



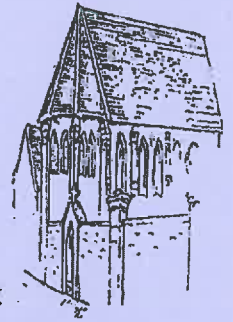
The Catholic Parish of Manor Park St. Stephen & St. Nicholas

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The Ascension of the Lord (Year A) 28 May 2017

From Fr. Sean,

One reaction I heard from an outside observer of the horrific events in Manchester last week was to question the lack of anger in the general response. He noted with admiration the stoicism and the determination to carry on but wondered what had happened to the fury that such atrocities should be visited upon the innocent in such a random callous fashion with no thought for the young lives cut short. Could it be that our very resilience makes us shrug our shoulders in a way that tips over into indifference? We expect our leaders and those in authority to say that we won't be bowed, but you wouldn't be human if you didn't at least entertain thoughts of changing plans to avoid crowds, for example, at least for a while; or looked twice at people in a less than trusting manner if they do the slightest thing out of the ordinary. It's not cowardice to admit to being afraid. Though the odds of being caught up in such horror are so incredibly long, terrorism works by terrorizing, and it doesn't take much to work. Perhaps we can learn to live with it, even as we seek greater justice in the world beyond our own doorstep; and just because no obvious anger is immediately visible doesn't have to mean we don't care. Indeed I have found that a cold anger is usually a much more effective motivation for action than a hot anger that merely reacts in the heat of the moment to what is done but is then often burnt out very quickly. It is motivation enough, if any were needed, why we people of faith need more than ever to play our part in the shaping of a good society that acts in the best interests of all for the common good. We need to be part of the solution rather than being portrayed as the problem. And let us offer our prayer for the dead, the injured, the suffering and bereaved. May the many acts of kindness be a fitting response.

Services for the weeks beginning
28 May & 5 June

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

Sat 27	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sun 28	9.00am 11.00am	Benjamin Lopez RIP (A) Mona Hunt-Valli RIP
Mon 29	10.00am	Eucharistic Service
Tues 30	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Wed 31	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 1 June	9.15am 9.45am	Eucharistic Service Adoration
Fri 2	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Sat 3	12.30pm 5.15pm 6.00pm	Baptism Sacrament of Reconciliation Maureen Hulse RIP
Sun 4	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Damian Luis RIP
Mon 5	10.00am	Eucharistic Service
Tues 6	9.15am	Eileen Harrington RIP
Wed 7	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 8	9.15am 9.45am	Nora Ryan (Intentions) Adoration
Fri 9	10.00am 7.00pm	Whole School Assembly Silver Jubilee Celebration
Sat 10	12.30pm 5.15pm 6.00pm	Baptism Sacrament of Reconciliation Veronica Ojuri (Intentions)
Sun 11	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Colin Rowland RIP (F)

Please pray for those who are sick:
Norah Crow, Masaldo Merry, Clare O'Toole,
Denzil Lang, John Oruche, Patrick Berton,
Alvina Telles, Jude Telles, Christine Jones,
& Christine Kristen

Rotas for weekend 3/4 June & 10/11 June

	Readers	Eucharist	Children's Liturgy
6.00pm	Jacqueline George, Sr. Dorothy	Amanda Narine, Joseph Liguori, Comfort Obi	
9.00am	Tina Amuzie, Sally Edozie	Vida Wills, Earnest Peter, Victor Emilion, Natasha Da Costa, Peter Da Costa	
11.00am	Vivian Onwuchekwa, Perpetua Chukwuma	David Graves, Anthony Boakye, Winifred Alexis, Sr. Ugochi, Jim Porritt	
6.00pm	Dianne Thomas, Lydia David	Christine Malone, Lesley Thomas, Jacqueline George	
9.00am	Christine Malone, Teresa De Souza	Vida Wills, Patricia D'Monte, Maria Emilion, Teresa De Souza, Hazel Ringrow	
11.00am	Sr. Dorothy, Lucy Achola	Galvin Gabriel, Anthony Boake, Anthonia Duke, Caroline Alfred, Marian Chery	

Confirmation. Next Sunday as we celebrate the feast of Pentecost the sacrament of confirmation will be conferred on our group of young people who have been eagerly preparing over the past few months. Everyone is reminded of the confirmation practice on Friday 2 June at 7.00 pm in the church. This is for all candidates and their sponsors. Catechists are invited to a meeting on Monday 5 June at 7.00pm in the Community Room, to prepare for the next part of the journey.

Journey of Faith. Today at our 11.00am mass we welcome Sandra, Anthea, Lara, and Shauyra who were baptized and confirmed on Easter Night as new Catholics in our community, together with little Alexandra who was also baptized then, as they receive their certificates and celebrate going forth.

First Holy Communion. Welcome to our children who recently made their first communion with us as they return for their going forth mass and receive their certificates. Welcome to Mr. Underwood, headteacher at St. Winefride's, who joins us to present the certificates.

Diocesan Centenary Lectures.

7 June: Rev. Stewart Foster, Diocesan Archivist, *The Foundation & Early Years of the Diocese (1917-1951)*

14 June: Canon Brian O'Shea, Parish Priest of Grays: *The Development of the Diocese (1951-1979)*

21 June: Rev. Martin Boland, Dean of the Cathedral: *The Diocese Today – A Reflection*

28 June: Dr. Paul Doherty, Headmaster, Trinity Catholic High School, Woodford Green *The Patron Saints of the Diocese of Brentwood*

Admission Free - Bookstall Available.

All Lectures take place at 7.30pm in Cathedral House, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT

A Message From Bishop Alan.

I ask all the people of Brentwood Diocese to remember in their prayers particularly this week-end all the people of Manchester and beyond who have been caught up in the recent tragedy. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the dead and injured; their family and friends. At this time it is important to stand together and always to seek love before hatred. The response of the families of the people of Manchester has been a great witness for us all – in our turn we need to continue to support our friends in Manchester in whatever way we can.

S.V.P. St John Bosco Camp. Bookings are now being taken for the Summer Holiday Camp at Aldham Essex. Boys, week 1 22- 29 July, week 2 29 July - 5 August, girls 5 - 12 August. Suggested donation £145.00. Apply at svpboscocamp.org.uk or contact the parish office.

Youth Poll on Life, Faith, & Vocational Discernment. Whatever next: the institutional Church wants to know what you think! It's true. All our young people aged between 13-29 are invited to contribute their views to this poll set up by Pope Francis in anticipation of a Synod in 2018 on the role of young people in the Church, at: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cathnews-synod-youth-poll. The closing date is **5 June 2017** and the poll can be completed in less than half an hour.

You may recall Tina Amuzie spoke recently about a new project to build a new school in Nigeria. She is returning next weekend to ask for your financial support in a collection as you leave church.

**Thank you for your generous offerings
21 May: £1,541.10**