerary on **Sunday 16th February** in the Parish Centre after the 6pm Mass.

ECUMENICAL PILGRIMAGE TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELLA AND FATIMA

Last call for wanting to book – the deadline for return of booking forms is this weekend

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CAR PARK

From **2nd February** onwards the barrier in the school car park will be lowered down once the car park spaces have been filled, before the Sunday 9am and 11am Masses. The barrier will be raised again before the end of each Mass. There will be volunteers patrolling the car park. Pedestrians will still have access to the Church from the car park. Once again we would strongly recommend that alternative car parking is sought – the easiest place, especially for the 9am and 11am Masses would be the Feltham Leisure West car park.

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 25th THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL THE APOSTLE	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	11.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	Bill McLaughlin RIP
	12.45	Baptisms of Adam Ashan Pinnalawatta, David Oghenevnegba Etito and Phil Xyler Escorido
	15.00	Wedding of Jacek Elwertowski and Malgorzata Frankowska
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
+ First Mass of Sunday	18.00	Deceased members of the Kenny Family RIP
+ Sunday 26th 3rd Sunday of the Year	09.00	Bernadette Cimpoiias RIP
	11.00	Christopher & Lourdes Dias in Thanksgiving 25th Wedding Anniversary
	13.00	Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)
	18.00	People of the Parish
Monday 27th Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Sr Mellitus Lawlor RIP (Anniversary)
Tuesday 28th St Thomas Aquinas	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Helen Abiegbe Kosin (Birthday Thanksgiving)
	10.00	Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 29th Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Holy Souls in Purgatory – Rodrigues Family
Thursday 30th Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Private Intention - Domenica
Friday 31st St John Bosco	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Valerie Thomas (Intention)
Saturday 1st Feria	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	11.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	Eric Brumwell RIP
	12.45	Baptism of Chloe Anna Jeanne Blackford de Azevedo
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
+ First Mass of Sunday	18.00	Deceased members of the Gill Family RIP
+ Sunday 2nd THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	09.00	Cirilo Rodrigues in Thanksgiving
	11.00	Odette Yongue in Thanksgiving
	13.00	Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)
	18.00	People of the Parish

Sanctuary Lamp: Rodrigues 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:

18th-19th Jan: Envelopes £1051.32, Loose £635.64, Standing Orders £420.00 Total: £2106.96

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699