



# Holy Innocents' Catholic Church Newsletter

Welcome to Holy Innocents', especially if you are a visitor or with us for the first time. Father Victor and our deacons are keen to meet you, so do please introduce yourselves to them.

## A message from Tony Luis, Chair of our Communications Team:

“World Communications Day, the only worldwide celebration called for by the Second Vatican Council, is marked in most countries on the Sunday before Pentecost, which this year falls on 13 May.

The theme of Pope Francis' message for the 2018 World Communications Day is *The truth will set you free (Jn 8:32). Fake news and journalism for peace.* The Pope reminds us that the first fake news was created by the “crafty serpent” at the dawn of humanity. And he warns us of its dangers. It spreads biased and baseless ideas. It demonises people and foments conflict. It spreads arrogance and hatred. And “constant contamination by deceptive language can end up darkening our interior life”.

In contrast, “the truth will set us free”. “Communication is part of God's plan for us and an essential way to experience fellowship. Made in the image and likeness of our Creator, we are able to express and share all that is true, good and beautiful... and thus to create historical memory and the understanding of events.”

At Holy Innocents', we all strive daily to spread the Good News through personal dialogue and through the printed and digital word. As a Communications Team, we seek to communicate the rich and vibrant tapestry of our parish life to our parishioners, our community and visitors to our church and online via our well-established website, newsletter and Facebook page. I invite you to include our website and Facebook page in your favourite sites to keep abreast of news and events in our parish.

Good timely communication is vital and we welcome your suggestions, feedback, articles and notices. Thank you for being gentle with us when (as inevitably happens, however hard we try) mistakes creep in. This week, for example, we have to apologise to our Walkers' Group for last week giving the wrong date for their walk this weekend.”

## Holy Spirit, we welcome You!

For us, the great event happening next weekend is not the FA Cup Final or even the royal wedding, although we wish Prince Harry and Meghan Markle every blessing. It's the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the feast of Pentecost. Don't miss the Pentecost events detailed in this newsletter: Join in praying the Pentecost novena each day. Take part in the Vigil next Saturday night, in person or (if that's not possible for you) praying at home. Come at 5am to greet the dawn of this great feast day. And stay after Mass next weekend for refreshments to celebrate the birthday of the Church with your parish family.

## Our Families

### Building on success

Over the past few years, the efforts of many people have led to the Sunday 10am Mass becoming more welcoming and accessible, especially to young families. As a result, the 10am Mass is thriving, with new families arriving most weeks.

We want to build on this success; to make the 10am Mass yet more welcoming and to build up Children's Liturgy and the other areas of ministry

focused on our children and young people. If you might be able to help in any way, please stay for a short meeting after this Sunday's 10am Mass; or speak to Father Victor.

### Baptism

Welcome to James Wadey who was received into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism last Sunday. We share in the family's joy.

## Our Fellowship

### Parish contacts

#### Parish Priest:

Father Victor Vella  
(07802 721306  
victorvella@  
hotmail.com)

#### Supply priests:

Father Barry Hughes  
(barryh2016@  
outlook.com)

Father Bryan Wells  
(bt\_wells29@  
hotmail.com)

#### Deacons:

Barry Chalkley  
(07917 132472,  
barry.chalkley@  
ntlworld.com)

Wayne DuPreez  
(07500 009281,  
deaconwaynedp@  
gmail.com)

#### Parish Secretary:

Mrs Sharon Delaney  
contact details below

Parish Office open  
Mon, Wed and Fri  
10:30am - 3:30pm

### Holy Innocents' Catholic Primary School

*“Learning and loving  
through God”*

#### Contacts

Ryan Langford  
(Head Teacher) or  
Ian Wilson (Chair of  
Governors)

via the School Office  
on 01689 813040  
or visit  
www.holyinnocents.  
bromley.sch.uk

### Second collections

The second collection this week is for World Communications Day to support the important work of the Communications Office of the Bishops' Conference; next week will be for church repairs and maintenance.

We will be holding a special collection for Father Peter Ssenyondo's parish on the weekend of 26/27 May

### Walkers' Group walk this weekend

A fortnight ago, we printed the right date (Saturday 12 May) for this weekend's Walkers' Group walk; but last weekend, we printed the wrong one (Sunday 13 May). We apologise for the error and hope that no-one missed the walk as a result.

### Plant sale

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Catholic Women's League have cancelled their plant sale which was scheduled for next weekend.

