



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

Rev. Sean Connolly

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Web: www.ss-stephenandnicholas.org.uk

St. Winefride's Primary School.

Head Teacher: Mr. P. Underwood

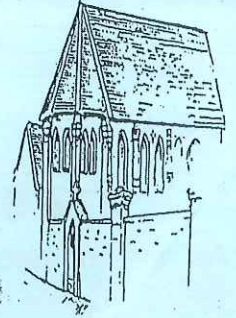
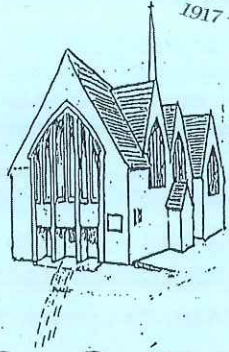
Tel: 020 8478 0510

Sisters of the
Sacred Heart of Mary
Srs. Breda, Dorothy,
& Kathleen RSHM

27 Holcombe Rd, Ilford, IG1 4XF
Tel: 020 8554 4089

Sisters
of the Immaculate
Heart of Mary

195 Church Rd, E12 6HB
Tel: 020 8911 7042



5th Sunday of Lent & Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year B) 18 - 31 March 2018

From Fr. Sean,

Far be it for me to disagree with a cardinal archbishop of the Church, let alone its senior liturgical authority, on the matter of how to receive communion in a fitting and reverent manner. Certainly Cardinal Sarah's trenchant denunciation of receiving the host in the hand is hampered by a cultural mistranslation, but nevertheless, no matter how learned, none of us is able to see into the heart of another and judge the quality of their reverence. That will always be between God and the individual. As it stands the Church offers us two ways to receive the host: in the hand, or in the more innovative way, on the tongue. We should choose which way we receive on the basis of what we are most comfortable with and what conforms best with our understanding of what the Church is doing in this sacrament. Certainly, it should not give rise to judgement about the (inevitably inferior) way anyone else receives in comparison with our own practice. If we do compare, the inevitability arises out of a history where those of us of a certain generation were told that the host was so sacred it was to be placed on our tongue and left to dissolve in direct contradiction of the Master's command to take and eat. (We simply ignored his other command to take and drink, but that's another story.) Over the past half century, by allowing communion in the hand, the Church has simply returned to its original practice, one that expresses both our emptiness and hunger before God and our confidence in knowing we will be fed. The truth is that we can be casual or reverent whichever way we receive. On a purely practical level, and as someone who distributes communion in the form of bread a lot, I have to say there is likely to be more reverence when the host is placed in the hand. Where else do you ask someone to stick their tongue out at you, and giving communion on the tongue is never the most pleasant of experiences. I am grateful to the cardinal for raising the issue. It is a good opportunity for us all to reflect on all the eucharistic gestures we make, and ensure they more conform with what is in our hearts before God.

*Morning Prayer of the Church is prayed
Monday - Friday at 9.15am in the Lady Chapel.*

Sat 17	6.00pm	Gertrude (intentions)
Sun 18	9.00am 11.00am	Julia Banneman (intentions) People of the Parish
Mon 19	9.15am	Maureen Staunton
Tues 20	9.15am	Sr. Breda (intentions)
Wed 21	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 22	9.15am 9.45am	Eucharistic Service Adoration
Fri 23	9.15am 10.00am 7.00pm	Eucharistic Service Whole School Assembly Stations of the Cross
Sat 24	5.15pm 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
Sun 25	9.00am 11.00am	Trish Franci RIP Mena McGovern RIP (A)
Mon 26	9.15am	Alexandra Orme (intentions)
Tues 27	9.15am 8.00pm	Gloria, Alaiba, Peter, & Victoria Dziwornooch RIP Service of Reconciliation
Wed 28	7.00pm	Mass of Chrism (Brentwood Cathedral)
Thurs 29	8.00pm 11.15pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper (Damian Luis RIP) Night Prayer
Fri 30	12.15pm 3.00pm	Children's Stations of the Cross Solemn Liturgy of the Passion
Sat 31	8.00pm	The Paschal Vigil (People of the Parish)
Sun 1 April	9.00am 11.00am	Louis Lyras RIP Hannah Falvey RIP

Rotas for weekend 24/25 March & 31 March/1 April

	Readers	Eucharist	Children's Liturgy
6.30pm	Please see rotas displayed in the porch and sacristy	Please see rotas displayed in the porch and sacristy	Please see rotas displayed in the sacristy
9.00am			
11.00am			

The Season of Lent 2018.

As we approach Holy Week, the most important time in the life of the Church, may I encourage you to come to our **Service of Reconciliation on Tuesday 27 March at 8.00pm**. This is always a joyful occasion to experience the sacrament of reconciliation, especially if you have been away from confession for a while. Now is also the last opportunities to contribute to our **Cafod collection** and walk the **Stations of the Cross**. I am looking for someone to attend the **Mass of Chrism in Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday 28 March at 7.00pm**. This is when we come together as a diocese, our priests renew their promises and Bishop Alan blesses the sacramental oils for use in our churches. Would you be able to go and collect the oils for use in our church? Please let me know if you can.

First Holy Communion 2018. We welcome the children and their families preparing to receive holy communion for the first time later this year as they take a special part in our celebration masses this weekend. **A Reminder:** the fourth session for the St. Winefride's Group take place on Tuesday 20 March at 3.15pm after school; and for the St. Stephen's Group on Saturday 24 March at 10.00am in the Community Room. Parents who have signed up for the last Passover should come on Friday 23 March. Please arrive by 7.15pm at my house.

The Sacrament of Confirmation 2018.

A reminder to all our young people who have begun their preparation for confirmation that we are meeting for our first session at 7.30pm in the Community Room. Please make sure you are on time so that we can make a prompt start at 7.30pm.

Please pray for those who are sick:

Masaldo Merry, Clare O'Toole, Denzil Lang,
John Oruche, Patrick Berton,
Christine Jones, & Christine Kristen

Newham Citizens Accountability Assembly. April 26, at St Bonaventure's School from 5:30pm - 7:30pm – as a church, we will be meeting with candidates standing in the Council elections, to get them to commit to improving the quality of housing in Newham. We will be joined by other churches and institutions from across East London, to stand together as citizens and to hold decision makers accountable. We would like as many of the church as possible to attend – please speak to anyone in the Building Community team to sign up after mass, or fill in the sign up sheet on your way into church.

Housing Support Training – On 7 April from 12:00pm - 5:00pm – In collaboration with Citizens UK, we will be hosting a day of training on what to do in a difficult housing situation. We will be covering topics including Council Housing, Rogue Landlords, Homelessness and how to campaign effectively for change. It is aimed at anyone in the church, whether you are in a difficult situation, know somebody that is, or are interested in the subject. If you would like to find out more, please email Alec at alecj@theology-centre.org

19 March: solemnity of St. Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

25 March: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)

29 March: Holy Thursday

30 March: Good Friday

1 April: solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord

Parish Diary

Mon	Governors	6.00pm	School
	Confirmation 1	7.30pm	Community Room
Tues	Prayer Group	9.45am	Community Room
	FHC 4	3.15pm	School
Thurs	Deanery Conference	11.00am	Stratford
Fri	Passover 3	7.15pm	No. 146
Sat	FHC 4	10.00am	Community Room

Thank you for your generous offerings

4 March

Envelopes	Loose Plate	St. Orders	Total
£425.98	£441.58	£344.00	£1,211.56

11 March

Envelopes	Loose Plate	St. Orders	Total
£508.67	£496.36	£344.00	£1,349.03

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