



ST. JOHN VIANNEY CHURCH
WEST GREEN N15 3QL

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4th SUNDAY OF LENT 18th/19th MARCH 2023
MOTHERS' DAY

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Mothers' Day to all mothers and grandmothers! Have a wonderful day..

St John in his Gospel tells us today of the case of the blind man. This is the second profound message we hear these Sundays. Last week we heard of the story of the Samaritan woman at the well and Jesus promising her and us the water welling up to eternal life. Next Sunday, we will hear the story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. Jesus gives us the promise of eternal life with him.



Jesus gives the gift of sight to the man born blind. We have eyes to see – but so often we only have blurred vision or are totally blind. Equally, we can have the gift of hearing – but be deaf in so many ways.

The blind man in the Gospel story saw more than the religious leaders in the sense that he had more faith than they did. The Pharisees could see, but had no faith in Jesus. There are many types of blindness: selfishness can blind us to the needs of others; prejudice blinds us to truth and dignity of others; pride blinds us to our own faults etc. We not only see with our eyes; we need to see with our minds, our hearts and our imagination. The best sight we can have are the eyes of faith. This Gospel story is about faith in Jesus.

Note too, in the Gospel the question: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to be born blind?" It was believed that if a person were suffering from a disability, then somebody in the family had sinned. This was God's way of punishment for sin. But nothing could be further from the truth – Jesus set out to abolish this way of thinking. Jesus shows that God loves us and does not punish us in this way. Yes, there is suffering in our lives and in the world, but God doesn't take revenge on us. Notice too, that the blind man tells his own story. He is an evangelist leading others to Jesus, just as did the woman at the well last week.

As we reflect on the scriptures we can ask ourselves "Was there ever an occasion when some blindness was taken away from us?" How did we feel? Also, there are several characters in today's story: Jesus, the blind man, the disciples, the neighbours, parents of the blind man and the Pharisees. Can you put yourself in the position of each one and see what you can learn from each?

The fact is, like these characters sometimes we see, sometimes our eyes and minds are closed for all sort of reasons. We pray that the Lord will open our eyes, our minds and our hearts to see Him active in our lives.

That's all for now, have a blessed week,
Fr Joe



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH ACTIVITY –TEAS /COFFEE MORNING TEAS/COFFEE

In the Parish Hall on Sundays, after 9am and 11am Masses.

We also welcome parishioners and newcomers on Thursday mornings after the 9.15am Mass

CATECHETICAL PROGRAMMES 2022

For any enquiries, please contact Sr.
Anabel on 07455544065 or the Parish Office.

SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

Next session: **Sunday 26th March after 9am Mass**

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME

Next session on Saturday 25th March 2023

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME

Next session on Saturday 25th March 2023

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

A programme for adults who are interested in receiving the Sacrament of Baptism.
Application Form at the back of the Church

BAPTISM FOR INFANTS

Application Forms at the back of the Church. Please contact the Parish Office or
Sr. Anabel

LENTEN ACTIVITIES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays at 7.30pm

PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Saturday 25th March, after 6pm Mass

Sunday 26th March, after 9am and 11am

PASSOVER MEAL

Wednesday 29th March at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.

Tickets are available from Germaine



THANK YOU

For your generosity last weekend for **CAFOD LENT FAST DAY** which raised the sum of **£640.16**

Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Donation can also be given by using our contactless keypad at the back of the church. Please give generously.

LECTIO DIVINA PRAYER GROUP

Meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month after 9.15am Mass, at Verbum Dei Spirituality Centre. All welcome!

Next session **21st March, 2023**

INVITATION TO OUR MONTHLY PRAYER VIGIL

At the Home Office, Marsham Street,
SW1P 4DF from 12.30-1.30pm

Monday 20th March 2023

Every first and third Monday of the month.

