

# THE FEAST OF THE HOLY ARCHANGELS

## Sts MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL

Sunday 29th September 2024



Join us after the 11.00am Mass on  
Sunday for Devotions to St Michael Archangel.



# A HOLY HOUR OF REPARATION



**Thursday 3rd October 2024**

***Our Lord's Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane***

6.00pm—Evening Prayer and Rosary

7.00pm—Mass in Honour of Our Lord's Agony

**Followed by a Holy Hour of Reparation**

**Our Lord's request is that we stay awake with Him  
and that we spend time in prayer with him**

## FIRST FRIDAY & DEVOTIONS

### ***NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS***

**Friday 4th October 2024**



6.00pm—First Friday Confessions & Exposition until 7.15pm

6.30pm—Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.30—Mass

**Followed by First Friday Devotions**

## FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

### ***DEVOTIONS TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY***

**Saturday 5th October 2024**

**for five consecutive First Saturdays**

*Receiving Communion worthily each First Saturday, going to Confession each First Saturday, making a Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, saying the Rosary with a short quiet Rosary meditation.*

8.00am—Church opens for Silent Prayer 8.15am—Morning Prayer

Followed by First Saturday Confessions until 10.00am

9.30am—Rosary with Rosary Meditation until 10.00am

10.15am—First Saturday Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

10.30am—Mass for the Conversion of Sinners



# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

192, Nags Head Road, Ponders End, Enfield EN3 7AR

Tel: 020 8804 2149

Email: [pondersend@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:pondersend@rcdow.org.uk) Parish Priest – Fr John Shewring

Parish Admin – Dorothy Eribankya Catechetical Coordinator – Arianne Phagoo 020 8443 4069  
or 07784186406

Live streaming: <https://www.churchservices.tv/enfield>



Our Lady of  
The Rosary



October

## 26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*"No one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me."*

The heresy of Jansenism depicted the crucifix with rigid arms raised upwards, symbolising salvation reserved to a few, and betraying a complete misunderstanding of the Spirit who invokes the boundless possibilities of charity. What a contrast with the Christ-figures of the middle ages! Even nailed to the cross, they appear to embrace the whole world with their outstretched arms. The authentic way of being a Christian is to be open to the dimensions of all humanity, in the manner of these mediaeval figures. A sympathetic, understanding outlook and the refusal of spiritual and religious monopolies should characterise the disciples of Christ. Joshua failed to understand the prophetic charism of the two men who had not come to the Tent of Meeting. John could not understand how people could expel demons in the name of Jesus without belonging to the twelve. As for ourselves, how frequently, under pretext of orthodoxy, do we identify belonging to Jesus with some kind of exclusive option of a denominational, social or even political kind? No one can take possession of the Spirit of the Risen One: he is greater than any human group, any social movement, any religious family. He expects all ecclesiastical provincialism, every pretention to monopolise the dynamism of which he is the supreme source.

### Weekend Mass Intentions

**Sat** - 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer  
8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary  
9.30am – Intentions of Marie Helene Bouquet

**Followed by Confessions until 11.00am**

5.00pm – Eileen Swanton - Anniversary

**Sun** – The church opens at 7.00pm

8.00am – Intentions of Joson & Babet Families

9.30am – Elvira Charles – Birthday Intention

11.00am – Caroline & Kingsley Nebechi - Birthday

5.00pm – For Intentions of Parishioners

**Mon** – 8.15am - Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – For a Private Intentions (GC)

**No Adoration this morning**

**Tues** – 8.15am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Intentions of Jacques & Angie

**Wed** - 8.15am – Church Opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Sadie Woods - RIP

**Thu** – 8.15am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Thanksgiving for Mark & Jane Kamara

**Adoration until 11.00am**

6.00pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.00pm – Mass for Our Lord's Agony

**Followed by a Holy Hour of Reparation**

**Fri** 5.00pm – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

6.30pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.30pm – Intentions of Suzette Joson

