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SE10 8QH
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OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

CATHOLIC CHURCH • GREENWICH

FEBRUARY- DEDICATED TO THE HOLY FAMILY

✠ HOLY MASS FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MISSAL:

PRAYERS AND READINGS pg. 130

BEGINNING OF MASS pg. 7

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER pg. 18

SATURDAY 31st January

6.00pm Vigil Mass Alfredo Sierra Londono RIP

SUNDAY 1st February **4th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

9.00am Sung Mass People of the Parish
11.00am Sung mass Molly and Felix Magee and Brian Mitchell RIP

MONDAY 2nd February

PRESENTATION of the LORD

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9.30am Holy Mass Bishop Elect Canon Gerard Bradley

TUESDAY 3rd February

SAINT LAURENCE of CANTERBURY

6:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Holy Mass Maureen Dayer and Rev. Philip Dayer RIP

WEDNESDAY 4th February

FERIA

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9.30am Holy Mass Fr Anton Jerome

THURSDAY 5th February

SAINT AGATHA

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am Holy Mass Fr. North RIP (Anni.)

FRIDAY 6th February

SAINT PAUL MIKI and COMPANIONS

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30am Holy Mass Cathy Tilley RIP

SATURDAY 7th February

SATURDAY of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

6.00pm Vigil Mass In Thanksgiving to Jesus, Mary and Joseph

SUNDAY 8th February

5th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

9.00am Sung Mass People of the Parish
11.00am Sung Mass Rachel Renouf RIP (14th Anni.)

DONATIONS

Nat West Bank
Sort code: 60-09-16
Account number: 25240676
Account Name: RCAS Greenwich

*This parish is part of the RCAOS
registered Charity Number 1173050*

*Thank you for your kindness and
generosity.*

ST. URSULA'S GIRLS CONVENT SCHOOL

Head Mr O'Shaughnessy
Crooms Hill
SE10 8HN
Tel: 020 8858 4613

ST. JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Ms. Long
Commerell Street
SE10 9AN
Tel. 02088584182

LAST WEEK

COLLECTION

GIFT AID – £63.00
NON GIFT-AID - £473.64

ATTENDANCE

326

Confessions Saturdays at 10.00am – 10.30am and 5pm - 5.30pm. After
weekday Mass – please sit by the confessional.
Adoration One hour before every weekday mass.

Spiritual Thought

The final feast of the Christmas season is the Presentation of the Lord and the Purification of Our Lady, celebrated this Monday. Many people keep their decorations up until this time, for the final feast of the Lord's childhood. You can find the readings for this mass in the Mass Book on page 299.

In the temple they are met by two characters – Simeon and Anna. Simeon utters a blessing over the child – describing Him as “destined for the rising and falling of many”. And darkly prophesies over Our Lady – “a sword shall pierce your own soul too.” Simeon, perhaps unaware, foretells Jesus as the saviour, and predicts His passion and death – and the suffering Our Lady would experience too. He sees our Lord, knows Him and proclaims Him – and now, after a long life waiting, can rest.

Anna, described as a prophetess, was of the tribe of Asher. This tribe (which bordered Naphtali if we remember from the Gospel last week) was one of the tribes deported from the Holy Land by the Assyrians and lost to history. Anna then emerges for us from the depths of history, lost, forgotten, displaced. It is said that she had lived in the temple “serving the Lord night and day” for over 65 years.

Given her heritage, her age and her service – she represents the forgotten of God. Those who might fade away from history, unnoticed and remarked upon. But suddenly, from encountering Our Lord and Our Lady she has something to say, something to be known for. The last of her line she now lives on in the Gospels as the woman who recognised as a baby the Saviour.

We can learn much from Simeon and Anna – they are living their lives in the holy place, in the temple – living in expectation of the Lord's appearance. And they wait – each for an extended period of time – finally, to crown their efforts, He is there. Often we want God to act quickly and obviously, the very moment we turn to Him. But patience is a virtue – waiting for Him to act, not anticipating or forcing, but waiting. This waiting has purified them to recognised Him – perhaps our waiting will purify us too, and allow us to see Him when He comes.

Sad Message from the Dominican Sisters

“It is with deep pain in our hearts that we let you know that we Dominican Sisters have received a communication from our superiors to leave England. Life here was unfolding beautifully and working in the parish has been an inspiration.

We felt the warmth and welcome of the parish which has made a lasting impression.

We plan to leave before lent begins – Sr. Veronica will return to Zimbabwe and Sr. Florence to Zambia.

Please keep us in your prayers and may God bless you abundantly.”

This is very sad news for our parish, which has so benefitted from the prayerful presence of both sisters. Please do remember to keep them in your prayers.

Please note in your diary Sunday 15th February, which will be their last Sunday with us.

Purification Mass

Monday is the feast of the Purification of Our Lady (and the Presentation of the Lord). Holy Mass will begin in the porch of the church at 9:30am with the blessing of candles. Please feel free to bring your own candles to be blessed.

Easter Choir

We would like to start a choir for the Easter ceremonies, led by our wonderful organist Laurence. We will meet on each Friday in Lent at 7pm to learn the hymns and solemn chants. All are welcome.

Weekday Mass Times

I am planning to move the weekday mass time from 9:30am to 12:30am during lent. If this will impact your life, for better or worse, please let me know. This won't affect the Tuesday evening Mass.

Greenwich Young Catholic Adults

Our first meeting of the Greenwich Young Catholic Adults will happen on Tuesday 3rd February. Any Catholic aged 18-35 is most welcome to join. We have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6pm, Holy Mass at 7pm in the church. Followed by social time.

Our Lady's Stars

Our next gathering will be on the 8th of February. Thank you to all the children and families who joined us for the first session of Our Lady's Stars. It was a joyful and encouraging start.

Our next session will take place on the 8th February, again after the 11:00 am Mass. As before, all primary school children are very welcome, along with younger siblings. Snacks will be provided for the children, and tea or coffee will be available for parents.

Our Lady's Stars continues to be a space where children can build friendships, grow in faith and feel at home in our Parish community. We also remain very grateful to any parents who would like to help or support these sessions.

We look forward to seeing familiar faces and welcoming new families as this joyful Parish initiative continues to grow.

Huge Thank You

Thank you on behalf of us all to Pauline Malaszek who has very kindly made some new altar cloths for us – they add such beauty and dignity to the altar. Thank you also everyone who supported our refreshments after Mass last weekend – we raised £66 for the Greenwich and Bexley Hospice.

Old Palms

Please bring your old palms to the church over the next few weeks. Fr Tom will burn them to make the Ash Wednesday ash. Remember to check behind your holy pictures.