

St. Philip the Apostle, Finchley Church End

Priests House, Gravel Hill, London, N3 3RJ

Tel: (020) 8346 2459

Microsite: parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend

Website: www.stphilipsfinchley.org.uk

Email: finchleychurchend@rcdow.org.uk

Service times this week

Sunday Mass: Saturday 6:30pm
Sunday 9:30am (Sung Mass)
11:30am (Family Mass)
Ascension Day (Thursday): Mass at 12 noon & 7:30pm
Weekday Mass: 10:00am
(Monday, Tuesday, Friday & Saturday)
Confessions: Saturday 10:30-11:00am

Last week's receipts: loose collection: £169.40;
envelopes: £161.35; candles: £104.71.
Thank you. [WRCDT Reg. Charity no. 233699]

Sixth Sunday of Easter – 14th May 2023

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Ascension of the Lord (Thursday) – page 272

Dear Parishioners,

Thursday this week is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, which marks a turning point between the personal ministry of Christ and the ministry of the Church. During his public ministry, the apostles had witnessed the teaching and the signs that Christ gave. After his death and resurrection, he appeared to them over a period of time, in order to help them understand all that they had witnessed of his ministry. The Ascension marks the moment when they saw him for the last time. Far from being the end of the story, it was the start of a new chapter in that story. The Holy Spirit came on the apostles at Pentecost. Through the power of that Spirit, Christ remained present with them, not just in one place, but wherever they went, sharing the Good News of all that they had witnessed.

In the power of the Holy Spirit, the Risen Lord remains present with each one of us, wherever we may be, enabling us to bear witness to the redeeming love of Christ. It is by opening our hearts to the grace that the Lord offers to each one of us that we gain a spirit of hope, and the courage to bear witness to the love of Christ in a world which needs to hear that message more than ever. May we respond to that grace as we seek to follow the example that Christ has given to us, so that the light of his love may shine in our hearts, and be reflected in the ways in which we relate to those around us.

May God bless you all,

Fr John Dermody.

Holy Day of Obligation – This Thursday (18th May) is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, which is a Holy Day of Obligation. We have Mass in this church on Thursday at 12 noon and at 7:30pm.

Sunday Coffee – Refreshments are available in the Parish Centre between the two Masses on Sunday morning. All are welcome.

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

Saturday 13th May, 10:00am – Veronica Lang RIP

6:30pm – People of the Parish

Sunday 14th May, 9:30am – Kamini & Raja RIP

11:30am – Ross Crawford RIP

Monday 15th May, 10:00am – Michael Maree RIP

Tuesday 16th May, 10:00am – Tessa Cleary RIP

Thursday 18th May, 12 noon – Kathleen Lennon RIP

7:30pm – People of the Parish

Friday 19th May, 10:00am – Rose Wright RIP

Saturday 20th May, 10:00am – Francis Reehill RIP

6:30pm – People of the Parish

Children's Sunday Liturgy – Children of primary school age meet in the Meeting Room (via the Weekday Chapel) at 11:25am on Sundays, and rejoin their families at the Offertory of the 11:30 Mass. Please encourage the children to participate. For further information, contact Christine on 07709 721957.

First Holy Communion – The children will be making their First Holy Communion at the 11:30am Mass next Sunday (21st May). The attendance at that Mass will inevitably be larger than usual, so those not connected with those families might prefer to choose a different Mass next weekend. The children have a rehearsal on Saturday at 11:15am in the church.

The Holy Rosary – Each weekday morning during the month of May (apart from Wednesdays) at 9:30am, the Rosary is recited in the church. If you can spare the time, even for one day a week, please join us to make this a vibrant prayer group! If you would like to lead the Rosary on any morning during May, please add your name to the rota on the board at the side entrance. For more information, contact Veronica at veronicadevine@gmail.com or 07857 303006.

Bible Reading Meeting – Bible discussion meeting, on Mondays, 7:30-9:00pm, in the Parish Meeting Room. The next meeting is this Monday (15th May). For more information, contact Anne on (020) 8365 2381 or 07986 587424. Everyone is welcome.

Mothers' Prayers – This group meets on Thursday mornings, at 10:30am in the Meeting Room.

Philippian Players – Following the production of *Cinderella*, the Philippian Players have now begun rehearsals for the next production. As before, we need as many people as possible for speaking and non-speaking parts. Unfortunately, some of our members have recently moved away, so the need for volunteers is greater than ever. Many people enjoyed *Cinderella*, but we need your support for our next show, so please join us. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings, 7:30-9:00pm in the Parish Centre. If you are interested, please contact Jean-Marc on 07901 603076, or just turn up next Thursday.

