

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

39 Duncan Terrace London N1 8AL

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

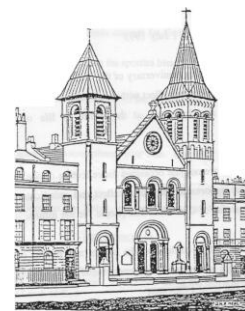
Also in residence: Fr Larry Milby

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



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

2 FEBRUARY 2014

What Are We Waiting For?

If you were told you were going to die tomorrow, would you be ready to go? From young and old alike, the answer to this question is probably "no"! Being ready to leave this world demands tremendous clarity, and whilst some of us have achieved clarity in our lives, the rest stumble around confused and overly burdened. We go through the motions of living but all too easily we are living out a 'ground-hog-day' "existence... running on the spot and repeating the same old mistakes. What we need is someone to tell us where we are going wrong, and gently put us on the right track. In short, what we need is someone to light our way.

In today's gospel reading, Mary and Joseph present the Baby Jesus at the temple as Jewish law required. Here they meet the elderly Simeon and Anna. Simeon and Anna have been waiting for the promise written in scripture that a Saviour would come to light the world and bring salvation to the ends of the earth. Despite their great age, Simeon and Anna were living and praying in hope that they would see the fulfilment of God's promise. When Simeon sees the Baby Jesus and recognises him as the Messiah he is ready to die in peace because the fulfilment of scripture happened to be his own personal fulfilment too.

So what are we waiting for in our lives today? Are we able to recognise Jesus and the opportunities he gives us as Simeon did, or are we too busy running round like headless chickens looking for happiness and re-assurances in all the wrong places? How are we waiting? Are we waiting like the proverbial rabbit mesmerised by the fast approaching headlights, or are we waiting in constant preparation?

The time has come to stop flitting from one ambition to another and from one hollow goal to the next. The time has come to look for a genuinely important goal of God's floodlit making.

PARISH NEWS

2014 CONFIRMATION PREPARATION – STARTING IN

MARCH: If you are in Year 9 or above and would like to come forward for the Sacrament of Confirmation this year then please take a registration form home and return it to the parish office no later than **Sunday 23rd February**. Watch out for details of the course dates here in the Newsletter.

CATECHISTS FOR CONFIRMATION 2014: If anyone has helped before or would like to support the Confirmation course this year, as a catechist or helper, you would be most welcome. It is not necessary to have experience of being a catechist already! If interested please could you contact the parish office and leave you details. Thank you – Fr Martin.

HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: The next lesson for children is today, 2nd February, after 10.30am Mass. The topic is: Fruit of the vine. **Please collect your children at 12.45pm.** Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place on Saturday 8th February. Groups 1 – 4 at 12noon and groups 5 – 8 at 12:30pm in the Church.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: The next dates will be Tuesdays 4th and 11th February at 7pm in the Church. Baptism Registration forms are available in the Vestibule.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR

LADY OF LOURDES: This year's Mass will take place at 2pm on Saturday 8th February. Cardinal Designate 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 tell one of the priests so that he can reserve space for wheelchairs and carers.

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.

BAPTISM: We welcome our new parishioner who will be baptised today Sunday: William Thomas Durkin.

MARRIAGE: The Diocese asks that couples who are hoping to marry should give six months notice to their Parish Priest. Please do not make any arrangements for your wedding date and reception before meeting with your Parish Priest.

SUNDAY CLUB: Would be grateful for more second-hand books for our guests, particularly paper-backs, fact or fiction. They can be handed in after Mass.

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DIARY

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

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NOTICES

SUNDAY COLLECTION 26 JANUARY: Envelopes £560.11 / Loose £592.01

ITALIAN TUITION: By experienced Italian native and qualified lecturer Antonia. Call her on 020 7490 0829.

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REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

REST IN PEACE: Please pray for those who have died recently especially Daniel Curtin and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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 and Theresa Burchall.

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THE WEEK AHEAD			
DATE	TIMES	INTENTIONS	READINGS
Sat 01 Feb	6pm	Francis McEntagart RIP	Luke 2:22-40
Sun 02 Feb THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	9am	Mr Correa RIP	
	10.30am	Mass for Parishioners	
	12noon	Peter Sheridan RIP	
	6pm	Bernard Charles Oates RIP	
Mon 03 Feb Sts Laurence, Dunstan and Theodore, Archbishops of Canterbury	10am	Ceila Shakespear RIP	Mark 5:1-20
Tue 04 Feb Feria	10am	Intentions of Leon Davison & Ursula Mott	Mark 5:21-43
Wed 05 Feb St Agatha, Virgin & Martyr	10am	Caroline Humphreys RIP (Months Mind)	Mark 6:1-6
Thu 06 Feb St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs	10am	Nazzareno Burocchi RIP (Anniv)	Mark 6:7-13
Fri 07 Feb Feria <i>Friday abstinence</i>	10am	Fr George Haines RIP (Anniv)	Mark 6:14-29
Sat 08 Feb Feria	10am	Sheila & Patrick Sullivan RIP (Anniv)	Mark 6 :30-34
	10.30-11.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	
	10.30-11.30am / 5.15-5.45pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	6pm	Sid Winford RIP (Anniv)	Matthew 5:13-16
Sun 09 Feb 5 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9am	Intentions of Florence Mary Donovan RIP	
	10.30am	Hugh Ward RIP (Birthday)	
	12noon	Thanking for everyone's prayers for Caroline Humphreys RIP & Family	
	6pm	Mass for Parishioners	