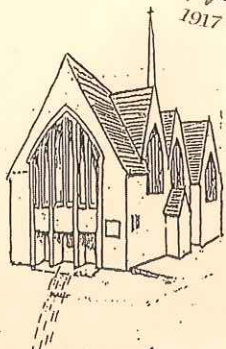


The Catholic Parish of Manor Park St. Stephen & St. Nicholas



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

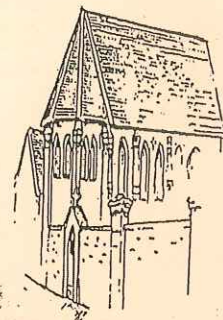
email: manorpark@dioceseofbrentwood.org
Web: www.ss-stephenandnicholas.org.uk

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



4th Sunday of Easter (Year B) 22 April 2018

From Fr. Sean,

One of the great joys of life that brings enormous energy, comes when a young person looks at what has been up to then a thorny issue, and with fresh vision sees a way through, unhampered by the pessimism that says we've always done it this way, and we tried that before and it didn't work. Though it pains me to say, being a student of history, that current western foreign policy in the Middle East could do with a dose of youthful freshness. It has become so weighed down by the spectre of past misadventures leaving a vast moral vacuum into which has poured the nastiest of human cruelty enough to despair that we can ever crawl out of the cauldron again. Our prime minister, in justifying the recent bombing in Syria, said that the use of chemical weapons should not become normalized. She is too late: they, and a lot of other nasties are only too available. The Middle East, seemingly the battleground for human conflict ever since humans chose to use violence to settle their differences, is scarred by the tainted legacy of colonialism and the consequences of more recent military solutions from the West. These proved misguided, misinformed, and misjudged; and clumsy and inconsistent interventions at the end of the barrel of a gun have left our politicians fearful of acting at all. Fearful of being sucked into complicated conflicts with no exit, and fearful of electorates who don't see why we should get involved anyway. As a result, hundreds of thousands have been deliberately slaughtered in Syria and in other proxy wars, amidst a dearth of political leadership. It strikes me that what we need is to set our history to one side. International law, deeply based in our humanity, is clear that nations can intervene in the affairs of others when gross acts of inhumanity are taking place. Now is the moment not to lament the past but seize the opportunity of the present. We need to encourage and support leaders who put political advantage to one side, commit loudly and proudly to common human values of dignity and care for the poorest, who will work with whoever shares those values irrespective of past differences, who bring fresh eyes to complicated dilemmas, and are prepared to act consistently and clearly for the common good of all humanity. Such leaders inspire hope. We are in great peril of normalizing the junking of the hard won growing into a civilization of international law for regulating nations' relations with each other. Now is not the time to walk by on the other side when our sisters and brothers are crying out in their distress.

Services for the week beginning 22 April

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

Sat 21	6.00pm	Mary Forshaw RIP
Sun 22	9.00am 11.00am	George Stephen Edozie RIP People of the Parish
Mon 23	9.15am	Felicia Mills-Acquah (intentions)
Tues 24	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Wed 25	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 26	9.15am 9.45am	Aloysious Wallwork RIP (A) Adoration
Fri 27	9.15am 10.00am	Eucharistic Service Whole School Assembly
Sat 28	5.15pm 6.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Doreen Hutchins RIP
Sun 29	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish James & Annie Corry RIP

23 April: solemnity of St George, martyr and patron of England

25 April: feast of St. Mark, evangelist

Parish Diary

Mon	Finance Committee	7.00pm	No. 146
Tues	Prayer Group	9.45am	Community Room
	FHC 6	3.15pm	School
Wed	Governors	5.00pm	Palmer C. A.
Thurs	Newham Citizens	5.30pm	St. Bonaventures
Sat	FHC 6	10.00am	Community Room
	FHC Parents	10.00am	Church

Please pray for those who are sick:

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

Rotas for weekends 28/29 April

	Readers	Eucharist	Children's Liturgy
6.30pm	Andrea Morais, Christine Malone	Comfort Obi, Deirdre Finan, Lesley Thomas	Martina, Mira, & Helpers
9.00am	Tina Amuzie, Patricia D'Monte	Earnest Peter, Peter Da Costa, Paul Yirbie, Mary Jane Ememe, Hazel Ringrow	
11.00am	Chioma Oruche, Perpetua Chukwuma	Galvin Gabriel, Sr. Ugochi, Bridget Okereke, Charlotte Doe, Caroline Alfred	

Newham Citizens

Accountability Assembly

Thursday April 26 5:30pm - 7:30pm

St Bonaventure's School

For the first time in sixteen years the people of Newham have the prospect of a new mayor. New leadership offers an exciting opportunity to forge a new relationship to improve the lives of our community and make this a better place to live, where we can all flourish. The Labour candidate has agreed to come and listen to what we have to ask of her. To strike a good relationship with her that continues through her term of office we have to let her know that we are serious, and that means that we fill the hall at St. Bonaventure's. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to go so far, but we still have places to fill. Over the past two years our Building Community Campaign has highlighted the degrading conditions many of our people are living in with the threat of eviction hanging over them. Over the past six months I have become aware of the scandal of so many public officials using overweening bureaucracy to wriggle out of promises made to local people about the benefits of affordable housing living wage jobs and employment opportunities that were to be the proud legacy of the Olympic Games. If we care about a faith that brings life in all its fullness, and care about where we live and the lives of our neighbours, then sign up today to represent us on Thursday, as another piece of our renewal.

Senior Citizens. The April gathering for our Senior Citizens takes place on Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Everyone welcome as guest or helper to what is always a fun time with good chat and plenty of fabulous refreshments.

Finance Committee. A reminder to members that we meet on Monday at 7.00pm in No. 146.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Please continue to pray and encourage our young people preparing to be confirmed at Pentecost. This afternoon they are travelling to Brentwood along with about seven hundred young people from across the diocese to meet with Bishop Alan and take the next step in their journey of faith. Our coach will be leaving outside the church at 12.30pm and should arrive back at 6.45pm. **Our third session** together takes place on Monday 30 April at 7.30pm in the Community Room.

First Holy Communion. The sixth session for the St. Winefride's Group takes place on Tuesday 24 April at 3.15pm in school, and for the St. Stephen's Group on Saturday 28 April at 10.00am in the Community Room. **All parents** are reminded that you need to come for your last session on Saturday 28 April at 10.00am in the church.

Baptism Preparation. Our next preparation sessions will take place on Tuesday 1 & 8 May at 2.00pm in the Community Room. Parents who have children under seven years of age who they wish to be baptized should introduce themselves after mass and then attend the two sessions. At least one parent must be in possession of a Catholic baptismal certificate. Please do not book dates for baptism until attending the two sessions.

Mass for Migrants. *The annual Mass in honour of St. Joseph the Worker celebrating our diversity takes place on Monday 7 May at 11.00am at St George's Cathedral, Southwark.*

Thank you for your generous offerings

8 April

Envelopes	Loose Plate	St. Orders	Total
£408.35	£410.35	£344.00	£1,162.80

15 April

Envelopes	Loose Plate	St. Orders	Total
£380.82	£549.82	£344.00	£1,274.64

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