### Birthday party next weekend

The Holy Spirit breathed life into the Church on the first Pentecost Sunday. So each year, we celebrate Pentecost as the Church's birthday. Please stay after Mass next weekend, to have a piece of birthday cake and celebrate this special day with your parish family.

Members of our 'A Listening Ear' team will be available after the 6pm and 10am Masses next weekend if you have a problem to share or would like someone to pray with you.

### Weekly collections for 6 May

First - £1225.07

The second collection for the Missionary sisters last weekend raised £1487.67. Thank you for your generosity.

If you have not picked up your boxes of Gift Aid envelopes yet or wish to join the scheme, please contact Ken Richardson (kenarichardson@hotmail.com).

### Prayer intentions

**We remember in our prayers the sick, housebound and their carers; the best gift for one another is prayer.**

Ann Van Ouckama, Ian Andrews, June Elsey, Vera Greene, Liz Weekly, Primrose Martin, Helena Johns, Miriam Cappelle, Alison Walker, Anne Godfrey, Marie-Stella Polloni-Watson, Andrew Jones, Bill Allen, Joseph Cunningham, John Hillier, Jill Horton, Joanna Noss, Constantine & Veronica Pereira, Philip & Thérèse Grey, Donna Johnes, Canon John McNamara, Graham Lynham, Les Forsyth, Rose O'Keeffe, and all those in hospital.

To include personal prayer intentions on our website, email [ceciliaskudder@sky.com](mailto:ceciliaskudder@sky.com)

### Our Liturgy

#### Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Pope Francis has instituted a new feast day on the Monday following Pentecost Sunday each year in honour of Mary, Mother of the Church. The Gospel reading for the feast is John 19:25-31 – Jesus on the Cross entrusting Mary to His disciples as their mother and His disciples to Mary as her children. Come if you can to Mass at 10am on Monday 21 May, followed by the Rosary, as this new feast is celebrated for the first time.

#### Re-commissioning of our extraordinary eucharistic ministers

This annual re-commissioning will be at the Corpus Christi Masses on 2 and 3 June. If you are a eucharistic minister and you know you will be away that weekend, please speak to Father Victor. He needs to know whether you are able to continue in this ministry.

## Our Mission

### Tools with a Mission

Next weekend, as part of the Justice and Peace Group's Living Simply project, we would like to raise your awareness as to how you can help deprived people in Africa, by donating your unwanted tools, sewing machines, and school books to Tools With A Mission (TWAM). Full information will be available in St. Joseph's Hall after each Mass. All are welcome.

### Catholic Women's League

At the CWL section meeting in St. Joseph's Hall at 2pm on 31 May there will be a demonstration by Helen Chan on the cooking of Malaysian rice. Samples will be available and everyone is welcome .



**Anniversaries** Catherine McReynolds, Victor Elsey, Audrey Prince, George Kearsley, Penelope Kedge, Donald Plummer, Michael Toomey, Katherine Fox, Arthur McErlean, George McDonough, Tim Hughes, Sheila Lowe, Ann Brown, Anthony Pilott, Mandy Holland, Christine Wells, George Preston, Donald Godfrey, Antonio Mansi, Philomena Ellis and Christina Hope. **May they rest in peace.**

## Our Prayer and Formation

### Pentecost Vigil next weekend

“Holy Spirit, we welcome You” – that’s the theme of our Pentecost Vigil next weekend. It starts at 8pm on Saturday, 19 May, with our Filipino community leading us in praying the Rosary. And it continues to just before the 8am Mass on Pentecost Sunday. If you can, do commit to coming for a set period, by signing up on the sheets in the porch. But whether or not you have signed up, you would be welcome at any time during the 12 hours.

You can find the programme for the Vigil on the sign-up sheets in the porch. We will have a short time of prayer each hour on the hour, with long periods of silent prayer and a few periods of led prayer. You might, for example, want to come at 10pm on Saturday, to reflect on the gifts of the Spirit. Or to come and greet the Pentecost dawn at 5am on Sunday, with praise followed by prayer walking around the outside of the church.

Also, it’s not too late to join in the novena of prayer in preparation for Pentecost - copies in the porch.

### May, the month of Mary

Do take one of the many opportunities to join in praying the Rosary this month:

- this Sunday 13 May, at 3.45pm (followed by refreshments)
- after Mass each weekday
- at the homes of Catholic Women’s League members (see separate notice)
- next Saturday evening at 8pm, at the start of the Pentecost Vigil

### Catholic Women's League Rosary invitation

You are welcome to Pam Crayford's home to pray the Rosary this Wednesday, at 2.30pm. Please call 837060 if you are interested; or just turn up.