Add your name to our mailing list for future dates and prayer sheets in advance via Barbarakentish@talktalk.net
orjohanmaertens@hotmail.com

OLIVE WOOD CARVES FROM THE HOLYLAND

On sale here on 25th /26th March after all Masses

We are the Good Shepherd Company from the Holy land (Bethlehem) which is based in Nottingham. Our goal is to support and help the Christian families in the holy land to stay at work as olive wood carving is one of the most important source of income for them, as 90% of the Christians rely on this sale.

So by selling their produce here in their behalf, this will prevent the Christians from leaving the country in search of better work opportunities, as a test survey from the bishops of Jerusalem there is only forty one thousands Christians left in the area.

PLANNING GIVING & GIFT AID OFFERTORY ENVELOPES for 2023-2024 ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION.

We thank all those who support our parish through the weekly offerings, offertory envelopes and Standing Orders.

This weekend and over the next three weeks, we will be giving out the envelopes for your offertory donations from 9th April 2023.

On collection of your envelopes, please give an update of change of address or whether or not you pay tax.

New members are welcome to join the Gift Aid - Planned Giving Scheme – register at the back of the church.

If you are an Income Tax Payer and not on Gift Aid please consider signing a Gift Aid declaration; as a registered charity, your offertory contributions increase this gift by 25p for each £1 given, if your annual income tax is more that the tax we will reclaim.

An additional source of income to the parish at no added cost to you.

If you no longer pay tax please contact Germaine. Thank You!

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th plus wedding anniversaries of Catholic marriage in 2023 are invited to the Annual Mass of

Thanksgiving at Westminster Cathedral, **Saturday 13th May 2023 at 2:30pm.**

Couples celebrating their significant wedding anniversary are ask to contact the parish office with *their names, wedding date, full postal address and email address if they have one (or, if not, a telephone number).*

Deadline 1st April 2023.

ST PATRICK'S CELEBRATION

We would like to thank all who attended and participated at our celebratory Tea Party

Special thanks to our performers, caterers and organisers.

Well done!!

PLEASE PRAY FOR

The repose of the souls of:

Bridget Gaynor, RIP

[sister of the late Anne Comerford]

**Who died on Thursday 16 February
2023**

Her Funeral Mass on

Monday 20th March at 9:15am

**We remember their families and
friends in our prayers.**

May they rest in peace.

MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday at 9.15am

Saturday 6pm – Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday 9:00am and 11:00am

PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th March

After each Mass

ROSARY

Weekdays at 8.45am (before Mass)

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT**

Tuesdays after Mass

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Friday 24th and 31st March at 7:30pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5 – 5.30pm

NEXT SUNDAY: 5th SUNDAY IN LENT

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Psalm: Psalm 129

2nd Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel: John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Joe Ryan, Parish Priest

Sr. Anabel Gonzalez, Parish Sister

Germaine Ng Ying, Parish Adm/Secretary

THIS WEEK WE PRAY FOR

The repose of the soul:

Bridget Gaynor [sister of the late Anne]

Henry Francois [widower of the late
Anastasia]

Teresa McManus [widow of the late Joe]

RIP Anniversary

Peter McEvoy

Michael Mills

Sean McKeon

Richard Joseph Korzeniewski

Sr Mary Bonaventure Murphy

Nicholas Quinn

Christine Ng Ying [Birthday Remembrance]

Special Intentions:

Sr Loreta McCarthy – 70th Jubilee

The Gaynor Family

The Francois Family

The McManus Family

The Geoghegan Family

***And for the sick and those in our
parish***

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parish***

Ann

Bridget

Ernest Sr

Ivy

Kathy F

Kim

Laura

Merle

Michael J

Monica

Patricia

Rose

Sheila

Veronica

***NAMES NOT LISTED ABOVE
ARE LISTED IN OUR BOOK OF INTENTIONS***

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon to Fri 9am-12pm & 1pm-5pm

To make an appointment

Phone: 0208 888 5518 or email

westgreen@rcdow.org.uk

*We cannot guarantee to have anyone available
outside of these hours.*