

A parishioner writes:

### SUNDAY REFLECTION

Today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles introduces us to two people who have walk-on parts in the great Easter drama. It is less than 50 days since Jesus' death and Resurrection at the Passover feast. He has ascended into heaven, but Pentecost - the Jewish festival of first fruits marking the start of the wheat harvest - has still to come. Judas' betrayal is a searing, shameful memory for the inner circle of Jesus' followers. However, there are many more who have been involved since the beginning, and now we meet two of them. Joseph Barsabbas Justus and someone known simply as Matthias are short-listed for the vacant position amongst the twelve. After due process, Matthias is chosen.

Who were these men, and what happened to them afterwards? Alas, the Scriptures do not tell us. Their names only appear in these four verses of the first chapter of Acts, and then no more is heard of them. Later traditions suggest that after years preaching the Good News, both died martyr's deaths. St Justus of Eleutherapolis takes his name from a town built on the site of a village where, in 68AD during the Jewish Rebellion, Romans slaughtered the inhabitants. Perhaps he was amongst them. St Matthias is said to have preached along the coast of the Caspian Sea before he was stoned to death. An Abbey in Trier in Germany and a castle in Georgia both claim to have his relics. It is frustrating not to know more.

For me, there is a twofold value in the characters who have such small mentions in these great texts. Firstly, they are a mark of the authenticity of the sources. If it was not true, why bother to invent them? The narrative does not need to tell us the identity of Joseph Barsabbas Justus who lost the vote. It only makes sense if it was important at the time, and that the writer knew that some of his readers were likely to know who he was. The second is that, as a bit player in our own times, I find it easier to relate to the minor actors in this, the Greatest Story Ever Told. In so doing, I hear it once more, afresh.

Perhaps now, when we are unsuccessful in a job interview, the story of Joseph Barsabbas Justus can help us handle the disappointment and acknowledge that God has a different task for us to do.

### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am Pro Pop	<b>Thursday</b>	10.00 am Peter de Cruz <i>RIP</i>
	10.00 am U & D McCarthy ( <i>Int</i> )		6.15 pm Holy Souls
	11.15 am Eula Britto <i>RIP</i>	<b>Friday</b>	10.00 am Christy Lobo <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm Raffa Camua <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm Joe Liddy <i>RIP</i>
<b>Monday</b>	10.00 am Foundation Mass	<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 am Eulalia Britto <i>RIP</i>
	6.15pm Lydia Sanglay <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm Alice Ozoumba <i>RIP</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	10.00 am Nell Desmond <i>RIP</i>	<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am Pro Pop
	6.15 pm J & R Ryder <i>RIP</i>		10.00 am Pattie Streek ( <i>Int</i> )
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 am D'Souza & Britto Fam <i>RIP</i>		11.30 am Amedeo De Ranieri <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm David Burak <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm Thanksgiving to St Rita

# ST ANSELM'S CHURCH

9 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS Telephone: 020 8672 2179

Parish Office email: [stanselmstbec@gmail.com](mailto:stanselmstbec@gmail.com)

Parish website: [www.stanselmstbec.org.uk](http://www.stanselmstbec.org.uk)

Seventh Sunday of Easter

12th & 13th May 2018 (Year B)

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#### Parish Team:

Rev Canon Dr William Hebborn (*Parish Priest*)

Fr Philip Andrews, Fr Paul Connelly

& Fr Emmanuel Ojeifo (*also resident*).

Deacon Michael Carrucan, Deacon Simon English,

Deacon Tom McCarthy & Thelma Lewis.

Tom Gately (*Catechetical Co-ordinator*).

Martine Mercer (*Parish Administrator*).

#### Parish Sisters:

The Little Company of Mary.

#### Mass Times:

Saturday 10.00am & 6.15pm.

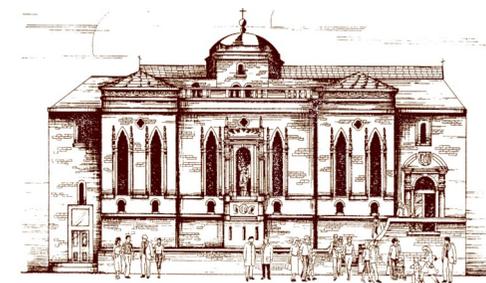
Sunday 8.30am, 10.00am, 11.15am & 6.15pm.

#### Mass times during the week:

10.00am & 6.15pm. (No 8.00am).

Holydays: 8.00am, 10.00am & 6.15pm & 8.00pm.

**Confessions:** Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm & 7.00pm.



#### WEEKDAY READINGS

Monday: Acts 1:15-17.20-26; Ps 112:1-8; Jn 15:9-17

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 67:10-11.20-21; Jn 17:1-11

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 67:29-30.33-36; Jn 17:11-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Ps 15:1-2.5.7-11; Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13-21; Ps 102:1-2.11-12.19-20; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20.30-31; Ps 10:4-5.7; Jn 21:20-25

**Sunday: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103:1.24.29-31.34; Gal 5:16-25; Jn 15:26-27. 16:12-15**

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH

We pray for all our housebound parishioners, including those in the six nursing homes and Springfield Hospital.

#### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** Acts 1:15-17.20-26

Matthias is chosen to restore the number of apostles to twelve.

**Second Reading** 1 John 4:11-16

To acknowledge Jesus is to live in love.

**Gospel** John 17:11-19

Our vocation today is to be true to God's name.

**WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY:** The Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day on 13th May when we are asked to pray for those who work in the media and when a second collection is taken after Mass to fund this important work.

