



Ordinate 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*



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4th February 2024



In the gospel reading today, we hear that everybody is looking for Christ. Christ brings meaning to our lives. Without him life would be no better than hired drudgery, but with his spirit in us all our service of others is done for love of him. It is a service which brings us perfect freedom. The world needs Christ and it is our duty to bring him to everyone.

Candles will be blessed today. Thank you to those who have made intentions.

Candle Offerings can still be made. Would you like the lamp to burn by the Most Blessed Sacrament, by Our Lady, in the Sanctuary, or St John Henry for a particular month?

Additional confession time. By popular demand there's a new slot to the schedule: Saturday 10.00 - or anytime at call!

Lent is not far away, so put some thought into your Lent denials. Mass on Ash Wed will be 08.00, 13.05 & 18.30. Fridays in Lent, Mass at 18.30, Stations of the Cross 19.00

Palm Crosses need returning soon to be burnt for the ash on Ash Wednesday.

St Valentine is usually celebrated on 14th February, sometimes called *Valentine's Day*. This year 14th Feb is Ash Wednesday and the first day of Lent, so a day of fast and abstinence. Now there's a dilemma! The romantic types are invited to keep 13th. Also we can keep next Sunday for....

Renewal of Marriage Vows. Those who are Sacramentally married are invited to renew their love and commitment next week at Mass, being the week for Holy Matrimony.

Mass Intentions may be requested on the parish website. There is no 'fee', however you may make an offering. Suggested is £10.

Comings and goings are all part of parish life and it's always sad (for us) when people move. Send FrC a message, just so he knows you're ok. If anyone could do with a chat, tell him that too!

The Internet is full good things, and things which are not so good. If you struggle with certain sites, take a look at strive21.com

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.

Collections. As well as the machines at the back of Church, there's a QR code on the Mass sheet. Your device needs a first authorisation. We will still have the basket for those who prefer cash! Thank you for your continued generosity.

In Case of Emergency cards. Are still available at the back of church.

Children are not the church of tomorrow but the Church of today! And it's great that we have so many, and young families. Don't forget Mass is relayed to the Long Room should they become restless!

The Catholic Hospital Chaplain at *St Thomas & Guys*, Fr Gildas, invites families get in touch as soon as relations are admitted. gildasparry@rcaos.org.uk

Holy Water

Most Catholics are familiar with the practice of entering their church, dipping the finger(s) of their right hand in the font with holy water, and making the sign of the Cross. The holy water in the font is holy only insofar as it has been blessed by a priest. The water itself is not magic.

In making the sign of the Cross with holy water, one expresses faith in God as Father, God as Son, and God as Holy Spirit and asks God's blessing in the name of the same three divine persons. It is a reminder of one's baptism.

Water has a long association with God's saving deeds. With water all things are washed and nourished. Water is life-giving for all of

nature and vegetation. Water flowed from the rock as God's gift to Old Testament people. The water of the Red Sea was divided to liberate God's people from slavery. Jesus was baptised in the waters of the Jordan. He came walking on the water to calm the storm on the Sea of Galilee. Ritual washings were required for the Jewish people before entering the temple; and, of course, this prefigured baptism.

In the theology of the Catholic Church, holy water is considered a sacramental ('little sacraments') as are crucifixes, medals, pictures of saints, rosaries, ashes and palms. Only when blessed are these to be thought of as holy. The Catholic Church also views as holy candles, Bibles, ashes and palms that are blessed. All blessed objects are to be treated with reverence and respect; and when they are broken or damaged or no longer usable, they are to be disposed of reverently, and never thrown out with the rubbish. They should be 'consumed' which is by eating, burning or burying.

It is believed that the use of holy water dates to the first century, and even some sources relate its early usage to St Matthew, although written documentation about its usage date to the third or fourth century. In the Catholic Tradition, holy water is used for the purpose of baptisms, blessing of persons, places and objects, or as protection against evil and danger.

