St Bartholomew's Catholic Church

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Sunday 10th January 2021

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Mass Times and Intentions: Sunday 10th January 2021 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (FEAST) (SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL TODAY)

6.15pm (Saturday 9th January 2021) People of the parish.

8.30am Intentions of Jim & Margaret Desa (Silver Wedding Anniversary).

11.30am Philomena Bradshaw RIP.

5pm Intentions of Fr Gerry O'Shaughnessy SDB.

Ordinary Time before Lent:

First week in Ordinary Time

Monday 11th January 2021

10am Jeanne Agius RIP.

PVT Intentions of the Saide family.

Tuesday 12th January 2021

10.00 Brendan Keenan RIP.

PVT The Holy Souls. Wednesday 13th January 2021

St Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

10am Through the intercession of Our Lady, protection, strength and guidance for all Religious & Seminarians (Novena). PVT The Holy Souls

Thursday 14th January 2021

10am Julian Lawrence RIP (1st Anniv) PVT The Holy Souls.

Friday 15th January 2021 10am November Deceased List. PVT The Holy Souls.

Saturday 16th January 2021 The Blessed Virgin Mary

10am Success of COVID vaccines.

(Confessions after Mass until 11.30am)

Sunday 17th January 2021

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6.15pm (Saturday 16th January 2021) People of the parish.

8.30am The Holy Souls.

11.30am Ken Stanley RIP.

5pm Intentions of Jean Bacchus.

Current Mass Schedule
*Mass: Monday – Saturday: 10am;
*Confessions: Saturday, after 10am Mass,
until approximately 11.30am;
*Sunday Masses:
(Saturday Vigil 6.15pm);
8.30am; 11.30am; 5pm.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE ILL AND/OR HOUSEBOUND, INCLUDING:

John Ambler, Jessica Anane, Margaret Asubonteng-Mensah, Juliette Blake, Alan Blaquiere, Anita Blaquiere, Barry Breese, Erna Breese, Frances Carter, Jean Cowie, Reeda D'Souza, Audrey Draude, Teresa Florek-Smail, Raffaela Forte, Raffaele Forte, Giovanni Franco, Rachel Gadd, Elaine Gunther, Anna Harris, Agnes Healy, Jim Hughes, Terry Jupp, Scarlett Kurowski, Joseph Lunn, Elsie McCleave, James McDonald, Elenaor McLaughlin, Otiss McLaughlin, Michael Madigan, Ajitha Mahatantila, Gerard Mascarenhas, Mary Meyern, Sheila Newman, Mary O'Sullivan, Thomas Pereira, Sheila Price, Parwar Saib, Frederic Saint-Rose, Alice Scott, Elizabeth Scott, Christine Shaughnessy, Ronald Smail, Fr David Standley, Jo Taylor, Edythe Thirlwall, Joe Vassallo, Monica Vergara, Mary White, Ethelda Williams, Carole Winch, John Windsor, Charmaine Wise, Margaret Worrell, Georgette Yoo Foo.

SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL TODAYYou may give directly to SPUC. See:

SPUC > Events > White Flower Appeal

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office is currently closed. Please phone, email or send a message via the Contact Form on our web site. Please wait patiently for a reply. Where possible, please give some idea of the subject matter of your contact, so that it may be directed appropriately, and, to assist us in assuring privacy, kindly advise if your communication is of a private nature where you prefer not to reveal the subject matter.

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

Please see the attached link: <u>Church</u> grants plenary indulgence for year of St.

<u>Joseph - Vatican News</u>

RECENTLY DECEASED

Of your charity, please pray for the happy repose of the souls of: **Jeanne Agius,** late of Purley, a former parishioner who died on Sunday 3rd January 2021. Jeanne was a founder member of our UCM and a long standing member of our Polyphony Choir. Indeed, her whole family took an active part in parish life. The Agius family also ran a sweet shop in Norbury. John Soggee, father of Michelle Soggee. John died on Monday 4th January 2021. Please pray also for the sister of Jan Marshall, a member of our Polyphony Choir. Jan's sister died in mid -December 2020, after a long illness. May the Lord Grant them Eternal Rest. Our condolences and prayers as a parish go to the families.

MASS REQUESTS & OFFERINGS

Please remember that you may still arrange for a Mass to be said, even if you cannot come to church. You may make an offering by electronic means, or post your request through the presbytery letter box. You may also use email. Please include your Gift Aid number if you wish to Gift Aid your Mass offering. Please provide your contact details in case of need. No particular Mass time or date can be guaranteed. Most people tend to give £10.00, However, but please note this is not compulsory. Just give what you can, if you can. Unfortunately, some Mass Offering Envelopes have been

"quarantined" along with collections!