### MEETINGS DURING THE WEEK

Monday: St Vincent de Paul at 7.00pm (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> **Monday** of month).  
Legion of Mary at 7.00pm.  
Tuesday: Exposition and Benediction after 10.00am Mass.  
Wednesday: Friendship Club 2.00pm – 4.00pm.  
Thursday: Friends of the Holy Family (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month).  
St Philomena Prayer Group held after 6.15pm Mass in our Lady's chapel 7.00pm – 8.00pm.  
RCIA programme 7.00pm – 9.00pm in upper new hall.

**CARING KITCHEN, TODAY** Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> May in the Old Hall (Balham High Rd entrance) in a friendly place and caring environment to enjoy a homemade lunch. We offer sandwiches, soup, cakes and fruit to members of the community, including anyone in the parish who would like to come along. For further information please contact: [caringkitchensw@gmail.com](mailto:caringkitchensw@gmail.com)

### ST ANSELM'S PRIMARY SCHOOL MAY FAIR

#### **TODAY Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May, 12-4pm**

Fun for all the family with hot food, cream teas, rides, inflatables, Steel Band, Penalty Shoot-out, Grand Prize raffle and lots more. Entrance Tooting Bec Rd. £5. per family or £1.50 per person. Please come along for a great family day out.

### A COURSE FOR PENTECOST "THE GIFT"

The course continues Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> May from 7.45pm to 9.15 pm in the upper new hall.

### CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Rehearsal for all candidates and sponsors on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in the church**. Bishop Paul Hendricks will confer the Sacrament on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May at the 11.30am Mass (amended Mass time)**. We ask you to especially remember the candidates, families and catechists during this time of preparation.

### SAFE GUARDING DBS Screening Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 9.30am - 10.30am

If you have received your paperwork to help as a parish volunteer please attend this session with your application form and necessary documents for signing by the Parish Child Protection representatives. **Please come to the presbytery front door for access.** Should you have any queries in relation to the Disclosure and Barring Screening for parish volunteers please contact : Peggy Jhugroo c/o [stanselmstbec@gmail.com](mailto:stanselmstbec@gmail.com)

### PARISH PATRONAL FEAST CELEBRATION

To celebrate our Parish Feast there will be a special Mass on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 6.15pm followed by celebration afterwards. If you are interested in helping with the organisation of this event please come along to our meeting on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7.45pm in the lower new hall**. Any queries/confirmation of attendance please contact Claver at [caldmello@googlemail.com](mailto:caldmello@googlemail.com) Thank you!

### PARISH SHOP IN THE COURTYARD

Our little shop in the courtyard is open every Sunday 8.30am-12.30pm. Do drop in and be pleasantly surprised. Lots of Confirmation, First Holy Communion, Baptism cards and gifts. If you would like to volunteer in the shop please speak to Tom Gately or email: [tomg87@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tomg87@hotmail.co.uk)

**SATURDAY CATECHISM** Saturday morning Classes (term time) from 10.45-11.30am for children attending a non-Catholic Primary School. **Please contact the parish office for further details 020 8672 2179.**

**FINANCE** The Finance Committee have produced the financial report for 2017. Copies are available at the back of the church and parishioners are urged to look at how the money donated to St Anselm's has been spent. In summary, the church had an income of £285,950 and expenditure of £282,514 so we just about broke even. The good news about income is that the Offertory collection, at £131,771, was up 7.3% on 2016 and the Gift Aid Income Tax refund, at £23,910, was up 11%. The major expenditure was on the lighting system which has been a major enhancement to the church. The costs of this, £65,000, were largely offset by donations, a building fund collection and a legacy. In the coming year, there will need to be major expenditure on the church roof which has the original slates from 1932 causing problems. Again, there will be Building Fund appeals to meet the costs, which will be considerable. If you have any questions on the Report, please ask the priests or e-mail the parish office.

**GIFT AID ENVELOPES** Last year's Gift Aid tax refund was £23,910 which is a significant income for us. Canon William is grateful to all those parishioners who make their donations to the church within the Gift Aid Scheme. Any parishioner not in the scheme and who is a taxpayer and gives regularly to the church in the collections can join the scheme by contacting Paul Darbyshire, the Gift Aid organiser, on 020 8675 2069 or indeed by e-mailing the parish office.

**CHURCH CLEANERS** It takes a merry bunch of cleaners to make the Church sparkle every week. If you can give a couple of hours of your time, please come and join the team on a Thursday morning following the 10am Mass. Come to the sacristy from 11am.

### HEALTH & SAFETY

It is a Diocesan Regulation that prams are not brought into the church or left at the back. They should be parked in the garage available for this purpose. Please also do not lock bicycles to gates as these are safety gates for entry and exit in case of emergency.

**CAN YOU HELP? CHILDREN'S LITURGY (Little Fishes (under 5) & The Followers (Over 5))** We are looking for liturgists to help with both the Under 5 & Over 5 Liturgy groups on a Sunday morning. If you are interested in supporting our lovely children's liturgy, which is an extension of the Mass for our younger members of the parish community, please contact the parish office: [stanselmstbec@gmail.com](mailto:stanselmstbec@gmail.com) and your details will be forwarded to the coordinators of the groups. Thank you. *Canon William*

**OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS** Last week's collection: Gift Aid Envelopes £286.00, Loose £1,094.00. **Total £1,380.00.** Thank you.  
**Second Collection today:** World Communications Day

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Extraordinary Ministers' Formation Evening Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June, 7.45pm UNH
- Blessed Sacrament Procession, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 3pm, in the Church
- Catechetical Coordinators meeting Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm UNH