



The Parish of the MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham



DOMINICA II ADVENTUS

9th December 2018

Welcome to Mass today!

If you are new to the area or this church, please make yourself known to one of the priests after Mass. There is tea and coffee available after the Solemn Mass in the Rectory, we hope you'll come through.

In the gospel reading today, we hear that the Lord is very near. This thought should make us happy! We have no need to worry and if we ask God for anything we want he will not refuse us. We look forward, confident and unafraid to the future with hope because the Lord is with us. He is the cause of our happiness. We are a people of hope and joy.



Sunday School at the 11.00am Mass is for Children of Primary School age. They are invited to join the others at the *Kyries*, follow the Cross.

Catholic Teachers working as leaders in non-Catholic secondary education are invited by the Archbishop to a meeting about moving to leadership in Catholic Schools. See poster at the back.

Chaplaincy Adviser needed by the Archbishop to support Catholic life and Religious Education in the 169 schools and colleges of the Diocese. See poster at the back.

The new floor has been covered to protect it. Steady as you go!

Check floor intentions. The list has been corrected and updated, so take a look, even if you have before. Last chance today.

Advent is a time of waiting, use it well.

Bible Alive for Advent - did you get one? Copies at the back foc.

Christmas Trees go up this week in Church. Come and lend a hand.

The Archbishop sent a letter last week, there are some copies at the back; as is a letter from Pope Francis.

Room at the inn? HOST is seeking people who could offer an invitation to adult international students for a day, weekend, or four days at Christmas. To be put in touch with your local organiser, visit www.hostuk.org or call 020 7739 6292.

Going away for Christmas? Plan where you will go for Mass. Make sure it's a proper Catholic ie *Roman* Catholic Church! Are you having friends and/or family coming? Bring them to Mass here at MPB, even if they are not Catholic.

For your prayers, on the back of this sheet are for your prayers! Take this sheet home and use it each day when you pray.

Senior Citizens Christmas Celebration at St Michael's Catholic College, Wednesday 19th December, 4.30pm-7.30pm. Christmas Dinner with drinks, games, raffle and live music from the students. See FrC for a ticket. Last chance today.

Poinsettias needed for the Christmas Crib, will you bring one, or three?

Christmas Offering for the Clergy envelopes are at the back; thank you for your generosity.

Mass intentions can be requested using the envelopes. There is no 'fee' but the diocese suggest a 'gift' of £10.

St Lucy's history has been lost and all we really know for certain is that this brave woman who lived in Syracuse lost her life during the persecution of Christians in the early fourth century. Her veneration spread to Rome so that by the sixth century the whole Church recognised her courage in defence of the faith.



Because people wanted to shed light on Lucy's bravery, legends began to

crop up. The one that has passed the test of time tells the story of a young Christian woman who vowed to live her life in service of Christ. Her mother tried to arrange a marriage for her with a pagan and Lucy knew her mother could not be swayed by a young girl's vow, so she devised a plan to convince her mother that Christ was the better partner for life.

After several prayers at the tomb of St Agatha, Lucy saw the saint in a dream. St Agatha told Lucy her mother's illness would be cured through faith, which Lucy used to persuade her mother to give the dowry money to the poor and allow her to commit her life to God.

While Lucy and her mother were grateful to God, the rejected bridegroom was deeply angered and betrayed Lucy's faith to the governor Paschasius. The governor attempted to force her into defilement at a brothel, but the guards who came to take her away were unable to move her, even after hitching her to a team of oxen.

The guards heaped bundles of wood around her but it wouldn't burn so they finally resorted to their swords, and Lucy met her death.

Though details of her life remain unknown, it is widely known that during her lifetime Christians were persecuted for their faith. They were forced to endure horrific torture and often met painful ends during Diocletian's reign. Though the details surrounding her death remain only as legends, it is all modern-day Christians can rely on.

Lucy's legend did not end with her death. According to later accounts, Lucy warned

Paschasius, the Governor, he would be punished. When he heard this he ordered the guards to gouge out her eyes; however, in another telling, it was Lucy who removed her eyes in an attempt to discourage a persistent suitor who greatly admired them.

When her body was being prepared for burial, they discovered her eyes had been restored.

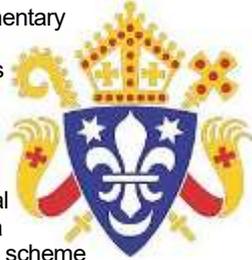
Sigebert (1030-1112), a monk of Gembloux, wrote *sermo de Sancta Lucia*, in which he described Lucy's body as remaining undisturbed in Sicily for 400 years until Faroald II, Duke of Spoleto, seized the island and transferred Lucy's remains to Abruzzo, Italy. It was later removed by Emperor Otho I in 972 to Metz and left in the church of St Vincent. There is much confusion about what happened to her body after its stay at St Vincent's, but it is believed that several pieces of her body can be found in Rome, Naples, Verona, Lisbon, Milan, Germany, France and Sweden. There is a tradition that her body was in the Church of St Lucy in Venice. The church was move a few metres for a new train station to be built, Santa Lucia. Her body was stolen from the Church whilst Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli, later Pope St John XXIII was Patriarch of Venice. He went on Television and Radio pleading for its return. It was discovered in the Chirch Grounds rolled up in carpet, and so restored to the Church.