### Books about Mary

Our parish librarian Norbert Bonnici has kindly retrieved from storage some books about Our Lady. Why not choose one of them to read during May? They are displayed on a table in St Joseph's Hall.

## Prayer

### Coordinator for Prayer and Formation:

Anne Scripture  
(07801 445966,  
asmusic@aol.com)

### Convent of Sisters of Mercy:

01689 832999

### Holy Father’s prayer intentions for May:



### The mission of the laity

That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

### Adoration Room:



Open for personal prayer. Monday-Friday 8am-8pm.

Contact Parish Secretary or Anne Scripture for the door code to get in.

**Saturday 12 May**

17:00-17:45 Sacrament of Reconciliation  
 18:00 Mass: Jan Biggerstaff RIP (Biggerstaff)

**Sunday 13 May**

08:00 Mass: Bill Reid RIP (Gancke) 7th Sunday of  
 10:00 Mass: Sister Mary Feane RIP (Bourke) Easter  
 Children’s Liturgy and Baby Chorus  
 12:30 Baptism of Iheabata Obike p273  
 15:45 Rosary and afternoon tea to mark Fatima anniversary  
 17:45 Ministers praying together Year B  
 18:00 Mass: Bob Miles RIP

**Monday 14 Apr**

10:00 Acts 1:15-17, 2016; Ps 112(113):1-8; John 15:9-17  
 Mass: Elizabeth Minihane (FM) St Matthias  
 19:45 Journey in Faith in the Presbytery  
 20.00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Night Prayer

**Tuesday 15 May**

09:00 Acts 20:17-27; Ps 67(68):10-11, 20-21; John 17:1-11  
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Morning Prayer Feria  
 10:00 Mass: Lilian de Lusignan RIP (Kerr)  
 16:45-17:45 First Holy Communion session in St. Joseph’s Hall  
 20:00 Group 88 in St. Joseph’s Hall  
 20:00 Parish Evangelisation Cell Secretariat in the Presbytery

**Wednesday 16 May**

08:30 Acts 20:28-38; Ps 67(68):29-30, 33-36; John 17:11-19  
 Mass: Wellbeing of Howard Callon (Lever) St Simon Stock  
 08:45 Gardening Team meet for regular maintenance of the grounds  
 09:00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Morning Prayer  
 10:00 Mothers’ Prayers in Room 1 followed by Music Group in the church  
 12:15 Luncheon Club in St. Joseph’s Hall  
 19:00-20:00 Deacon Barry in residence at the Parish Centre

**Thursday 17 May**

09:00 Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Ps 15(16):1-2, 5, 7-11; John 17:20-26  
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Morning Prayer Feria  
 10:00 No Mass  
 12:30 CTO Ministers’ meeting in the Presbytery  
 15:00 Meeting with Bishop Pat and diocese re parish complex in the Presbytery  
 19:30 Confirmation Mass celebrated by Bishop Patrick Lynch:  
 For the Confirmundi  
 20:00 Lectio Divina in the Presbytery

**Friday 18 May**

09:00 Acts 25:13-21; Ps 102(103):1-2, 11-12, 19-20; John 21:15-19  
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Morning Prayer Feria  
 10:00 Mass: Thomas Barretto RIP (Fernandes)  
 12:30/19:30 Alpha weekly session in St Joseph’s Hall – ‘Why and how should I pray?’

**Saturday 19 May**

10:00 Refreshments and Tools with a Mission after each Mass this weekend  
 Mass: Sister Magdalene McDonnell RIP (Sisters of Mercy) Feria  
 11:00-11:45 Sacrament of Reconciliation  
 18:00 Mass: David Layle RIP (Layle)  
 ‘A Listening Ear’ after Mass  
 20:00-08:00 Pentecost Vigil: “Holy Spirit, we welcome you!”

**Sunday 20 May**

08:00 Mass: Jan Biggerstarr RIP (Finch)  
 10:00 Mass: Anna and Frank Dwyer the Grandparents of Josh (Hayes) Pentecost Sunday  
 Children’s Liturgy and Baby Chorus  
 ‘A Listening Ear’ after Mass p277/286  
 17:45 Ministers praying together  
 18:00 Mass: Deceased Sisters of Mercy  
 ‘A Listening Ear’ after Mass  
 19:30 Milan meeting in the Presbytery