

St. Philip the Apostle, Finchley Church End

Priests House, Gravel Hill, London, N3 3RJ

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Website: www.stphilipfinchley.org.uk

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Service times this week

Sunday Mass: Saturday 6:30pm
Sunday 9:30am
11:30am

Mass in Polish: Sunday 6:30pm

Weekday Mass: 10:00am

(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

Holy Days: 12:00 noon & 7:30pm

Confessions: Saturday 10:30-11:00am

Last week's receipts: loose collection: £253.75;
envelopes: £186.00; candles: £97.96.
Thank you. [WRCDT Reg. Charity no. 233699]

The Baptism of the Lord – 9th January 2022

Dear Parishioners,

Today's feast marks the transition from the Christmas season back to the Ordinary Time of the Church's year. Christmas is our celebration of the Son of God becoming part of our human nature, coming among us to draw us into a deeper experience of God's love. As we move back into Ordinary Time, we reflect that Christ is with us, not only in the great celebrations, but also in the ordinary, everyday experience of our lives, offering us his love and his grace.

Jesus had no need of the baptism of repentance that John the Baptist was offering, but he chose to submit himself to that ritual in order to associate himself more closely with us, who are in need of repentance. Christ came to take on himself the sin of the world in order to redeem us from the burden of sin and enable us to live more fully as the children of God.

We pray that the graces that we receive through our celebration of the coming of Christ among us may remain with us throughout the year, in all of the joys and the challenges that we will encounter in the months ahead.

May God bless you all,

Fr John Dermody.

Crib Offerings – Our Christmas decorations will be removed this week, but there is a final chance this weekend to make a donation to the Catholic Children's Society via the wall box in the pillar next to the crib. Donations can be made at any time at <https://www.cathchild.org.uk/donate/>.

Face Coverings – Face masks are currently mandatory for all gatherings in the church and Parish Centre, for everyone who does not have a legal exemption. They should cover both nose and mouth at all times while you are inside the building, apart from when receiving Holy Communion or proclaiming a reading. Please continue to use the hand sanitiser as you enter the church, to minimise any risk of spreading infection. You shouldn't come to the church if you have any of the Covid-19 symptoms.

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, together with all your personal belongings. If you don't wish to take used sheets with you, please place them in a recycling box as you leave the church. Don't leave any used items behind in the benches.

Church offerings – Donations for the parish may be placed in the wall box in the main porch, or in the wooden box at the front of the church. Cheques should be made payable to "WRCDT St Philip the Apostle Finchley." A preferred option is to make a transfer, or set up a standing order, 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.) For more information, see: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/donate/>.

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

Saturday 8th January, 10:00am – Kathleen Mulchrone RIP
6:30pm – Josephine O'Grady RIP

Sunday 9th January, 9:30am – People of the Parish
11:30am – Ann McNicholas RIP

Monday 10th January, 10:00am – Mary Landucci - Intention

Tuesday 11th January, 10:00am – Teresa St. John RIP Anniv.

Thursday 13th January, 10:00am – Olive O'Shaughnessy RIP

Friday 14th January, 10:00am – For St. Anthony

Saturday 15th January, 10:00am – Bernardette McNicholas RIP
6:30pm – Bridie Forry & family – Intention

First Holy Communion 2022 – There is a meeting for the parents of children preparing for First Holy Communion this Thursday (13th January), at 7:30pm in the Parish Centre. The children have a workshop next Saturday and a special liturgy at the 11:30am Mass next Sunday.

A special message from Friends of the Holy Land – 'Thank you so much for giving the gift of life to Christians in the Holy Land this Christmas. As Bethlehem enters its second Christmas without tourists, almost 40% of families are buying groceries on credit or relying on food parcels. They have nothing to spare for a medical emergency. Your donation of £400, raised through a coffee morning, will enable Friends of the Holy Land to help another Christian brother or sister get the medicine, surgery or treatment they urgently need, and to continue supporting vulnerable Christian communities throughout the Holy Land...Thanks to your parishioners for their generosity.'

SPUC White Flower Appeal – The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is currently campaigning to protect pro-life speech. Pro-life witness is being restricted now more than ever; the ability to speak freely is necessary to protect unborn babies. There is a designated wall-box in the main porch of the church in which you can make a donation for the work of SPUC. You can also donate online, or sign their petition to protect free speech, at spuc.org.uk.

Bishop's Visitation – Bishop John Sherrington will be visiting the parish on Sunday 30th January. He will be celebrating the 9:30am Mass, and you will have a chance to meet him in the Parish Centre after that Mass.

Sunday Coffee – Refreshments are available in the Parish Centre every Sunday, after the 9:30am Mass. All are welcome.

Honouring Sunday – Uncertainty about the direction that the coronavirus is going to take causes many people to hesitate about sharing in the Sunday Mass. The Bishops of England and Wales have acknowledged that fact, but encourage all Catholics to reflect on how we mark the Lord's Day. You can read their statement at: <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/honouring-sunday/>.

Repository – The shop at the back of the church is open before and after each of the Sunday Masses. Cards, books and other religious items are available to purchase.

Gift Aid – If you are a tax-payer, and haven't yet completed a Gift Aid declaration for your contributions to the parish, it can now be set up very simply by email. See <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/donate/> for more information.

Churches Together in Prayer – A Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place on Tuesday 18th January at 8pm, at All Saints Church, 35a Durham Road, East Finchley, N2 9DP. All are welcome.

Foreign Coins – If you have any foreign coins that you no longer need, or any coins that have ceased to be legal tender, you can place them in the designated wall-box in the main porch (near the Repository door). They will be passed onto the North London Hospice to support their work of palliative and end-of-life care.

Lost Property – Have you left personal items behind in the church in the past few months? The lost property basket in the church porch is now overflowing with clothing and other items that have been abandoned in the church. Have a look to see if there is anything belonging to you. If items are not claimed in the coming weeks, a new home will be found for them.

Newsletter distribution – You can read the last four issues of this newsletter on the parish websites. You can also receive the latest copy every week via email. Do that by clicking the 'Subscribe to Alerts' button, which is at the bottom of each page on the parish microsite, or simply let us know that you would like to receive the weekly email. You can unsubscribe at any time. You might also like to think about passing a copy of the newsletter to a neighbour or friend who is not able to get to the church or access the internet.

Parish History – A commemorative book was published to mark the Centenary of the parish in 2019. You can pick up a copy in the Repository at the back of the church, or we can arrange to post a copy. Whilst there is no charge, a donation to cover costs would be appreciated.

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.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

This Sunday's responses:

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: **Bless the Lord, my soul!**

Lord God, how great you are.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I.

He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things, visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven, *[bow]*
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.