Lucy, whose name can mean "light" or "lucid," is the patron saint of the blind. She is often seen with the emblem of eyes on a cup or plate. In paintings, she is often depicted with a golden plate holding her eyes and often holds a palm branch, which is a symbol of victory over evil.

Her feast is on Thursday this week.

Saint Lucy, you did not hide your light under a basket, but let it shine for the whole world, for all the centuries to see. We may not suffer torture in our lives the way you did, but we are still called to let the light of our Christianity illumine our daily lives. Please help us to have the courage to bring our Christianity into our work, our recreation, our relationships, our conversation -- every corner of our day. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

The Catholic Parliamentary and Public Affairs Internship Scheme is recruiting at least six recently graduated Catholics to learn from an intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context. The scheme will run from September 2019 until July 2020. Internship positions are given with Christian MPs and Peers in Parliament, or with the public affairs teams of Catholic agencies (the Catholic Education Service, CAFOD and the Caritas Social Action Network).



All interns also gain from retreats and spiritual guidance, as well as living in a vibrant, young Catholic community in the centre of London. During the year, as part of their overall formation, interns will study for a Postgraduate Certificate in Catholic Social Teaching from St Mary's University, Twickenham.

Further information can be found at www.faithinpolitics.org.uk. Applications are open, and the closing date is 28 February 2019. Applications should be made through the website. For more information, please direct any questions to stephanie.macgillivray@cbcew.org.uk, or visit @faithinpolitics on Facebook or @catholicinterns on Twitter

Dates for Christmass

Church Decorating
Saturday 15th 10am - 12noon
 Christmass Eve
11.30pm Midnight Mass
 Christmass Day
11.00am Holy Mass



Do you tune in to EWTN? *Eternal Word Television Network.* It's a TV and radio station which is reliably Catholic. Sky Ch 588 or iRadio EWTN Live.

Christmas Stamps 2018

The buying of Proper Christmas Cards is important for Catholic, and now so is buying stamps. This becomes more and more difficult. The Royal Mail have an on-line catalogue, scroll down and in the last items you will find them there.



Royal Mail have confirmed that they are available, but not all Post Offices will have them. Ask at your local Post Office. If they don't have them, ask them to get them.



As well as sending Christian Christmas cards, if you are posting them, use Christian Christmas stamps and help convey the real message of Christmas: Jesus born of Mary.

Walsingham

Significant developments are taking place in England's Nazareth and consequently there is a need to increase the contemplative presence. With the aim of establishing a new, enclosed community, men aged 18-30 are invited to apply to come to **The Retreat of Our Lady and St Benedict** for an agreed period to share in the religious life alongside Br Robert-Augustine, a Hermit of the Ordinate of Our Lady of Walsingham, as part of their own discernment process.

- Rule of St Benedict
- Eight monastic Offices daily
- Periods of Adoration
- Daily Mass at the Shrine or in the Oratory
- Time for reading and study

For further details please contact Br Robert
 E: brother_robert@live.co.uk
 T: 01328 820130
 W: www.retreat-olb.co.uk

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
Today <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30am 11.00am	Telma Baretto Teofonista Dias Parishioners
Mon 10th <i>feria</i>	1.05pm	Remedius Gonsalves ✕
Tues 11th (<i>Pope St Damasus</i>)	1.05pm	David Ward
Wed 12th (<i>OL of Guadalupe</i>)	1.05pm	Gertrude Dawson <i>foundation</i>
Thurs 13th <i>St Lucy</i>	1.05pm 6.30pm	Holy Souls ✕ Canonisation of Bl JHN
Fri 14th <i>St John of the Cross</i>	1.05pm	
Sat 15th <i>feria</i>		
Next Sunday <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	8.30am 11.00am	Family of MF Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Zephaniah 3:14-18 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:10-18

Sacrament of Confession. Sun 10.30 - 10.50; Mon-Fri 12.30 - 12.55

Evensong each Thursday 18.00 (during term-time).

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each Friday till 15.00 Divine Mercy

Last week: £1,451.35 inc Standing Orders and Card payments

Previous week £1,236.25 inc Standing Orders and Card payments

£45.00 *Catholic Youth Service*

Safeguarding. The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Officers: Kate Pope, Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 0800 0935063

Holy Father's Intention for December *Evangelisation* – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith. That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

Ordinariate Weekly Intercession: The Deans: Frs Lashbrook, Starkey & Waller.

For your prayers:

Those in formation for Ministry, Dn John Waters, Br Philip novOP (Jeff Gerlomes)

The Sick & Housebound: Mary, David, Theresa, Dora, Jo, Geoffrey, Paula, Holly, Mary, Ada, Fr John, Wilma, Adrian

Recently Departed: Mary Crisp

Find us on: Facebook: "preciousbloodSE1" Twitter: @preciousblood1

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