

St. Philip the Apostle, Finchley Church End

Priests House, Gravel Hill, London, N3 3RJ

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Microsite: parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend

Website: www.stphilipsfinchley.org.uk

Email: finchleychurchend@rcdow.org.uk

Twitter.com/StPhilFinchley

There are no public services in the church until the beginning of December.

The church is open for individual, private prayer only at the following times:

Sunday	9:30-11:30am
Tuesday	9:30-10:30am
Friday	9:30-10:30am

Last week's receipts: loose collection: £184.30; envelopes: £286.00; candles: £121.31.
Thank you. [WRCDT Reg. Charity no. 233699]

32nd Sunday of the Year – 8th November 2020 *Remembrance Sunday*

Dear Parishioners,

Compared to the earlier period of lockdown this year, there are clearly a number of aspects of life that are continuing more or less as normal during the latest lockdown. Sadly, communal services of worship are not included among them. There will be no Mass or other public service in the church for the rest of this month, but the church will be open for a short period for individual, private prayer only, on Sunday, Tuesday and Friday mornings in the coming weeks. See the box above for times. We hope to resume the normal schedule of services by the first weekend in December. The parish microsite will be kept up-to-date with the latest information.

In this Sunday's Gospel reading [*Matthew 25:1-13*], we hear the parable of the ten bridesmaids waiting for the bridegroom to arrive. Half of them were better prepared than the rest, and were ready to welcome him when he finally turned up. This new period of lockdown is a chance for all of us to reflect on our readiness to welcome the Lord. We need God's grace to help us face the challenges of this month, and of whatever may come after. May we keep the light of his love shining in our hearts, to be reflected to those around us in the weeks and months to come.

May God bless you all,

Fr John Dermody.

Sick and Retired Priests Fund – This Fund gives support to priests of this Diocese who are no longer able to continue in active ministry due to sickness or old age. We were due to have a collection this week to support the Fund but, as that is not possible, you are invited to support the clergy who have served in the parishes of this Diocese in one of the following ways:

- Online donation on the diocesan website <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/sick-and-retired-priests-fund/> where you can Gift Aid your donation;
- Transfer to our parish account [*details in next column*], adding 'SRP' to the payment reference;

If you pick up a paper copy of this newsletter in the church, please make sure that you take it with you when you leave. Don't leave any used copies behind in the church.

- Place offerings in the wall-box marked for that purpose in the main porch [*to your left as you enter the church*];
- If you wish to Gift Aid your offering, please use one of the special envelopes, available in the church porch;
- You can also donate by scanning the QR code on the special envelope or on the Fund's poster in the porch.

Covid-19 Safety – There will be no public Mass for the rest of this month, but it remains important to observe safety measures when you come to the church:

- Wear a covering over your nose as well as your mouth while you are in the church;
- Use the hand sanitiser as you enter and leave the church, and after handling votive candles;
- Maintain a social distance from those who are not part of your household group (or support bubble) at all times;
- Move quickly to your seat when you enter the church, and minimise movement around the church;
- Leave the church by the side door, near the front of the church.

Confirmation – Sadly, the lockdown has necessitated a further postponement of the Sacrament of Confirmation for our young people. We can't be sure that circumstances will permit the celebration of the Sacrament in December, so we hope to plan dates early in the New Year. More information will be given when possible.

Church offerings – Donations for the parish may be placed in the wall-box marked for that purpose in the main porch. Cheques should be made payable to "WRCDT St Philip the Apostle Finchley." Envelopes may also be placed in the wooden box at the front of the church. A preferred option is to make a transfer to the parish bank account. The account name to use is 'WRCDT Finchley Church End', sort code 40-05-20, account number 11094599. (It is classed as a 'business' account.) Debit and credit card donations can also be made via the parish microsite, using the following link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/donate/>

Offertory envelopes – New boxes of Planned Giving envelopes are available for those who have been using them recently. Those who have been using envelopes with a number greater than 100 have been allocated a new, lower number.

Month of the Holy Souls – Masses will be celebrated privately throughout the month of November for our deceased relatives and friends.

Mass Intentions – Mass will be celebrated privately this week for the following intentions:

Saturday 7th Nov – People of the Parish & November Dead
Sunday 8th Nov – Katheen O'Sullivan RIP Anniversary
Monday 9th Nov – November Dead
Tuesday 10th Nov – November Dead
Thursday 12th Nov – November Dead
Friday 13th Nov – November Dead
Saturday 14th Nov - People of the Parish & November Dead

NHS COVID-19 app – Use the app to check in at the church, by scanning the QR code in the porch. The code is on posters displayed on your left as you enter the main door.

Charities – Many charities have been struggling this year as they have been unable to raise funds in their traditional ways. A selection of the charities that we have supported over the years are listed on the Charities page of our parish microsite, together with information about how you can help them now. Please consider choosing one to support. You can find the information via this link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/charities/>

Mary's Meals – It will not be possible to have the usual Rags to Riches collection of clothing and fabrics for Mary's Meals this year, but you can donate to the charity online, and from now until the end of January 2021 all donations will be matched by the UK Government. Find out more or donate at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove>

Parish History – A commemorative book was published to mark the Centenary of the parish in 2019. We can arrange to post a copy to you. Whilst there is no charge, a donation to cover costs would be appreciated.

Polish Community – Information about Polish services is available on the Polish-language website www.finchleyparish.co.uk or email mgaluszka2@gmail.com. The Polish Chaplain, Fr Marek Gałuszka, may be contacted on 07984 293753.

Gift Aid – If you are a tax-payer, we can reclaim the tax you pay on the money you donate to the church. A Gift Aid declaration can now be completed by email. <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/donate/> provides details of what is required.

If you are admitted to hospital, and you would like to see a Catholic Chaplain, data protection rules require you to tell the hospital staff, firstly, that you wish your details to be passed to the RC Chaplain and, secondly, that you would like the RC Chaplain to visit you.