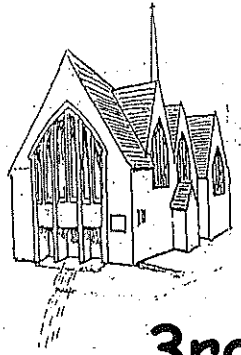


The Catholic Parish of Manor Park

St. Stephen & St. Nicholas

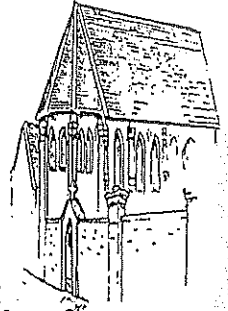


Sisters of the
Sacred Heart of Mary
Srs. Breda, Dorothy,
& Kathleen RSHM
27 Holcombe Rd, Ilford, IG1 4XF
Tel: 020 8554 4089

Rev. Sean Connolly
146 Little Ilford Lane, Manor Park E12 5PJ
Tel: 020 8478 1895
email: manorpark@dioceseofbrentwood.org
Web: www.ss-stephenandnicholas.org.uk

St. Winefride's Primary School.
Head Teacher: Mr. P. Underwood
Tel: 020 8478 0510

Sisters
of the Immaculate
Heart of Mary
195 Church Rd, E12 6HB
Tel: 020 8911 7042



3rd & 4th Sundays of the Year (A)

22 January - 4 February 2017

From Fr. Sean,

Considering the two people concerned they wouldn't thank me for the comparison, but the widespread opposition to the new U.S. president both within and abroad has something in common with the opposition represented by the small minority of senior Catholic clergy who are defiantly resisting the pope. Both groups hold these respective offices in such high esteem they believe that in the unpredictability of the current incumbents damage is being done to the venerable positions they hold, with potential catastrophic consequences not only for the people they lead, but as global leaders, also for the rest of the world. This is why we should not fetishize human institutions. When we idolize positions of power it is all too easy to idolize the one who occupies the position of power as well. We create them in our own image and likeness, and so restrict them to our own narrow expectations. In allowing each to be their own man perhaps their supporters hope they will shake up their institutions in such a way that lets in fresh air and new thinking and imagination. It explains the decisive vote in the U.S. despite blatant flaws that in any previous campaign would have killed presidential ambitions stone dead long ago. However there is a crucial difference between president and pope. The former is a narcissist who necessarily centres everything on himself, whilst the latter genuinely seeks a Church of the poor where the centre will paradoxically be found at the margins. This is why one wishes to build walls that divide and promotes self interest at the expense of the other, whilst the other builds bridges to bring together people of good will. As people of faith we can take inspiration to act from our leaders who put our values into practice, but we put our faith in neither president nor pope. Ultimately we can only genuinely put our faith in Christ and the Gospel he preached. And that means acting on it, living it out in our daily lives, making our contribution to a better world in tune with what is truly human.

Services for the weeks beginning 22 & 29 January

Morning Prayer of the Church is prayed Monday - Friday at 9.00am in the Lady Chapel.

Sat 21	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sun 22	9.00am 11.00am	Rose Yearwood RIP Bernard Guy RIP
Mon 23	9.15am	Damian Luis RIP
Tues 24	9.15am	Tim Murphy RIP (A)
Wed 25	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 26	9.15am 9.45am	Eucharistic Service Adoration
Fri 27	9.15am 10.00am	Eucharistic Service School Assembly
Sat 28	5.15pm 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Ron & Derry Bass RIP
Sun 29	9.00am 11.00am	Olatunde Awolesi (intentions) People of the Parish
Mon 30	9.15am	Cornelius Quilligan RIP
Tues 31	9.15am	Donna Church RIP
Wed 1 Feb	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 2	9.15am 9.45am	Eucharistic Service Adoration
Fri 3	9.15am 10.00am	Sr. Virgilius O'Donnell RIP School Assembly
Sat 4	5.15pm 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
Sun 5	9.00am 11.00am	Nadia Fonseca RIP Rose Yearwood RIP