**Followed by Chaplet of Divine Mercy**

**Sat** – 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.15am – Morning Prayer

**Followed by 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Confessions until 10.00a**

9.30am – Rosary & 15mins quiet Rosary Prayer

10.15am – **First Saturday Devotions**

10.30am – For the Conversion of Sinners

5.00pm – Richard & Sheila Cronin & Teresa

O'Connor - Anniversaries

**Sun** – Church opens at 7.00am

8.00am – Thanks Int - Cecilia Obiwelozor & Family

9.30am – Philomena Gomez - RIP

11.00am – Inacin Rodrigues Lukhezo – Anniv of Birth

5.00pm – Willie Simon – Birthday Anniversary

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION CONFESSION

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept from after  
Morning Mass until 11.00am**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October from  
8.30am to 10.00am**

Please do take advantage of these times. Always a very special time of the year and so good for us to put things right with God and with ourselves. Face to face or private confessions in the sacristy.

### AUTUMN FAITH SHARING 'Calling People of Goodwill'

**The Bible and the Common Good**

The common good is central to the Christian imagination – in the words of St John Chrysostom, 'it's the highest point' – because God calls people to live in relationship with him and each other.

#### Timetable

**28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> September - Commitment Weekend** – For signing up to be part of our Faith Sharing Small Groups.

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October – Group Leaders Meeting.** 7.00pm in the Parish Hall.

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 10.45am** Small Groups begin meeting in the Parish Hall.

Please do consider signing up for one of our Small Prayer Groups. A time for sharing, listening and praying. All part of preparing for Jubilee Year 2025!

## SYCAMORE

**SYCAMORE – 'THE YEAR OF PRAYER'  
WEEKLY COURSE – AUTUMN 2024**

Please join us as we follow this course on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Five sessions about Christian prayer and the adventure of the spiritual life. For those who are just beginning and also for those who have been praying for a long time! We begin with supper at 7.15pm. Do join us in the hall

### Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

**September 2024 – For the cry of the earth**

Let us pray that each of us listen with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world that we now inhabit

**"Stay with me for one hour"**

**Mass in Honour of Our Lord's Agony  
followed by Holy Hour of Reparation  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024**



6.00pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary  
7.00pm – Mass  
7.45pm - Holy Hour

## BLESSING OF ROSARIES

**Weekend 5/6<sup>th</sup> October**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary so over the weekend please bring your Rosaries for blessing during each of the Masses. Don't forget

## PARISH DAY PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024

There will be a day Pilgrimage from the parish to the National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October. A coach will leave from the church at 7.30am and we will leave from Walsingham at approx. 5.15pm. The cost will be £20 per seat on the coach. Please put your name to the list in the porch and pay the money at the same time. Cancellations at the last moment means empty seats on the coach

## THE MANNA DAY CENTRE

The Manna Day Centre are asking if we would consider passing our Harvest Festival gifts on to them as we usually do. They support people 7 days each week – food, showers, clean clothing, medical care etc. Attached to this newsletter are the items they require – can you begin bringing things in from now on. Thanks

## FRIDAY LUNCH

Our Friday Lunch Club is very popular but we are in desperate need of help for a short time to move heavy tables and to help unload food off the van when it is delivered – for about an hour and half from about 9.00am. Help.

Parish Shop – October Magnificate, Rosaries, Candles, Occasional Cards, all kinds of Statues, Crucifixes, Medals, all kinds of Devotional items – have a look!

## YOUNG ADULTS DEANERY MEETINGS

Ages 18 – 35

The idea is for young adults (ages 18-35) to meet up once a month at one of the parishes in the Enfield deanery on a weekday evening for a time of prayer, worship (with a talk) and a social. This will allow young adults to grow and develop in their faith with mutual support and friendship. The next meeting will be on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September (7-9pm). Venue to be announced. For further details please contact: [annamcmullan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:annamcmullan@rcdow.org.uk)

## HARVEST WEEKEND

5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> October 2024

CAFOD Family Fast Day is on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October. Please do try and make some sacrifice of food on that day and maybe give what you save to CAFOD at the special collection during the Harvest weekend – 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> October. CAFOD'S policy is to help people in need to help themselves.

## LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom

Meeting on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October at  
2.45pm

An opportunity to meet together and say our Legion prayers together and to give our reports on the work we have achieved over the past week or so.

## ANNIVERSARY OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> APPARITION OF O.L. OF FATIMA

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024

The anniversary of the 6<sup>th</sup> Apparition of Our Lady of Fatima falls on a Sunday this year. After the 11.00am Mass there will be our usual devotions – we will process to the parish hall and follow the devotions there. Please do join us on that day for this special time in honouring Our Lady.



Parish Shop – Open for Rosaries, Candles, Statues and Occasional Cards.

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Friday Evenings  
from 5.00 – 7.15pm  
Saturday Mornings  
from 7.00 – 8.30am

*During this Year of Prayer,  
Try and give a little  
more time to Our Lord*

## MASS INTENTIONS

Wanting a Mass said for a person or occasion is good but a reminder that if you wish a special date then you must hand in your request well in advance if you do not want to be disappointed. Thanks

## ALTAR SERVERS MASS

AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024

As usual we will be attending the Altar Server's Mass at Westminster Cathedral on the above date. All servers are expected to attend. Bring a packed lunch. A coach will leave the church at 12noon sharp – please make sure you are on time

## Prayers please:

**Sick:** Daphne Sullivan, Fergal Sherry, Mehil Ftoni, Agnes Robinson, Peter Thorpe, Joe Harper, Mary Conway.. Suzi Modi, Agnes Guveya, Liz Freeman, Adreina Sifari, Margaret Felgate, Mark Keighrey, Marilyn Theodore. Sara Malaki, Phyllis Robinson, John Keighrey, Dan Heath, Geoffry Nwachukwu. Maureen Walker, Jennifer Browne, Eamon Fitzpatrick, Phyllis Robinson.

**Recently Dead:** Pauline Warriner, Angelo D'Vito, Kathleen Tracey,, . Thomas Lawlor. Brid McGonagle, Kathleen Fitzsimmons, Djomou Julienne, George Ssentamu, Cynthia Grant, Liam Sillivan, Fr David Williamson. Rose Tonkin, Frank Sebaggala, Rosemarie Warnesuriya, Elvera Nardone, Victor Saldhana, Fr Damien Crimes, Patrick Mukasa.

**Anniversaries:** Marianna Amato, Dennis Swanton, Stephanie Molloy, Eileen Swanton, Agnes Fernando, Sheila Saldhana, Theresa Ragbir, Marie Mendy, Vermeil Joson, Anscarina Dinha, Margaret Paul, Diane Bunker.

**Morning Prayer & Rosary** – is said before all weekday Masses. Monday to Thursday and Saturday mornings at 8.30am and Friday evening at 6.30pm before Mass.

**Legion of Mary** – the next meeting of the Legion of Mary is on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 2.45pm in the hall.

**Friday Lunch** – is served every Friday in the hall from 11.30am onwards – open to all comers – no cost!

**Contactless Offerings to the Parish** – you can find the Dona Contactless Terminal in the porch of the church for any donations you may wish to make to the parish and for payment for any purchases from the parish Repository. Not for special collections

## THE YEAR OF PRAYER

Following the Year of the Council we now enter the Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025. It is a weekly resource of prayer and meditation based on Pope Francis' recent catechesis on prayer. It is compiled in 52 parts providing a reflection for each week of the year. You will find them on the table in the porch each week.

**Please remember:** Please take advantage of the times of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our church. So important as a help to building a relationship with Jesus.



