

This week at St Lawrence's



9th/10th November 2013

Thirty Second Sunday of the Year
(Missal Page 160 – YEAR C)

2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14; Psalm 16; 2 Thessalonians 2:16, 3:5; Luke 20:27-38
Thirty Third Sunday of the Year (Missal Page 164): Malachi 3:19-20; Psalm 97;
2 Thessalonians 3:7-12; Luke 21:5-19



Dear Friends,

Pablo Picasso is amongst the greatest painters. He came from Andalucía, born in 1881 in the Spanish holiday resort of Malaga. When he was a small child, a huge fire broke out in the city. It was a night of chaos, commotion and very real danger. Years later, Picasso recalled that night and described how he was carried in a baby-sling on his father's chest, absolutely safe, cozy and fearless. He observed all the turmoil around him from a very protected and "safe place". While others feared for their lives, he did not. This childhood experience affected his work as an artist. Art critics point out that Picasso painted from precisely that perspective: a *safe place* from which he could observe all the disorder and chaos in the world, yet feel absolutely protected.

All of us need this kind of experience, an experience of deep security; an experience of feeling very protected, and having a "safe place". Without it, the chaos and suffering that we see all around us, or that we experience deep within us, can be overwhelming and destructive. Some events are so chaotic, so shocking, and so dreadful, that we may find it impossible to face them and cope. We escape or we enter into denial. The appalling scenes of death and destruction from tsunamis, earthquakes, hurricanes, road accidents, air crashes ... the suicide bombers in the Middle East ... domestic violence, child abuse and brutal murder. **How can we face such things? How can anyone ever make sense of them?** And there are other events too; events of personal suffering, bereavement, broken families, divorce, betrayal, drug and alcohol abuse and addictions. These too can be overwhelming, unless we have a real experience of security, of being loved, of being held, of having a "safe place". Not a place where we can regress or a place of infantile hiding, but a place of intimacy, acceptance and affirmation where we can grow in love. Above all, we need the experience of being held close to the heart of God, a transforming experience of being held in the embrace of absolute LOVE.

This weekend is Remembrance Sunday in which we remember all those who lost their lives in the two World Wars and in more recent times. We pray that they may soon reach that *safe place* in the embrace of God. This is the grace of our Baptism; the grace of knowing that God's favour, God's love, rests on us because we are his beloved sons and daughters. Only then we can face situations of great suffering and loss. This Sunday the Church comes to bear witness to us that God is the Lord of the living and the dead, and He reveals himself precisely at the moment of our greatest vulnerability and need, offering us too a *safe place*, which is his grace, his mercy and his love.

Are you willing to receive it?

Fr. Fortunato

NOVEMBER – THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

NOVEMBER LISTS

Available at the back of Church, please fill in and place in the Book of Remembrance at the foot of the altar.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

This Sunday the 11am Mass will be a requiem for the War Dead. Then at 3pm we will meet with other local churches at the Cenotaph for a short service. We will be hosting the refreshments following the service, 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 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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The next meeting for Parents is on **Tuesday 12th November** at either 2pm or 7pm in the Parish Centre.

CONFIRMATION

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 14th November** at 7pm in the School Hall.

PARISH NOTICES

9AM CHOIR

Calling all instrumentalists and singers. We would love to welcome some new members to the 9am Music Group. All you need to do is come up to the Choir loft after 9am Mass on any Sunday, or ring Theresa on 020 8751 5063 for more information.

JANET WALKER RIP

Fr Chris and the parish family have looked after the arrangements for Janet's funeral last Thursday, including the Funeral Director's fees and her burial at Hatton Cemetery. If anyone would like to contribute towards this please drop your envelope in at the Parish Office and mark it 'Funeral Fund'.

ZIMBABWEAN COFFEE AND CAKE SALE

On **Sunday 17th November** after the 9am and 11am Mass there will be a Coffee and Cake sale in aid of Zimbabwean Orphans. Donations of cakes would be helpful. Please speak to Helen Hurley for more information or offers of help.

QUIZ NITE

The Social Committee are organising a Quiz Nite in the Parish Centre on **Saturday 23rd November** at 7pm. Tickets on sale in the Repository.

RAFA BAND CONCERT

The RAFA (Royal Air Force Association) are performing a Family Christmas concert here in St Lawrence's Church on **Friday 6th December** at 7.30pm. Tickets available from the Repository or Parish Office. Adults £10.00, children free (accompanied by an adult) but will require a ticket. This promises to be an evening to remember, so early booking advised!!

PARISH PILGRIMAGE - 2014

Our 2014 parish pilgrimage will be to Malta. We will leave on **Monday 28th April 2014 and return on Saturday 3rd May 2014**. The cost of the pilgrimage will be £667 and will be for 5 nights on a half board basis. If you are interested in going on this pilgrimage can you please put your name on the sheet at the back of the Church. There is also a copy of our proposed itinerary. There will be a meeting in the Parish Centre to give you further details on **Saturday 23rd November at 10:30 am**. If you have any queries please speak to Fr Chris or Florie in the Parish Office.

