

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

39 Duncan Terrace London N1 8AL

Clergy: Mgr Séamus O'Boyle (Parish Priest) Fr Martin Plunkett

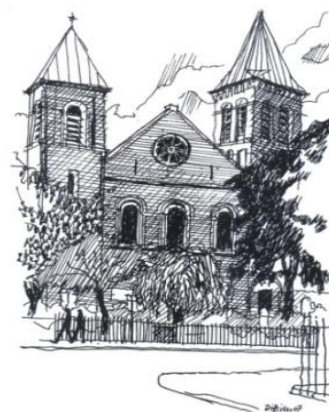
Also in residence: Fr Larry Milby

Parish Secretary: Lisa Mulvaney

Tel: 020 7226 3277 / **Fax:** 020 7704 8988

Website: www.st-johns-islington.org / **Email:** islington@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Office opening times: Tue - Fri, 10am - 2pm



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

27 APRIL 2014

MOVING MOUNTAINS

We live in an age where everything has to be 'seen to be believed'. If we haven't heard it on the news, or read it on the front page of 'The Independent', then it can't be true. For a scientist to act in faith rather than on proven fact, or for a detective to make an arrest without hard evidence would be deemed negligent. Faith is the domain of the non-scientific. Faith is reserved for when we follow our hearts and our instincts. The solely scientific see no validation for faith, and yet we are told that faith has the power to move mountains.

The story of 'Doubting Thomas' is interesting in that it addresses doubt in the first place. If Jesus wasn't expecting us to suffer doubts, why address the subject in the first place? We are brought up to think of faith as good and doubt as bad, but would God really want us to bury our doubts and fake our religious experience? For all of us who do not have the benefit of Thomas's first-hand experience, the good news is that doubt and faith are opposite sides of the same coin. Honest doubt can ultimately lead to a stronger faith. Doubt leads to questions, and whereas questions don't always lead to answers, they almost always lead to spiritual growth.

Today we are encouraged to believe without seeing. No, we're not being asked to silence our doubts or to leave our brains at the church door! The reality of our faith boils down not to what we are able or not able to believe, but who we believe in. Can trusting Jesus give us faith enough to move mountains?

PARISH NEWS

PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS: The AGM will be held in the Church at 4pm on Sunday 1st June and all parishioners are warmly invited to attend. The programme will consist of:

1. Welcome and prayer by Mgr. Séamus
2. Parish Council Secretary to give highlights of the Annual Report for 2013
3. A brief Question and Answer session with Parish Councillors
4. Annual Report and Accounts for 2013 for approval
5. Elections to the Parish Council
6. Mgr. Séamus to close the session

The Annual Report, 2013 will be available on the parish Noticeboard and on the website from Thursday 1st May or may be collected from the Parish Office thereafter during opening hours.

Procedure for Elections to the Parish Council four councillors are standing down, three of whom may offer

themselves for re-election. New applications for the Council will be greatly welcomed.

1. Nomination forms will be available at the back of the church after Mass on Saturday/Sunday May 3rd -4th and 10th -11th. Forms may also be picked up from the parish office.
2. Completed Nomination forms to be returned to Mgr. Séamus no later than Sunday 18th May
3. Ballot forms listing all candidates, once approved by Mgr. Séamus, will be distributed to all parishioners attending the AGM. Parishioners unable to attend but wishing to vote may obtain a ballot form from the parish office between Tuesday and Friday 27th -30th. They must be returned to Mgr. Séamus by 31st May to be included in the count.
4. The membership of the new parish council will be announced in the newsletter of June 7/8.

In an event of a fire or a fire drill taking place, please remain calm, and follow the safest exit routes that will be co-ordinated by the Church Fire Wardens, who will lead you to the designated assembly point.

PLANNED GIVING: A number of boxes remain uncollected, if you no longer require a box please inform the parish office. From now on **please only use the new green envelopes, do not use the old white envelopes as the numbers have changed.** Those who would like a box of envelopes, please complete a green form and hand it into the parish office at 39 Duncan Terrace. Thank you.

BAPTISMS: We welcome our new parishioners who will be baptised today: Scarlett Ann Lowton, George Stechman and Josephine Pilch.

DIARY

LEGION OF MARY: We meet every Wednesday at 7pm. Please come to 39 Duncan Terrace.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: The next course takes place on Tuesday's 6th and 13th May at 7pm in the church.

NOTICES

COLLECTIONS FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY POOR £433.13

GOOD FRIDAY HOLY PLACES £484.68. Thank you for your generosity.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

REST IN PEACE: Please pray for Michael O'Sullivan and Margaret Haines who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, George Frank Adams, Kelly Fletcher, William Dahill, Catherine Mary Millard, Evelyn Rose Barry, Rose Elizabeth Driscoll, Noel Conroy, Frank Johnson, Rose Saunders, Maria Baldacci and John Henry Harvey.

HEALING: Please pray for parishioners and their relatives / friends who are ill, especially: Lisa Ip, Helen Hallissey, Sr Beatrice Immediata, John Sampson, Frances Jennings, Jerry Waldron, Bro. J Lavelle (Marist Brother), Tony Jones, Mick Feeney, Theresa Burchall, Mufide R Family, Igor Bernhart, Joe McConville, Christiana Visentin & Family and Bernadette Bywaters.

THE WEEK AHEAD			
DATE	TIMES	INTENTIONS	GOSPEL
Sat 26 April	8.30pm	Darren Byrant RIP (Birthday)	John 20:19-31
Sun 27 April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	9am	Elizabeth Frances Hastings RIP	
	10.30am	Grant Lewington RIP	
	12noon	Fred & John Harvey RIP	
	6pm	All our Parishioners	
Mon 28 April ST GEORGE, MARTYR, PATRON OF ENGLAND	10am	Grant Lewington RIP (Birthday)	John 3:1-8
Tue 29 April ST CATHERINE OF SEINA, Virgin & Doctor, Patron of Europe	10am	Alice Sarah Tucker RIP (1 st Anniv)	Matthew 11:25-30
Wed 30 April Easter Feria	10am	Kathleen Westman RIP	John 3:16-21
Thu 01 May Easter Feria	10am	Elizabeth Dalton RIP	Matthew 13:54-58
Fri 02 May St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor <i>Friday abstinence</i>	10am	Anthony Alexander RIP	John 6:1-15
Sat 03 May STS PHILIP and JAMES, Apostles	11am	FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS	John 14 :6-14
	10.30-11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	
	10.30-11.30am / 5.15-5.45pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	6pm	Francis Matthews RIP	Luke 24:13-35
Sun 04 May THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	9am	Intentions of Rhodri St Davids	
	10.30am	All our Parishioners	
	12noon	Terry Hughes Jr RIP (Anniv)	
	2pm	FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS	
	6pm	Aldo Salvoni RIP (Birthday)	