

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.stphilipfinchley.org.uk

Email: finchleychurchend@rcdow.org.uk

Twitter.com/StPhilFinchley

Service times this week

Sunday Mass: Saturday 6:30pm
Sunday 9:30am (BST)
11:30am (BST)
Weekday Mass: 10:00am (Monday & Tuesday only)
Maundy Thursday: 7:30pm (Mass of the Lord's Supper)
Good Friday: 3:00pm (Liturgy of the Lord's Passion)
Holy Saturday: 7:30pm (Easter Vigil)
Confessions: No Confessions on Holy Saturday

Last week's receipts: loose collection: £187.82;
envelopes: £223.25; candles: £76.55.

Thank you. [WRCDT Reg. Charity no. 233699]

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 28th March 2021

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday marks the start of Holy Week, the most solemn week of the Liturgical Year. Today's liturgy sets the scene for what lies ahead, as we commemorate the suffering and death of Christ in the coming days, reflecting on the sacrifice that Our Lord endured in order to win salvation for all people.

We give thanks that, unlike last year, we are able to commemorate these events together in the church. But our liturgies this week will be rather different from what we have experienced in the past. We will not be able to gather in large numbers and the liturgies will be shorter, but I hope that the added simplicity will help to put us more in tune with the events that we are commemorating. The limit on numbers means that it is essential to book a place if you wish to attend any of the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter. We will not be able to admit anyone else when the church reaches its safe capacity. For those who are not able to attend this week's liturgies, you might like to find a quiet time during the week to pray quietly near the Wayside Cross outside the main entrance of the church, keeping a safe distance from anyone else who may be there. It is preferable to come at a time when there is no service taking place inside the church.

May God bless you all,
Fr John Dermody.

Holy Week and Easter – The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday evening, and the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening, will both start at 7:30pm. On Good Friday, the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion will begin at 3pm. There will be no other service on those days. Booking is essential for Holy Week and Easter services. Online bookings open six days before each service. You can access the booking service via the News page of our parish microsite at <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/news/lent-and-easter/>.

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.

Lenten Alms – During Lent, one of the wall boxes in the main porch is marked (with a red arrow) for donations to the Cardinal's Appeal, which supports the areas of Marriage and Family Life, Youth and Evangelisation, and the Church's Service in Society. You can also donate directly at: <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/cardinals-appeal/>

Holy Places – On Good Friday afternoon, donations placed in the wooden Offerings box at the front of the church will go towards the upkeep of the places associated with Our Lord's time in the Holy Land. As the holy shrines are without pilgrims for the second Easter in a row, they are in need of support from the wider community of the Church.

Good Friday Parking – Yellow-line parking restrictions apply on Good Friday, as on any other Friday, and *they have been enforced in the past*. Parking bays where you normally have to pay a fee to park are free on Bank Holidays. Spaces in the church car park are freely available during church services on a first come, first served basis, but you should avoid gathering around parked vehicles.

Covid-19 Safety – We are able to continue our schedule of Masses, but we have to keep to the safety measures that have been put in place:

- Make sure you book for each Mass you wish to attend, either on the online service or by email or phone;
- Wear a covering over your nose as well as your mouth while you are in the church (apart from when receiving Holy Communion if you have an exemption);
- Use the hand sanitiser as you enter and leave the church, and after handling votive candles;
- Maintain a social distance from those outside your household group (or support bubble) at all times;
- Move quickly to your seat when you enter the church, and avoid unnecessary movement within the church;
- Leave the church as quickly as possible after Mass and avoid contact with those outside your household group as you depart.

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

Saturday 27th Mar, 10:00am – Anne Kearney RIP (Anniv)
6:30pm – Noreen Maguire RIP

Sunday 28th Mar, 9:30am – Frank & Mary Dunne RIP (Anniv)
11:30am – People of the Parish

Monday 29th Mar, 10:00am – Patrick Clohessy RIP (Anniv)

Tuesday 30th Mar, 10:00am – Idinha Pereira RIP (Anniv)

Thursday 1st Apr, 7:30pm – Mary Sabine-Bacon RIP (Anniv)

Saturday 3rd Apr, 7:30pm – People of the Parish

Chrism Mass – Every year during Holy Week, this special Mass is celebrated by the Cardinal at the Cathedral to bless the new oils and to invite the priests of the Diocese to renew their commitment. This year it will be taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Tuesday (30th March) at 12 noon. Numbers will be limited but you can follow it on the Cathedral's live stream at <https://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk/>.

British Summer Time (BST) begins this weekend. Have you remembered to put your clocks forward?

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 be made via the parish microsite, which you can access using the following link: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/donate/>.

Gift Aid – The income of many people has been affected by the coronavirus in the past year. As we approach the end of the Tax Year, those who have completed Gift Aid declarations need to check that they have paid sufficient tax to cover all their Gift Aided donations. Please let us know if your contributions are no longer covered so that your donations may be excluded from our claim for a tax refund. It is a great help to the parish to be able to claim that extra money. 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 details of the information that is required.

Booking for Mass – Booking is recommended for all Sunday Masses and for other major feast days. It helps us to maintain safety in the church, as well as to keep records which may be required by the NHS Test and Trace service. Visit <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/events/> to access the online booking service. If you are unable to book online, you can also request a booking with a phone call to the parish number, or by email, saying which Mass you wish to attend and providing your contact details. The information supplied will be deleted 21 days after the date of the Mass for which you book. Those who come without booking will not be admitted if the building has reached its safe capacity. For up-to-date information, see <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleychurchend/mass-guidelines/>. If you are not able to attend after booking a place for Mass, please let us know by email or phone, so that your place may be reallocated.

The Passage is seeking support for its work dealing with the challenge of more people becoming homeless. All donations to its Big Give campaign until this Wednesday (31st March) will be doubled by matched funding. You can donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/NoNightOut>. For more information, visit <http://www.passage.org.uk/>.

Chorister opportunities – Westminster Cathedral Choir School is recruiting boys currently in Year 2 or 3 who have musical potential and might consider becoming choristers at Westminster Cathedral. See the website at <http://www.choirschool.com/> or contact Lucy Auger at lauger@choirschool.com or (020) 7798 9081.

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.

Newsletter distribution – Don't forget that you can read the last four issues of this newsletter on the parish websites. You can also receive a copy every week by email if you sign up for e-Alerts on the parish microsite, or simply let us know that you would like to receive the weekly email. 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.

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. This does not replace the need to book for Mass.

Census 2021 – Have you submitted your census form? If you're not able to access the online service, you can obtain a paper form to complete, by phoning 0800 141 2021.

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.

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.

This Sunday's responses:

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: **My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name which is above all names.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, *[bow]*
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.