



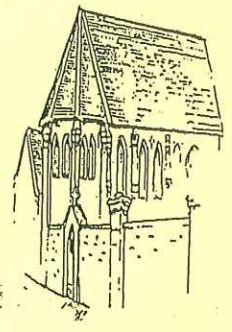
The Catholic Parish of Manor Park St. Stephen & St. Nicholas

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5th & 6th Sundays of Easter (Year B) 29 April - 12 May 2018

From Fr. Sean,

Community organizers will often ask you to tell a story of when you felt powerless, and whilst I expect it's true that most of us most of the time feel rather small in the overall scheme of things and so could recount many such stories, it depends on your perspective. To the person living on the streets here, those of us with money in our pockets are immensely powerful, for example. The Mayor of Newham is a relatively minor post in the political household of this country with very few statutory powers. Nevertheless, the person who is elected to this office on Thursday will have enormous influence upon the lives of each one of us who live in this borough, not least because they will set the tone for the kind of politics we can do to change and improve our common life over the next four years. So it was with great interest that I met with the two main candidates at the Newham Citizens' Accountability Assembly last week. Well, if it was speed dating that would have been the end of it. These politicians are too slick in what they do, and I for one am not political enough to be able to pin them down. Fortunately, our church, and other institutions in Newham Citizens, have been around for a long time. We are here for the long haul and have the time to build a respectful and fruitful relationship with the new mayor. But they do need pinning down, and soon. I don't blame the candidates when they were slippery. They are standing for a new job and they don't know who we are. Caution is entirely appropriate. Equally, we do not know them, and so have yet to develop a clear strategy for a relationship. One candidate made a pledge to deal with the democratic deficit that cripples political life here, with more openness and transparency. That is good to hear, but it must go hand in hand with the testimonies of people in our communities, some of which we heard the other night, that speak of the scandalous and degrading circumstances so many have to live with. It is because of this and our faith in the Master who calls us all in our human dignity to the fullness of life that we seek this relationship with our new mayor.

Services for the weeks beginning 29 April & 6 May

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

Sat 28	6.00pm	Doreen Hutchins RIP
Sun 29	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish James & Annie Corry RIP
Mon 30	9.15am	Members & Benefactors Catholic Fellowship, Ilford
Tues 1 May	9.15am	Maureen Hulse RIP
Wed 2	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 3	9.15am 9.45am	Mary Scannell RIP (A) Adoration
Fri 4	9.15am 10.00am	Eucharistic Service Whole School Assembly
Sat 5	12.30pm 5.15pm 6.00pm	Baptism Sacrament of Reconciliation Patrick & Mary Connaghan RIP
Sun 6	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Christine Gogo RIP
Mon 7	10.00am	Peter & John Connaghan RIP
Tues 8	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Wed 9	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 10	9.30am 7.30pm	James Loughran RIP (Whole School) People of the Parish
Fri 11	9.15am 10.00am	Terry Thomas RIP Whole School Assembly
Sat 12	12.15pm 5.15pm 6.00pm	Memorial Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation People of the Parish
Sun 13	9.00am 11.00am	Sylvester Correia RIP (A) Len & Ann Graves RIP (A)

3 May: feast of SS Philip & James, apostles

4 May: national feast of the English Martyrs

10 May: solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Rotas for weekends 5/6 & 12/13 May

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

Parish Diary

Mon	Confirmation 3	7.30pm	Community Room
Tues	Prayer Group	9.45am	Community Room
	Baptism Preparation 1	2.00pm	Community Room
	FHC 7	3.15pm	School
Sat	FHC 7	10.00am	Community Room
Tues	Prayer Group	9.45am	Community Room
	Baptism Preparation 2	2.00pm	Community Room
Fri	FHC practice	6.30pm	Church
	Action Team	7.15pm	Community Room

Newham Citizens Accountability Assembly.

Thank you to everyone who signed up and committed to represent us, and then did so last week. We have begun an important journey for us all with the new mayor. Watch out for the next steps and how you can support them. Don't forget to vote on Thursday.

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.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Our last session before the celebration of the sacrament itself will take place on Monday 30 April at 7.30pm in the Community Room. Candidates are reminded to have their saint's name and sponsor's name. Catechists are meeting after 11.00am mass today to finalize the programme. The practice will take place on Friday 18 May at 7.00pm in the church. This is for all candidates and their sponsors.

Ascension Day. Our bishops recently rearranged our holy day solemnities, so that The Ascension is restored to 40 days after Easter, taking place this year on 10 May. As usual on these days mass will be celebrated at 9.30am and 7.30pm

Mass for Migrants.

The annual Mass in honour of St. Joseph the Worker celebrating the rich diversity in our communities takes place on Monday 7 May at 11.00am at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. All are warmly invited to join the celebration. The holding of this annual celebration began with our work with London Citizens supporting migrants some years ago. At a time when immigration is once again a hot topic, and the dignity of migrants once again needs to be defended, this celebration is an important and timely witness to our Gospel values.

First Holy Communion. The time is drawing close when our children will be receiving communion for the first time, so do keep them and their families in your prayers. The last session for the St. Winefride's Group takes place on Tuesday 1 May at 3.15pm in school, and for the St. Stephen's Group on Saturday 5 May at 10.00am in the Community Room. The practice for all parents and children is on Friday 11 May at 6.30pm. **Please note the change of time.**

Memorial Mass. You are invited to join us for our Easter Memorial Mass on Saturday 12 May at 12.15pm, to remember in this season of resurrection all our loved ones who have died, especially in the past year. If you wish anyone who has died in the past twelve months to be remembered please write their name on some paper marked memorial mass and hand in by Monday 7 May.

Please pray for those who are sick:

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

Thank you for your generous offerings

22 April

Envelopes	Loose Plate	St. Orders	Total
£431.42	£442.73	£344.00	£1,218.15

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