Let us know if you were affected by this.

STANDING ORDERS & FINANCE

Please set up a Standing order if your financial circumstances allow. Those of you who received full boxes of envelopes will find inside a Standing Order Form. Standing Orders currently assure us of just £750.00 per week (figure to be revised). Please contact the Parish Office for details of Standing Orders and to enquire about the Gift Aid Scheme. See also the Home Page of our Web Site.

COVID RESTRICTIONS AND HOW THEY APPLY

We thank God that we are still able to hold public Masses despite the current restrictions, thanks in no small part to our Bishops and their fellow campaigners in public life. The Church has demonstrated a strong ability to abide by and indeed enforce the necessary protocols required to enable what have become known as "COVID – safe" conditions. However, for this to continue, we must have more stewards, and not rely solely upon the few we have. To be a steward, you must be over 18 and be without any COVID symptoms, either actual or suspected. Of course, not everybody feels comfortable about being around others, let alone coming to church, for all sorts of reasons. Stewards also clean the church between Masses, which they do immediately the church is empty.

Nobody should come to the church if they have been told to remain at home and shield; Anybody with any symptoms, even if they just have a cold or sore throat which might be unrelated to COVID, should stay away out of love and respect for their brothers and sisters in Christ. We cannot afford to take the risk of the virus spreading.

Please respect the stewards and kindly do as they direct you. It is for the good of all that they have volunteered to help. Indeed, it is because of the actions of the Church thus far in following government and public health instructions that we have been permitted to continue holding Masses.

Please ensure that you use a new, previously unused disposable face mask or other face covering, or one which has been cleaned where it is washable and ensure that it covers your nose and your mouth. You must have evidence of a valid exemption if you cannot comply with this. Hand sanitiser is available at the church. Even if you have sanitised your hands before entering, please accept that you may still be asked to use our own hand sanitiser.

When you leave the church, please do not gather outside to socialise and chat, and do not mix with anybody outside of your household or appointed "bubble".

Always maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from others. When you approach for Holy Communion, please lower your mask, hold your hands out flat, and allow the Priest, Deacon or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to place the Sacred Host into your hand. Please do not speak, as you will already have said "Amen" prior to Communion. Please consume the Host before you walk away and leave the church. We must avoid the danger of the Blessed Sacrament falling to the floor and do our utmost to ensure that the fullest respect is shown towards the Body of Christ. Remember the current motto:

"HANDS" - Remember to wash your hands regularly and thoroughly. Why not take a portable supply of hand sanitiser with you whenever you go out?

"FACE" – Remember to wear a mask or other face covering over your nose and your mouth, except where you have an exemption.

"SPACE" – Remember to maintain social distancing, keeping at least two metres from others.

If we all continue to do these things, we are showing love for our brothers and sisters. Ultimately, we follow these guidelines for the good of others.

Please do not visit the presbytery except by appointment. The same public health guidelines apply should you need to visit the presbytery, not the least of which is the wearing of an appropriate face covering.



The Baptism of the Lord. Picture courtesy of 123clipartpng.com

The Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the season of Christmas in the Church, after which we return to Ordinary Time before Easter. This iconic episode in the life of Christ is captured in the First Luminous Mystery (or the First Mystery of Light) of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, entitled "The Baptism in the Jordan":

"And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased'" (Mt 3:16-17).

St John Paul II wrote: "The Baptism in the Jordan is first of all a mystery of light. Here, as Christ descends into the waters, the innocent one who became "sin" for our sake, the heavens open wide and the voice of the Father declares him the beloved Son while the Spirit descends on him to invest him with the mission he is to carry out... Christian spirituality is distinguished by the disciple's commitment to become conformed ever more fully to his Master. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Baptism grafts the believer like a branch onto the vine which is Christ and makes him a member of Christ's mystical Body."

The Mysteries of Light were first put forward in 1957 by St Ġorġ Preca, then Dun Ġorġ Preca, a Carmelite priest of Malta.



St Ġorġ Preca: Born 12th February 1880;
Ordained Priest 22nd December 1906; Died 26th July 1962;
Beatified 9th May 2001; Canonised 3rd June 2007.
Preca founded the Society of Christian Doctrine 1907,
known in Malta as M.U.S.E.U.M (Magister Unitam Sequatur
Evangelium Universus Mundus.)
His Feast Day is 9th May.