# MANNA DAY CENTRE



## Harvest Festival list 2024

Needs in order of priority

(Most important items in bold type)

### FOOD

**Sugar**

**Tomatoes (Tinned)**

**Vegetables (Tinned)**

**Pasta**

**Rice**

**Pasta Sauces**

**Baked Beans**

**Meat (Tinned)**

**Corned beef**

**Chopped ham**

**Luncheon meats**

**Fish**

### Tinned Food

**Soup**

**Stewed steak**

**Hot Dogs**

**Fruit**

**Rice pudding**

### Non-Tinned Food

**Curry Sauces**

**Porridge oats**

**Breakfast cereals**

**Tomato sauce**

**Jelly**

**Cooking oil**

**Biscuits**

### DRINKS

**Coffee**

**Dilutable drinks**

**Tea**

### TOILETRIES

**Bodywash**

**Soap**

**Deodorants**

**Shaving Foam**

**Shampoo**

**Disposable razors**

**Toothpaste**

**Toothbrushes**

### MEN'S CLOTHING

**Jeans (Waist 30-38)**

**Socks**

**Jogging bottoms**

**Trainers**

**Fleeces / Hoodies**

**T-shirts**

**Shoes**

**Underwear**

**Trousers (Waist 30-38)**

**Coats**

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Toilet Rolls**

**Tea Mugs**

**Novels**

**Oyster cards**

(Unregistered preferably)

# SUNDAY PLUS

Break out of boxes

## Celebrate our differences!



Photo: Sr Janet Fearn

By Sr Janet Fearn FMDM

If every bird in the wood were a nightingale, a crow would sound sweet – and yet we still fear to step out of line and look or sound different from the people around us.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to step out of our little boxes and to stop seeing the world in categories. We are to use our brains and our hearts to understand and do things in new ways, perhaps breaking boundaries that we might never have realised existed.

The apostles complained that a man who performed miracles was not "one of us" and

so shouldn't have the same powers and entitlements. Ouch! No wonder Jesus was unimpressed!

Why do we want people to fit into a mould? Life is much more exciting when we dare to be different. A few years ago, when the Moscow State Circus visited London, I treated myself to a ticket and sat totally spellbound by young performers who were gifted far beyond my physical capacity. (Uniquely, I was reserve for the reserve goalkeeper in the class netball team at school. Few people can match that achievement!)

Jesus wants us to celebrate our differences. If we were identical, we couldn't learn from each other. There'd be no point in visiting art galleries or museums. Sport would be boringly predictable. We wouldn't bother with the television, radio or cinema because nothing would be new. We'd all live in "little boxes made of ticky-tacky" and we'd "all look just the same" – but God didn't use a production line when creating our wonderful world.

*Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.*

[God] calls us not to think according to the categories of "friend/enemy", "us/them", "those who are in/those who are out", "mine/yours", but rather to go beyond, to open our heart in order to be able to recognise God's presence and action, even in unusual and unpredictable environments that are not part of our circle.

Pope Francis

### "Little boxes"

By Paul Higginson

We like to put people into little boxes and give them labels, based on such things as their political views, ethnicity, gender, sexuality or religion. Margaret Thatcher used to ask if politicians were "one of us", with the implication being that if they weren't, they were an opponent or even an enemy. Religious leaders have often been guilty of regarding those not in their particular group as outsiders or "not saved". Yet for Jesus, there was only one box. As Paul put it, there are "no more distinctions", we are all "one in Christ Jesus". In today's Gospel Jesus says that if you are not against us, you are for us. He tells us that it's a big box (he calls it "the kingdom of God") and we are all invited to be a part of it.

*Paul Higginson is a retired teacher and author of Doing Christianity: how religion is about what you do, not what you believe. Columba Books, Dublin, 2023.*




Your New Sunday Missal is available from Redemptorist Publications Visit [www.rpbooks.co.uk](http://www.rpbooks.co.uk) Code: 1979 ISBN: 9780852316436 Price: £19.95

  
Feast of the week  
Thursday 4 October  
St Francis of Assisi  
(1181-1226)

You are holy, Lord, the only God, and your deeds are wonderful...  
You are love. You are wisdom.  
You are humility. You are endurance.  
You are rest. You are peace.  
You are joy and gladness.  
You are justice and moderation.  
You are all our riches, and you suffice for us.