RECEPTION SIGNING

THURSDAYS: November, 21st December 5th, 12th - **3.30pm to 4.30pm**

Please come with your child and wait in the Church.

OTHER

SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS NEED YOUR HELP

There will be a collection for the Sick and Retired Priests' Fund today. The Fund depends on donations and all the money that you give will be used to ensure that our priests receive the care and support that they need in their old age or if they are struggling with ill health. Please give what you can afford and, if you pay tax, don't forget that you can add 25p to every £1 that you give (at no extra cost to you) by completing the Gift Aid declaration on the back of the donation envelope. (You can also make a donation online www.rcdow.org.uk/donations).

GUMLEY HOUSE CONVENT SCHOOL FCJ, ISLEWORTH

Warmly invite girls and boys, currently in yr11 and their parents to attend our **SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING** on **Thursday 14th November 2013 from 6.30pm – 8.15pm**. There will be a presentation by the 6th form team, in our main assembly hall, at 7.45pm. Please join us to discuss your 'A' level choices, take a tour of the school and meet our Headteacher and Director of 6th form. All are welcome. Please visit our website www.gumley.hounslow.sch.uk for further details and directions to the school.

PRISONERS SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 17TH

A national day of Prayer, Action, and Giving, in aid of Pact, the Catholic charity which offers people affected by imprisonment a fresh start. Please remember people affected by crime and imprisonment in your prayers. Find out about volunteering at www.justvolunteer.org.uk. For further information, please contact Monica Deane at Pact on 0207 735 9535 or monica.deane@prisonadvice.org.uk. There will be a second collection the weekend of 16th/17th November in aid of Pact's vital work.

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 21 November** at 7:30 at SS Michael and Martin's, Hounslow.

THE STAINES PASSION

You may have heard about the exciting opportunity to stage an open-air passion play in Staines next Easter. It is especially exciting to be able to do this in an interdenominational cooperation that publicly and powerfully declares the unity of Christ's Church. It's a huge challenge involving more than 50 performers and a team of supporters. You are invited to a lunch and presentation at Staines Methodist Church on **Thursday 14th November** from 12.30pm-2.00pm. To help arrange catering please let Rachel Watkins know if you are attending, by email rachel.watkins1@btinternet.com or calling her at Ashford Methodist Church on 01784 249277. Please see the notice board for more details.

CAFOD NATIVITY RUN – SAT, 14 DECEMBER

Join us for a fun 5k run/walk on Clapham Common to help support CAFOD's work. New for this year are a 10k route for those wanting a longer challenge and a 400m Toddle for kids under 12. Registration £10/teens £5/ 12 and under free! To register, visit cafod.org.uk/nativityrun or phone 0208 449 6970.

WHAT'S COMING UP IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

November

Saturday 23rd – "Good Neighbour Day" part of Interfaith Week – Church & Parish Centre, 2-4pm

Sunday 24th – Year of Faith ends

Sunday 24th – School Christmas Fayre

Saturday 30th – Advent Day of Prayer, 10.30am-2.30pm

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 9th THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA	11.00 11.00 11.45 12.00 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Benediction Camillo Barreto RIP Sacrament of Reconciliation For the Intentions of New Parishioners
+ Sunday 10th 32nd Sunday of the Year	09.00 11.00 13.00 15.00 18.00	Annette Lynch RIP (First Anniversary) The War Dead RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Service at Feltham War Memorial People of the Parish
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY		
Monday 11th St Martin of Tours	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Helen Hurley in Thanksgiving
Tuesday 12th St Josephat	09.15 09.30 10.00	Morning Prayer Holy Souls in Purgatory (Do Rosario Family) Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 13th Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Preston Family in Thanksgiving
Thursday 14th Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Bridget & Martin Moore RIP (Anniversary)
Friday 15th Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Joshua Edward Pereira RIP
Saturday 16th St Edmund of Abingdon	11.00 11.00 11.45 12.00 12.45 17.00 18.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation Benediction Beryl Barry RIP Baptisms of Joey Nicholas Mendes Allen, Joshua Narayan, Annabella Pina, Lena Bulczynska and Annora Fernandes Calisto Sacrament of Reconciliation Nigel Owen RIP
+ Sunday 17th 33rd Sunday of the Year	09.00 11.00 13.00 18.00	People of the Parish Esther Kusi-Appiah RIP Mass in Polish (Msza sw.) Mass for the Bereaved

Sanctuary Lamp: Gabriel Danladi RIP

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:

2nd/3rd Nov: Envelopes £983.95, Loose £823.69, Standing Orders £420.00 Total: £2227.64

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699

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