

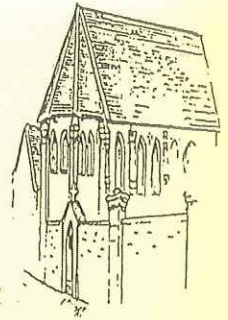
The Catholic Parish of Manor Park St. Stephen & St. Nicholas

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7th & 8th Sundays of the Year (A) 19 February - 4 March 2017

From Fr. Sean,

If the theory is true that institutions look inwards when they are under attack or in decline then I am not surprised to hear rumours that seven years after the appearance of the new translation of the Roman Missal, it is being looked at again. Briefly, when the Vatican Council agreed to return to the Church's earliest practice of celebrating the liturgy in the language of the people, a missal was somewhat hastily produced, but it was always understood that this translation would need in time a more considered revision. This in fact happened, but in 2001 authorities in Rome threw out the proposed new missal for use in the English speaking world and started all over again. Surprisingly swiftly it came up with a new version based on a literal translation from the original Latin, and we have been trying to get our tongues round the convoluted sentence structures and Roman courtly language for the past six years. In fact this new translation isn't all bad. It certainly has drawn out more clearly the scriptural basis of our prayer life, making it possible to integrate the public prayer life of the Church with our private prayer, that draws out both the deeper meaning of the scripture and what we do in church. Occasionally too there is the neatly worked out sentence that requires the priest to be properly prepared in order to do it justice rather than mangling it; and we now have a good test to see if someone darkens our doors or not when we listen out for the reply to "the Lord be with you"! I know that the liturgy must be the heart of what we do, and therefore should be reasonably intelligible, but if yet another translation is produced, or, more likely, permission is given to use the 1998 translation, I fear it begins to set in stone divisions that have bedevilled other Churches and that we have done well over the years to avoid. Most priests make their own alterations anyway, and, whilst not ideal, maybe we just have to put up with it. In the meantime I imagine most of this has passed over your heads, and that should be lesson enough to put the navel-gazing aside and get on with the real work of proclaiming the Gospel.

Services for the weeks beginning 19 & 26 February

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

Sat 18	6.00pm	Mary Finan RIP
Sun 19	9.00am 11.00am	Tunde Awolesi (Intentions) People of the Parish
Mon 20	9.15am	Deceased Graves & Edu Family
Tues 21	9.15am	Sr. Kathleen O'Donovan (intentions)
Wed 22	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 23	9.15am 9.45am	Eucharistic Service Adoration
Fri 24	9.15am 10.00am	Eucharistic Service School Assembly
Sat 25	5.15pm 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Ronald & Derry Bass RIP
Sun 26	9.00am 11.00am	Joaquim & Maria Monteiro RIP (A) People of the Parish
Mon 27	12.30pm	Requiem: Julie Ferguson RIP
Tues 28	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Wed 1 Mar	9.30am 7.30pm	Gwen Murphy RIP (A) People of the Parish
Thurs 2	9.15am 9.45am	Serafino Soares RIP Adoration
Fri 3	9.15am 10.00am	Margaret, Harold, Katherine & Theresa Bryant (F) Whole School Assembly
Sat 4	5.15pm 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mr & Mrs Thomas RIP
Sun 5	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Brian Vincent Dorgan (Intentions)

**Wednesday 22 February is the feast of the
Chair of St. Peter**

Wednesday 1 March is Ash Wednesday

Rotas for weekends 25/26 February & 4/5 March

	Readers	Eucharist	Children's Liturgy
6.00pm 9.00am	Andrea Morais, Dianne Thomas Sally Edozie, Tina Amuzie	Christine Malone, Joseph Liguori, Comfort Obi Earnest Peter, Hazel Ringrow, Anastasia John Pierre, Peter Da Costa, Victor Emilion	
11.00am	Vivian Onwuchekwa, Sr. Ugochi	David Graves, Anthony Boakye, Antonia Duke, Winifred Alexis, Sr. Ugochi	Mira, Jolly, Helpers
6.00pm 9.00am	Lydia David, Sr. Dorothy Patricia D'Monte, Tina Amuzie	Lesley Thomas, Deirdre Finan, Jacqueline George Peter Da Costa, Vida Wills, Anastasia John Pierre, Earnest Peter, Christine Malone	
11.00am	Imelda Sotto, Lucy Achola	Cathay Boyle, Ken Peters, Juliana Alvares, Tom Bedminster, Stella Porritt	Georgette, Elaine, Helpers

Stewards of the Gospel. As we come towards the end of the first year of the journey Bishop Alan has asked us to embark on to meet the challenges of today and plan for the future of our parish, we are seeking to complete the diocesan questionnaire before Easter. Next weekend (25/26 February) at mass we will consider our next topic, the place of young people in our parish, and then invite you to continue the conversation after 11.00am mass in the Community Room. We hope that some of our young people will join us to help plan for the future.

Journey of Faith. Our journey resumes on Thursday at 7.00pm in the Community Room. Over the next two weeks we will prepare for the season of Lent and look at the Sacrament of Initiation. Please pray for our group as they begin their preparation to be initiated into our Christian faith.

Confirmation 2017. Last opportunity for any young people to join us for our programme this year. If you wish to register please speak with me after mass today. All those who have registered are asked to come to the church on Monday 27 February at 7.00pm along with parents and sponsors.

First Holy Communion. A reminder that our children have their second session, St Winefride's Group on Tuesday 21 February after school and St. Stephen's Group on Saturday 25 February at 10.00am in the Community Room. They will all come to mass next weekend to celebrate their theme.

Please pray for those who are sick:

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

Thank you for your generous offerings

12 February: £1,125.94

TELCO 20th Anniversary Assembly York Hall 9 March 7.00pm

Members of the parish are warmly invited to the TELCO Refounding Assembly. This promises to be an excellent occasion where we celebrate 20 years of leadership development and social action with our neighbours, and launch more ambitious plans for East London. Address: York Hall, 5 Old Ford Road, Bethnal Green, London, E2 9LJ. We initially have 50 places to fill. Please sign up today.

Over 60s. You are warmly invited to join the February gathering of the Over 60s on Tuesday 21 February 2.00pm - 4.00pm in the Community Room. There will be the usual fun and lots of refreshments to enjoy.

Women's World Day of Prayer. Friday 3 March at 11.00am at Methodist Church, Pilgrim's Way, East Ham. The theme this year is "Am I Being Unfair To You?" praying for the Philippines.

Baptism Preparation. Advance notice: Tuesday 7 and 14 March at 7.00pm in the Community Room.

The Season of Lent. Lent gets underway on Ash Wednesday 1 March. Mass will be celebrated with the distribution of ashes at 9.30am with St. Winefride's School and 7.30pm. This is a day of fasting and abstinence: adults in good health under the age of 60 are asked to fast and abstain from meat or the equivalent on that day.

Please pray for Julie Ferguson of Sheridan Road who died recently. Her requiem mass will take place here on Monday 27 February at 12.30pm, followed by burial at the East London Cemetery.

May she rest in the peace of Christ and rise in glory, and may all who mourn her loss find consolation at this sad time.