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. There is more information on our parish microsite. If you prefer, you can complete one of the paper forms available in the rack in the church porch. To be included in a Gift Aid claim, donations must be made by numbered envelope, by cheque or by electronic payment. If you have made a Gift Aid declaration in the past, but are no longer paying sufficient tax to cover your donations, please let us know.

Church offerings – It has been a great support for the parish that many people have been donating directly to our parish bank account. You can make a transfer from your own account, or set up a regular Standing Order, via online or mobile banking, or at a branch, using the following details:

Payee: WRCDT Finchley Church End

Sort code: 40-05-20

Account Number: 11094599

(It is classed as a 'business' account.)

Debit or credit card donations can be made via the microsite,

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/donate/>,

where you can also set up a Direct Debit for regular payments. Numbered envelopes can still be used to make your weekly offering. Please ask if you would like to start using envelopes. Donations for the parish may be placed in the designated wall box in the main porch, or in the wooden box at the front of the church. Cheques should be made payable to "WRCDT Finchley Church End." Thank you for your continued support.

Newsletter distribution – You can read the last four issues of this newsletter on the parish microsite. 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.

Divine Mercy Retreat at St Agnes RC Church, 35 Cricklewood Lane, NW2 1HR, on Saturday 20th May, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm led by the Marian Fathers. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957 594646 for more information

Opera Integra presents A Coronation Concert, at St Edward the Confessor Church, Golders Green, Saturday 20th May, 7:30pm. The programme will be drawn from operas concerning kings and queens, both historical and fictitious. Tickets cost £18, including a glass of wine or soft drink in the interval. More information from <https://operaintegra.org.uk/>.

Visit of Blessed Carlo Acutis' mother – Bishop Nicholas Hudson and Westminster Youth Ministry are hosting a Eucharistic Adoration event for young people from the Diocese, on Wednesday 31st May, 7:30-9:00pm, at Farm Street Church in Mayfair. It will include a talk by Antonia Salzano, the mother of Blessed Carlo Acutis. She is on a short family visit to London and has generously agreed to speak to our young people at this event. The event is open to everyone, but would be particularly appropriate for those who have recently been confirmed. There is no need to book.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land – This year's pilgrimage/retreat to the Holy Land will be led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. Dates: Sunday 19th November to Monday 27th November. Route: Galilee – Jerusalem – Bethlehem. Flying from Heathrow on BA. Cost: £2265 per person sharing; £682 single room supplement. Travel insurance essential. Book online at <http://www.tangney-tours.com/WHL> or call Gill at Tangney Tours, 01732 886666, or Elizabeth at the Pilgrimage Office, 020 7798 9173.

Our Lady of Lourdes School (OLOL) - 50 children from OLOL took part in the 2023 TCS Mini London Marathon last month, and the Executive Head of OLOL (and St Theresa's School), Barbara Costa, and the Head of School, Heather Kilcommons, completed the London Marathon. Together they are fundraising for the NSPCC and would appreciate any donations, to ensure that children have the knowledge and understanding to be able to speak out and get help. Donations can still be made via the following link - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ololweruntogethernspcc>.

Homes for Ukraine Matching Service – Caritas Social Action Network, with St John of God Hospitaller Services, are matching Ukrainian people displaced by the war in their country with people in the Catholic community willing to host them in their homes for six months. Take one of the leaflets in the church porch or visit <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/>.

Willing to help couples forge a lifelong loving relationship? Marriage Care is a charity that runs marriage preparation courses for couples marrying in a Catholic church, and is looking for new course facilitators. Training is provided, and volunteers will join the local centre. For more information, please call Karen on 0800 389 3801 (09:00-17:00, Mon-Thu) or visit the website at: <https://www.marriagecare.org.uk/mpcf/>.

World Communications Day – Next weekend, we have the annual collection for the Catholic Communications Network, which seeks to promote the message of the Gospel in the mass media.

Did you know that Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said that "Love – caritas – is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace." For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to <https://cafod.org.uk/campaign/latest-campaigns>.

Polish Services – For information about Polish services, visit the Polish-language website <http://www.finchleyparish.co.uk/>.

The Universe Catholic Weekly is now published online. To sign up for the free 4-week introductory offer, email michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call 07436 617650.

