



Ordariate and Parish Church

MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

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



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Word of God Sunday
21st January 2024



In the gospel reading today, we hear that we are together as Christ's body. We all belong to the Church of which Christ is the head. Just as the body is made up of many parts all of which are interdependent, so too are we dependant on each other and ultimately on Christ. The Holy Spirit is given to us so that we may bring the Good News to the poor. In our lives we witness to the fulfilling of God's promise in the Holy Scriptures

Word of God Sunday is today, a day inaugurated by Pope Francis. Do you read the Bible, a catholic bible?

Lectors, those who read at Mass, will be commissioned today. Please keep them in your prayers, it is a wonderful *Service to the Church*. (Can they please stay after Mass for a very brief meeting with FrC)

Candles for the Year will be blessed the nearest Sunday to Candlemas. Sign up if you'd like to give particular candles for the year with a special intention. /candles

Cleaners come along each Saturday morning and lend a hand. We have been a bit thin recently. Can you help?

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity continues till 25th. Please pray for visible Christian Unity, that the world may believe in the One he has sent.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. A preparation course begins in February. See FrC or sign up on line.

First Holy Communion. If your child is 7years old or over, see FrC asap.

The Epiphany Quiz is still on-line. Last chance today.

The Pastoral Council members are reminded there's a meeting on Tuesday this week -. 23rd at 19.00

Bring your Bible to Mass. See if you can find the readings without using the sheet.

Cash Collections are going out of fashion! As well as the machines at the back of Church, there's a QR code on the Mass sheet which takes Apple & Google Pay (you will need to authorise your device the first time of use). We will still have the basket for those who prefer cash! Thank you for your continued generosity.

For those in the medical profession and anyone interested in learning about the Catholic Church's response to difficult ethical questions, there's a series of talks this term by Dr Mehmet Çiftçi of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre, and others. *See overleaf*.

#GivePrayerAGo is a *Year of Prayer* initiative by the Archbishop. See more info on-live, go on...give prayer a go!
www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/faith/giveprayerago/

Sickness happens to all of us. If you go into Hospital, give permission for a priest to visit. Forms at the back. See also some new *In Case of Emergency* cards.

Administration Assistant, full time, need at SPUC.. 35hs based in Kennington. Call 020 7091 7091 or lucillemcquade@spuc.org.uk for description and application.

Fatima Pilgrimage, *A Day With Mary*. June 2024 - *see poster*.



Word of God Sunday.

Pope Francis has requested that this Sunday each year, the third Sunday in Ordinary Time should be *Word of God Sunday*. Jesus is the Living Word, so the Pope asks us to study the written Word that we may come to know the Living Word better. The Bible is the inspired Word of God, so is an inexhaustible source: the Word about the Word. Here are 10 points for fruitful Scripture reading.

Bible reading is for Catholics. Reading the Bible needs to be part of our daily prayer lives. These inspired words, help us grow deeper in our relationship with God and come to understand our place in the community God has called us to in him.

Prayer is the beginning and the end. It's not a novel or a history book. Begin by asking the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds to the Word of God. Scripture reading should end with a prayer that this Word will bear fruit in our lives, helping us to become holier and more faithful people.

Get the whole story! When selecting a Bible, look for a Catholic edition. A Catholic edition will include the Church's complete list of sacred books along with introductions and notes for understanding the text. A Catholic edition will have an *imprimatur* notice on the back of the title page. An *imprimatur* indicates that the book is free of errors in Catholic doctrine.

The Bible isn't a book. It's a library. The Bible is a collection of 73 books written over the course of many centuries. The books include royal history, prophecy, poetry, challenging letters to struggling new faith communities, and believers' accounts of the preaching and passion of Jesus. Knowing the genre of the book you are reading will help you understand the literary tools the author is using and the meaning the author is trying to convey.

Know what the Bible is – and what it isn't. The Bible is the story of God's relationship with the people he has called to himself. It is not intended to be read as history text, a science book, or a political manifesto. In the Bible, God teaches us the truths that we need for the sake of our salvation. Don't start at the beginning!

The sum is greater than the parts. Read the Bible in context. What happens before and after – even in other books – helps us to understand the true meaning of the text.

The Old relates to the New. The Old Testament and the New Testament shed light on each other. While we read the Old Testament in light of the death and resurrection of Jesus, it has its own value as well. Together, these testaments help us to understand God's plan for human beings.

You do not read alone. By reading and reflecting on Sacred Scripture, Catholics join those faithful men and women who have taken God's Word to heart and put it into practice in their lives. We read the Bible within the tradition of the Church to benefit from the holiness and wisdom of all the faithful.

