

This week at St Lawrence's



4th/5th June 2011

Ascension of the Lord

Missal page old 142/new 150

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 46; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

Dear Friends,

This Sunday, Ascension Day, is also World Communications Day. Inspired by Jesus' parting words, "Go out to the whole world, proclaim the good news", the Church does just that, proclaiming through the media, the arts, social and charitable action, and good Christian lives well-lived, the saving truth of Jesus Christ. Evangelisation and outreach is, or should be, the hallmark of everything we do. It is more than fitting on this day to say something very personal and on behalf of us all. For over five years Joanna James has served St Lawrence's as our Parish Administrator, at the heart of our parish communication, keeping our community life ticking over in a hundred and one different ways, welcoming us at the parish office, being a listening ear and a good friend, going the extra mile, and generously sharing her own unique gifts. This week she moves to pastures new, working for one of our essential parish charities, LIFE. She does so with our heartfelt thanks, love and prayers. Thank you, Joanna, for all that you are and all that you do.

Fr Chris

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday 6 pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9 am, 11 am & 6 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 11am & 5 pm

Contact us:

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THE SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

We extend a very warm welcome to baby Sofia Isabella D'Souza Alvarez as she is baptised this weekend and offer our congratulations to her family.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Our First Holy Communion children and their families return for their Thanksgiving Mass on Saturday 11th June at 12 noon.

Due to the preparations for the Thanksgiving Mass, there will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or morning Confessions next Saturday. Confessions will take place as usual at 5 pm.

CONFIRMATION

Parents of this year's Confirmation candidates are reminded that they have a meeting on Sunday 5th June in St Lawrence's School after the 6 pm Mass.

The candidates celebrate their Rite of Election next Sunday 12th June, Pentecost Sunday, at the 6 pm Mass.

Please pray for these young people as they make this next important step in their faith journey.

LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME ...

CHILDREN'S MASS

We are delighted to announce that the first in a series of "Children's Masses" will be celebrated at St Lawrence's on Sunday 19th June, the Feast of the Holy Trinity, at 9 am.

Even if you do not normally attend the 9 am Mass, you are encouraged to bring your children to this special Mass and to sit as close as possible to the front so that the children can see what's going on.

All children are asked to draw a picture of the Holy Trinity to bring up to the altar as part of the Offertory procession.

Children aged 7 or over who would like to read at the Mass are invited to come along to a practice next Sunday 12th June straight after the 9 am Mass.

Other Children's Masses have been scheduled for 18th September and 16th October – look out for more details nearer the time.

CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE!

WORLD YOUTH DAY

Fr Chris needs to finalise arrangements for WYD in Madrid, 14th - 22nd August. If any other young people (16+)/young adults are interested in going, please could they contact him straight away.

YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT DAY

Join Bishop Alan and young adults from the diocese on a Retreat Day to Worth Abbey on Saturday 23rd July. Spend a day in prayer, reflection and adoration with like-minded young adults, hear talks by Bishop Alan and Fr Richard Nesbitt, "Grill the Bishop", enjoy a "Bring & Share" picnic, with the retreat culminating with Mass celebrated by the Bishop. Departure will be from Westminster Cathedral by coach, returning at 6pm. Cost of the day: £15. For more information, contact daveburke@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH GROUPS

UCM

The UCM will meet for Mass in the parish centre at 7.30 pm. The usual meeting will follow with refreshments. Members are asked to make every effort to attend.

PARISH NOTICES

HYMN BOOK AMNESTY

You may have noticed that we are currently desperately short of hymn books. Perhaps you could have a look at home to see if you have accidentally walked off with one? Please bring it back next time you come to church – no questions will be asked! St Augustine said that "He who sings, prays twice!" but it's difficult to do that if you don't know the words!

CHARITY FUNDRAISING

CHARITY BBQ

A Charity BBQ in aid of Sarcoma UK & the Royal Marsden will take place in St Lawrence's School grounds on Saturday 18th June, from 3.30 pm to 9.30 pm. Tickets cost £7 for adults and £3 for children (11 & under - under 3s free) and are available after Mass this weekend.

LOURDES FUNDRAISER

The Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes Summer Ball is taking place this year on Saturday 25th June at Shepperton Studios. The cost is £65 per head and includes a three-course dinner and dancing to a live band. Fr Chris is going and wonders if anyone would like to join him in making up a table. Please let him know.

CAFOD FOREIGN CURRENCY COLLECTION

Now that the holiday season is upon us, you might like to know that you can donate any spare foreign money to CAFOD. Pop the coins or notes in an envelope and post them into the parish office!

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 4th Easter Feria +First Mass of Sunday	11.00 11.00 11.45 12.00 14.00 17.00 17.15 18.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Benediction Deceased Members of Galligan Family Wedding of Edeni Zota & Gareth Brown Sacrament of Reconciliation Rosary Sister Mary INT
+ Sunday 5th Ascension of the Lord	09.00 11.00 15.00 18.00	Kathleen Williams RIP (A) Mick, Amanda, Dan & Pauline McCarthy & their Families INT Baptism of Sophia D'Souza Alvarez People of the Parish
Monday 6th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Albert Fowles RIP (A)
Tuesday 7th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30 10.00	Morning Prayer Isidro Vieira RIP Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 8th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Philomena Booker RIP
Thursday 9th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Angeline & Canute Wijeyakumar (in thanksgiving)
Friday 10th Easter Feria	09.15 09.30	Morning Prayer Isabel Figueiredo RIP
Saturday 11th St Barnabas +First Mass of Sunday	12.00 17.00 17.15 18.00	First Communion Thanksgiving Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation Rosary Deceased Members of the O'Hanlon Family
+ Sunday 12th Pentecost Sunday	09.00 11.00 12.45 18.00	Mathew Rodrigues RIP (A) Thomas Adebola Badejo RIP (A) Baptisms of Scarlett Faye Pennington, Amber-Rose Pennington & Dylan Vuurboom People of the Parish (Confirmation Rite of Election)
Sanctuary Lamp: Kathleen Byrne RIP		
Thank you for your generosity in last week's Offertory Collection: Envelopes £1112.32, Loose £516.86, Standing Orders £265 Total: £1894.18		