



### THE SYNOD PRAYER

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,  
make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go  
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;  
do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity  
so that we may journey together to eternal life  
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You,  
who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son,  
forever and ever. Amen.

### PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gifts of  
our priests; help them to be strong in their vocation and  
become instruments of your love and grace.

Send your Holy Spirit to give courage and guidance  
to all those you are calling to the priesthood,  
diaconate and religious life in our Archdiocese. May  
those called hear your voice and respond wholeheartedly  
to become the person you created them to be.

Heavenly Father, form us all in the likeness of your Son,  
Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd,  
so that we may love you more deeply and  
serve you more faithfully.

We ask this through Christ, Your son,  
the Eternal High Priest. Amen.

### NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server,  
please email [norburymc@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:norburymc@rcaos.org.uk)  
in order to receive a link to an online application form.  
The only requirement is that you have made your First  
Holy Communion. Two linked training sessions will  
take place at **6pm next Sunday 12th May 2024 and  
Sunday 19th May 2024** It is important to note that  
prospective servers should attend **both** sessions.

### ST BART'S POLYPHONY CHOIR

Our Polyphony Choir needs more gentlemen to boost  
their tenors and basses. The Choir practices on  
Tuesday evenings from 8pm to 9.30pm in the church,  
and mainly sing at the 11.30am Masses on the first  
Sunday of each month (not August or September), and  
at Christmas and during Holy Week. If you'd like to  
know more, please email Tony Price on  
[bartspolychoir@gmail.com](mailto:bartspolychoir@gmail.com), or just turn up in the  
gallery (enter by the side door in Ellison Road) this  
coming Tuesday evening, 7th May 2024, in particular,  
or indeed any Tuesday when the choir is practising.

### ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL REUNION

For members of the Social club and ex pupils, most  
likely in their 70s now. 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at The Manor  
Arms, 13 Mitcham Lane, SW16 6LQ. Please email:  
[carole.appleford@gmail.com](mailto:carole.appleford@gmail.com)

### CAFOD SUDAN HUMANITARIAN CRISIS APPEAL

Please see: [cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal](https://cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal)

You may also click on the QR code below to donate:



### CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at St George's Cathedral

If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup> + wedding  
anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible,  
**and no later than Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024,**

Please email: [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk) with the following details:

As the title of your email, please write: **Norbury**. Please  
add your names in the format: John and Mary Smith; your home  
address; the anniversary you are celebrating. This is so you can  
receive an invitation from Archbishop John Wilson for the renewal  
of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited.

### SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK FOR WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

This collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications  
Network (CCN), the media office of the Bishops' Conference of  
England and Wales. It deals with media enquiries, seeking to  
develop the public profile of the Church and its teaching.

### PASTORAL REFLECTION ON GENDER FROM THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have issued a pastoral  
reflection on gender, highlighting the teaching of the Church but  
stressing that accompanying those struggling with gender dysphoria  
is "a complex but essential pastoral task."

The document, titled *Intricately woven by the Lord: A pastoral  
reflection on gender by the bishops of England and Wales*,  
emphasises that all are welcome in the Church,  
but says that the sexual identity of an individual is not  
a purely "cultural or social construction."

The document refutes the idea, proposed by Gender Identity  
Theory, that everyone has an 'inner' gender identity,  
which sometimes fails to match the biological sex of the individual.

It upholds the value of the body and  
importance of sexual differentiation.

The bishops assert that we are all created in the image of God,  
with a dignity given to us by our creator and stresses that  
leading people to the fullness of life in Christ is a journey  
rooted in truth as well as compassion.

Bishop David Oakley, Bishop of Northampton, said:

"We have published this document because we know that those  
working in pastoral settings can find this issue complex.

It is also an issue that needs to be handled sensitively.

"Accompaniment is crucial to the journey of faith, and we wish to  
emphasise that everyone is welcome in the Church.

It is vital that, as followers of Christ, we imitate the boundless  
mercy and compassion of God as we deal with the  
complexity of another's life.

"But this needs to be done with a clear understanding of the  
Catholic vision and understanding of the human person  
and a holistic view of human sexuality."

Please click on and read the following two links:

[REFLECTION-Intricately-Woven-By-The-Lord.pdf \(cbcew.org.uk\)](#)

[SUMMARY-Intricately-Woven-By-The-Lord.pdf \(cbcew.org.uk\)](#)