What is God saying to me? The Bible is addressed to each of us in our own unique situations. When we read, we need to understand what the text says and how the faithful have understood its meaning in the past. In light of this understanding, we then ask: What is God saying to me?

Reading isn't enough. If Scripture remains just words on a page, our work is not done. We need to meditate on the message and put it into action in our lives. Only then can the word be "living and effective." (Hebrews 4:12).



Southwark Marriage and Family Team, as part of the preparation for the 2025 Jubilee year, will be running a *Building a Better Marriage Course* throughout the Archdiocese from February. A one day course is for married couples married for one year to 60 years. To help couples make their marriage better. (No group sharing and privacy guaranteed). All who attended have found it enjoyable, informative, and uplifting. More information: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life



Catholic Medical Ethics



A group for current university students of the healthcare professions interested in learning about the Catholic Church's response to difficult ethical questions.

This semester: Dr Mehmet Çiftçi of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre, Oxford, alongside other guest professionals, will be leading a seven-week virtual Bioethics lecture series.

It will explore the following topics:

- Catholic Anthropology
- Personhood and the human embryo
- IVF and Reproductive Technology
- Contraception and NFP
- Conscience and conscientious objection
- Organ donation and brain death
- End of life decisions

When? Mondays, 7-8pm on MS Teams, starting on the 5th February 2024.

To sign-up for the group, and attend this lecture series exclusive to it, please email Laurence Jasper, Catholic Chaplain of King's College London: Guy's Campus: laurence.jasper@kcl.ac.uk using your university email account.

I am Roman Catholic

In case of an accident, emergency, hospitalisation, or inability to respond, please call a Roman Catholic Priest

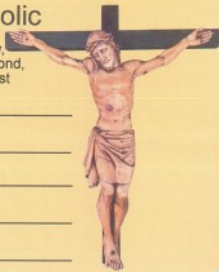
My name is: _____

My next of kin: _____

Tel: _____

My priest is: Fr. _____

Tel: _____




Votive Candle Intentions are now available for 2024. A 7-day candle burn continually, day and night, 24-7 in all the holy places at MPB. You can offer an intention for a month to be attached to that light. All the candles used at MPB during 2024 will be blessed on the nearest Sunday to Candlemas, the Presentation of Christ in the Temple - the fortieth day of Christmas - which closes the Nativity Season. Traditionally it's the day when all candles to be used during the year in Church are blessed. This year it will be 4th Feb.

Would you like to offer some in memory of a loved one?

[Sign up on line.](#)



This Week: Mass & intentions

| Day | Time | Intention |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| This Sunday <i>Word of God</i> 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 09.30 11.00 | Ian O'Hara ✕ <i>recently</i> Parishioners |
| <i>Mon 22nd (St Vincent)</i> | | |
| <i>Tue 23rd feria</i> | 13.05 | DG for Samuael |
| <i>Wed 24th St Francis de Sales</i> | 13.05 | Mary Ann Mills <i>foundation</i> |
| <i>Thurs 25th Conversation of St Paul</i> | 13.05 | DG for Abbot & family |
| <i>Fri 26th Sts Timothy & Titus</i> | 13.05 | DG for Abbot & family |
| <i>Sat 27th of Our Lady</i> | 10.30† | DG for Abbot & family |
| Next Sunday 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 09.30 11.00 | Parishioners |

Next Week's Readings Jeremiah 1:4-5,17-19 1 Cor 12:31-13:13 Luke 4:21-30

Sacrament of Confession. Tuesday - Friday 12.30-12.55

† **Mass in the Ordinariate Use** of the Roman Rite

Last week: £679.79 (cash £136.24; card £190.00; standing orders £353.00) **Thank you!**

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: Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 03330 509296

Holy Father's Intention for January 2024: For the gift of diversity in the Church.

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church. .

For your prayers:

Becoming Catholic Jules

In priestly formation: Br Philip OP (Jeff Gerlomes), Dn Timothy Ezat

Peace: In Ukraine, in the Holy Land

Those who are Sick: Mary, Monica, Chi Chi, Anne Marie, Rita, Chris, Richard, Hermon, Alastair, Amaogechi Martina, Fr John

Recently Departed: John Lungley *priest*, Arkadiusz Dawidziak, Ian O'Hara, Peter Peterken *priest*

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

YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW *Parish Priest*

22 Redcross Way, SE1 1TA

borough@rcaos.org.uk

www.preciousblood.org.uk

020 7407 3951

Donation
Station