18 - 25 January is the annual week of prayer for Christian unity

Wednesday 25 January is the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul

Thursday 2 February is the feast of the presentation of the Lord

Rotas for weekends 28/29 January & 4/5 February

	Readers	Eucharist	Children's Liturgy
7.00pm	Please check your email and rotas in the porch and sacristy	Please check your email and rotas in the porch and sacristy	Please check your email and rotas in the sacristy
12.00am			
9.00am			
11.00am			

Parish Diary

Mon	FHC Registration	4.00pm	Parish Office
	Governors	6.00pm	School
Tues	Prayer Group	9.45am	Community Room
	FHC Catechists	4.30pm	School
Thur	Deanery Conference	11.00am	Upton Park
	Over 60s	2.00pm	Community Room
	Journey of Faith	7.00pm	Community Room
Sun	Young People	12.15pm	Community Room
Mon	FHC Information Meeting	6.00pm	School
Tues	Prayer Group	9.45am	Community Room
Thurs	Journey of Faith	7.00pm	Community Room

Journey of Faith. Today we welcome those making this journey as they make their Rite of Acceptance at 11.00am mass. We meet again on Thursday at 7.00pm in the Community Room. Over the next two weeks we will consider who Jesus is and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

First Holy Communion. Today is the last chance to register to take part in this year's programme. Please speak to me if you wish to join. A reminder to all those who have registered that you need to attend our first meeting on Monday 30 January at 6.00pm in St. Winefride's School Hall. Please note that this meeting is for parents only. Please do not bring your children with you as we do not have facilities to look after them.

Confirmation 2017. Details about our programme for this year will be available soon. Watch this space! Catechists are reminded that we are meeting on Monday 6 February at 7.00pm in the Community Room

Annual Diocesan Mass. Bishop Alan invites you to the annual diocesan mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes, patron of the diocese and the sick. It will take place at Our lady of Lourdes Church, Wanstead on Sunday 5 February at 3.00pm. The sacrament of the anointing of the sick will be celebrated during the mass for those who are unwell.

Thank you for your generous offerings

8 January: £1,231.56

15 January: £1,351.30



The St Vincent de Paul Society of St Stephens and St Nicholas would like to extend a helping hand in terms of providing **non-perishable food items** to families and or individuals experiencing long or short term setbacks.

We aim to offer this service on the 4th Sunday after the **11:00am** Mass in the months of January, March, June, August, October, and December 2017.

Young People -- Seeking dignified work. The young people of the parish will meet after the 11.00am mass on Sunday 29 January. They will particularly discuss how they can work together with others in the community to seek dignified work in the summer or after school and University. All very welcome.

PLAY YOUR PART IN THE CHURCH'S HOUSING CAMPAIGN. Along with other institutions around East London, we want to complete a survey about the licensing scheme so as to have a say about its renewal. <https://www.ors.org.uk/web/index.php/survey/index/sid/774463/lang/en> See poster and/or collect flyer from back of the church.

THANK YOU!

Danny Falvey and the Falvey family would like to thank most sincerely Fr. Sean, the parish sisters and the parishioners of St. Stephen's for all their support and kindness when his wife, Hannah Falvey, a member of St. Stephen's Parish for over 60 years, slipped into Heaven on Christmas Day. The blessing of faith and community made the unbearable bearable. THANK YOU so much to you all.

Please pray for those who are sick:

Masaldo Merry, Margaret Connolly, Norah Crow, Peggy Campbell, Denzil Lang, Clare O'Toole, John Oruche, Patrick Berton, Alvina Telles, Jude Telles, Christine Jones, & Christine Kristen.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 5.15pm-5.45pm and by appointment.
Weddings (minimum 6 months notice) and Baptisms (minimum 2 months notice) are by appointment.
Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No.234092