*St Francis of Assisi*

Loving Lord, it's so easy to judge people. Help me to look more deeply into the hearts of everyone I meet and to love them with your love.  Amen.

Today:  
Numbers 11:25-29  
James 5:1-6  
Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

Monday:  
Job 1:6-22  
Luke 9:46-50

Tuesday:  
Job 3:1-3. 11-17. 20-23  
Luke 9:51-56

Wednesday:  
Exodus 23:20-23  
Matthew 18:1-5. 10

Thursday:  
Job 19:21-27  
Luke 10:1-12

Friday:  
Job 38:1. 12-21; 40:3-5  
Luke 10:13-16

Saturday:  
Job 42:1-3. 5-6. 12-17  
Luke 10:17-24

Next Sunday:  
Genesis 2:18-24  
Hebrews 2:9-11  
Mark 10:2-16

# THE *Wednesday* WORD



## Encountering Christ The Wednesday Prayer Custom for Homes, Schools & Parishes

Prayerfully preparing for Sunday Mass with special prayers for our school families



Set aside 10-15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross and remain still for a minute of settling silence.



Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Read the Gospel, aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.

### 1

#### Read

#### The Gospel for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024

##### HELPS AND HINDRANCES

John said to Jesus, "Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him." But Jesus said, "You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us. If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward. But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out."

**Taken from Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48 The Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

### 2

#### Reflect

After reading the Gospel, did any words stand out? If they did, ponder or discuss them before proceeding with the reflection.

This part of Mark's Gospel is a collection of sayings about following the Lord, and in this Gospel we are presented with a rich insight into two distinct areas of discipleship. The first little story tells us that we must accept good wherever we can find it, not only in our own group and where we expect it to be. It is the same lesson that is presented in this Sunday's first reading. The Spirit of God is at work not only in Catholics, not only in Christians, not only even in explicit believers. As the Second Vatican Council taught so strongly, the Holy Spirit is at work too in those who are seeking the Kingdom under signs and symbols. They can even be better people and better Christians than we who sometimes rely too comfortably on our membership of Christ's Church! Secondly, the gospel provides some striking and urgent sayings about 'obstacles', literally trip-stones which makes people fall over. These vivid and dire warnings are about leading other believers into evil and about the trip-stones in ourselves, the disordered desires, that lead us into evil. Jesus' sayings here must be taken with the utmost seriousness – but not literally (Jesus is speaking graphically to make us listen, and is not advocating self-mutilation!). **What are the qualities of the Kingdom that we need to become models of Christ for other peoples?**

*Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB*

### 3

#### Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Thank God for any insight you may have received.

Then ask God to bless you with a spiritual gift to help you act on any resolution you have made. Perhaps: love, hope, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, patience, humility, joy, forgiveness, self-control, courage, generosity, faith or something else.

### 4

#### Pray for Families

**This Wednesday's word for our school families is GOODNESS!**

After praying for your loved ones, please remember to pray for our present and future Church, particularly for the families connected to our schools. You may want to conclude this special weekly time with a simple prayer such as:

**St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

# WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS +

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of **Sunday 29th September 2024**



## 1

1st Reading: Numbers 11:25-29

### Openness to the Spirit

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again. Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, "Look," he said, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, "My Lord Moses, stop them!" Moses answered him, "Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!"



This is a curious little scene, and the corresponding scene in the gospel is no less curious. It is part of the story of Israel's wanderings in the desert. Moses' father-in-law wisely suggests that Moses should appoint assistants to deal with all the complaints, quarrels and lawsuits among the people. So some of the divine spirit of judgment which was on Moses now descends upon these seventy elders. However, there seems to have been some sort of irregularity in the appointment of Eldad and Medad, which leads to objections even from Joshua, Moses' faithful servant and successor. Nevertheless, the message finally given is that the Spirit of God is to be welcomed wherever it may be found. This story is a valuable reminder that the Spirit of God is greater than human regulations and limitations, and that the Spirit crosses human boundaries. The wisdom of God may be found outside the Church; genuine holiness may there too. We must respect the freedom of God to give what he wills where he wills it, and we must always be open to learn from those who do not belong to our own tradition. **Where are true holiness and wisdom found?**

**Wealth can blind the wealthy to the needs and susceptibilities of others.**

## 2

2nd Reading: James 5:1-6

### The Dangers of Wealth

An answer for the rich. Start crying; weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting; your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them - listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.