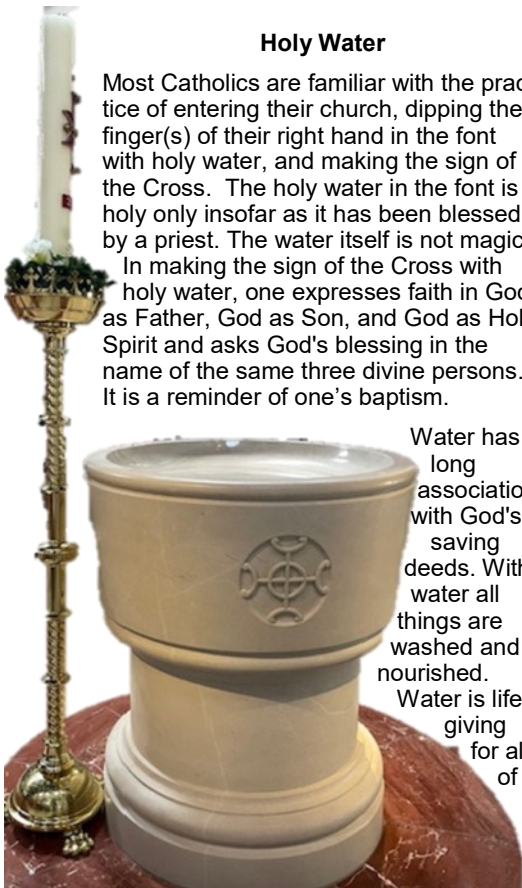
Holy water is also used by the priest to sprinkle the congregation during the entrance rite of the Mass. It is used by priests when blessing homes, animals, places of business, cars, and objects of devotion such as medals, rosaries, etc.

Holy water is usually found in fonts inside the doors of the church. Traditionally, Catholics have used holy water in their homes. They would get a small quantity from their church and have it for use in a font at their front door or near their bed. In their homes they would bless themselves as they would at church, and they would bless their children as they tuck them in at night and signing them with holy water on their foreheads. There are holy water stoups available at the back of church, and there is an urn of holy water available in the sacristy - help yourself!

Another type of holy water is that found in holy wells and at places associated with apparitions of Mary or saints, and at special holy sites - Lourdes, Walsingham, Fatima, etc.

Easter water is blessed at the Easter Vigil and is given a somewhat more solemn form of blessing (Easter candle is dipped in the water) than 'regular holy water.' It is used for baptisms.

Every time you enter or leave a Catholic church, bless yourself and your children with holy water and why not begin the practice of doing this in your homes? Bless your home again and again, bless your children, bless yourself.



Candle Intentions



£25

Lamp by the Blessed Sacrament

White light which burns by Blessed Sacrament

£25

Lamp hanging in the Sanctuary

Red light which hangs in the Sanctuary

£25

Lamp by Our Lady

Blue light which burns by Our Lady

£25

Lamp by St John Henry Newman

Red light which burns by St JHN

This is the full list of votive candles used in MPB during 2024, divided into months and the location. There are only a few left!

There's a list at the back, or
See website

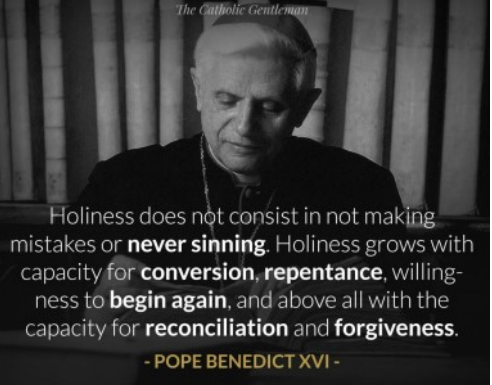
www.preciousblood.org.uk/candles

Palm Crosses

Please return last year's palm cross, or any you have, so they can be burnt for ash on Ash Wednesday
Remember oh man.....



The Catholic Gentleman



Holiness does not consist in not making mistakes or **never sinning**. Holiness grows with capacity for **conversion, repentance**, willingness to **begin again**, and above all with the capacity for **reconciliation and forgiveness**.

- POPE BENEDICT XVI -

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.”
MLKjnr





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This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	09.30 11.00	Volpato ✠ <i>recently in a RTA</i> Parishioners
<i>Mon 5th St Agatha</i>		
<i>Tue 6th St Paul Miki & companions</i>	13.05	
<i>Wed 7th feria</i>	13.05	Fr Charles Donovan <i>foundation</i>
<i>Thurs 8th (St Jerome)</i>	13.05	David Barry <i>foundation</i>
<i>Fri 9th feria</i>	13.05	William Joseph Green <i>foundation</i>
<i>Sat 10th St Scholastica</i>	10.30†	
Next Sunday 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	09.30 11.00	Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Leviticus 13:1-2.45-46 1Cor 10:31-11:1 Mark 1:40-45

Sacrament of Confession. Tuesday - Friday 12.30-12.55 Saturday 10.00-10.25

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

Last week: £628.56 (cash £126.56; card £149.00; 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 February 2024: For the terminally ill.

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

For your prayers:

Becoming Catholic Freya

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

Peace: In Ukraine, in the Holy Land, Syria

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

Recently Departed: Trevor, Baby Charlotte 12wks, Samir Bakhait, Diane Ricketts

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

YouTube: youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW Parish Priest

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Donation
Station