This final reading from the Letter of James is a denunciation of the selfishness of the rich; it is in the style of the Old Testament prophets and contains a wealth of daunting imagery. This strength of expression is somewhat surprising in the early decades of Christianity, for it seems that wealth was not one of the temptations which seduced the early Christians. There do seem to have been rich Christians in the community at Corinth, but on the whole the Christians seem to have belonged to the lower classes and slaves. James, the presumed author of the letter, was the leader of the Jerusalem community. The Church at Jerusalem seems to have been in chronic financial difficulty: Paul was asked to help it out, and took a collection from the gentile Churches to Jerusalem. In the early second century the pagan Celsus denounces Christians as ignorant and ill-educated, but he does not denounce them for their wealth. However, these warnings from the author of our letter are still relevant today. It is still tempting to ease cash-flow by postponing payment of bills! The power and immunity given by wealth can still have a corrosive influence which blinds the wealthy to the needs and susceptibilities of others. **Is wealth necessarily a distraction from our true goals as followers of Christ?**

**The Wednesday Word** Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God

**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church  
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**



# SYCAMORE

## SYCAMORE – ‘YEAR OF PRAYER’ PATHWAY WEEKLY COURSE FROM AUTUMN 2024!

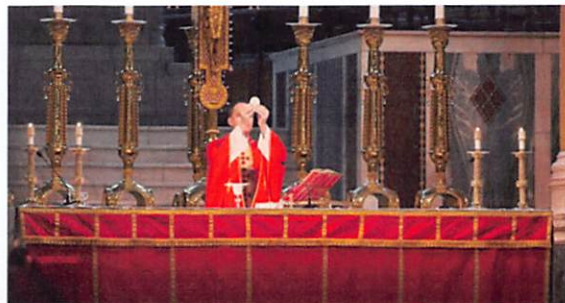
<https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/b-formation-pathways/year-of-prayer/>

### WEEK 4 (30<sup>th</sup> September 2024) PRAYING THE MASS

The Mass, the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, is at the very centre of Christian worship. We meet Jesus Christ through the prayer of the Christian community, through the Bible readings, through the ministry of the priest, and above all through his Real Presence in Holy Communion.

This Sycamore film explores the meaning of the Mass. It looks especially at how the Mass is a Holy Sacrifice that unites us with the death and Resurrection of Jesus.

- The meaning of the Mass.
- The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.
- The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.



Film 15, The Holy Eucharist: <https://www.sycamore.fm/videos/session-15-the-holy-eucharist/>

The focus of the Sycamore 'Year of Prayer' pathway is on Christian prayer and the adventure of the spiritual life. This course is suitable for those who are just beginning to pray and also for those who have been praying for a long time! <https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/b-formation-pathways/year-of-prayer/>

**(WEEK 1- 9<sup>th</sup> September) THE POWER OF PRAYER**

Film 8 in series.

<https://www.sycamore.fm/videos/session-8-the-power-of-prayer/>

What is prayer? Does prayer make a difference?  
How to pray.

**(WEEK 2 – 16<sup>th</sup> September) PRAYING WITH THE BIBLE**

Film 6 in series

What is the bible? Can we trust the bible? How the bible can change your life.

<https://www.sycamore.fm/videos/session-6-the-bible/>

**(WEEK 3 – 23<sup>rd</sup> September) HOW TO PRAY**

Film 19 in series.

<https://www.sycamore.fm/videos/session-19-how-to-pray>

The amazing adventure of prayer. Four basic ways of praying. Prayers and devotions to help you through the day.

**(WEEK 4 – 30<sup>th</sup> September) PRAYING THE MASS**

Film 15 in series.

<https://www.sycamore.fm/videos/session-15-the-holy-eucharist/>

The meaning of the Mass. The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

**(WEEK 5 – 7<sup>th</sup> October) MERCY AND MISSION**

Film 16 in series

Forgiveness and the Sacrament of Confession. Healing and the Sacrament of the Sick. Christian mission and the call to share our faith.

<https://www.sycamore.fm/videos/session-16-forgiveness-healing-and-mission/>



LOVE, LISTEN AND LEARN

# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

## ADMISSIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

*Due to the fact that there are now fewer pupils in London (there is a continued decrease in the population of children) and the issues with finding affordable housing we currently have some places in our Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 2024/2025 year groups.*

*Please contact the school if you wish to apply for a place for your child.*



**THANK YOU PARENTS AND PARISHIONERS FOR  
RECOMMENDING OUR SCHOOL AND HELPING TO BUILD  
UP OUR PUPIL NUMBERS.**

Phone Number: 020 88042396

E-mail: [office@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk)

*'Pupils are eager to come to school each morning because their teachers do their best to help them learn...Pupils learn in a calm environment. This is because the school has high expectations for pupils...Pupils conduct themselves well because they know what is right and have been taught how to behave well. Pupils achieve well across a range of subjects. They are proud to talk about their work which is presented with pride... Warm, caring relationships permeate the school... Pupils are confident that adults will listen to their worries and help them. This means they feel happy and safe...The curriculum is ambitious and well structured...Adults have secure subject knowledge...Leaders have high expectations and are ambitious for pupils...Safeguarding is a priority here.'*  
(OFSTED Inspection, November 2023).

LOVE, LISTEN AND LEARN

**'A. Classroom religious education is outstanding**

- *The school has adapted and developed the themes of the Religious Education Curriculum Directory in an excellent manner to meet the learning needs of the pupils' of St Mary's.*
- *The religious education programme in use fully delivers this content and the use of De Bono system in religious education pushes pupils to develop their understanding further.*
- *After carefully analysing the needs of their pupils, the school has developed a curriculum and teaching programme that has reached outstanding achievement by the pupils in religious education.*
- *Teachers have high expectations and plan lessons that deepen pupils' religious literacy.*
- *Since the last inspection, staff confidence in recording and assessment has been demonstrably achieved with the evidence of the clarity and confidence on the part of the staff in planning imaginative lessons based on the religious education programme followed in the school.*
- *The headteacher is also the religious education curriculum coordinator and she takes the closest interest in developing the excellent teaching and learning of religious education in the school.*
- *The chair of governors is a recent appointment but with her years of experience on the governing body she is clear in her role of both support and challenge in pursuing the special responsibility of governors of a Catholic school.*

**B. The Catholic life of the school is outstanding**

- *The curriculum fully conforms to the classroom curriculum time of at least 10% for religious education and teaching is fully in line with the requirements of the Bishops' Conference.*
- *The previous inspection asked the school to develop pupils' understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and to help pupils understand the ethics of the market place and fair trade. The school has fully addressed these priorities, both in their classroom teaching and in the encouragement offered when choosing charities to support.*
- *The pupils of St Mary's enjoy an outstanding experience of prayer, liturgy and Catholic worship.*
- *Pupils and staff have a deep understanding of the call to 'human flourishing' and are given opportunities to develop and celebrate their gifts and talents.*
- *Partnership with the parents is excellent; they appreciate and support all that the school provides for their children.*
- *The leadership and management of the school are very effective in promoting the Catholic life of the school. The head is strong and devoted in providing both oversight and support on all aspects of Catholic life. The contribution and regular visits of the parish priest provides a strong and stable reinforcement of the foundational position of Catholicism in the life of the school'*

*(OFSTED Section 48 Inspection, September 2019).*