

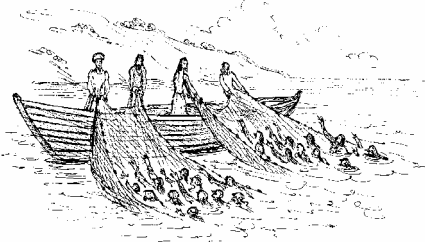
Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

The Fifth Sunday of the Year
7th February 2010



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We all like to feel comfortable and we all have our own little ways of doing things that we've got used to. That's because by nature we're creatures of habit. We don't like to be put out or troubled by having to learn new ways. We like a quiet life.

Religious people sometimes use their faith in the same way. It becomes a comfort and a crutch, a way of doing things that makes them feel secure and unthreatened. Faith becomes the spiritual insurance policy that guarantees peace of mind. But at the heart of faith is risk. Faith involves making that leap, walking along the path with no signs, trusting when you know that everything could go wrong. Faith is an invitation not to remain where we are but to seek ever new and more enriching pastures, to stretch ourselves, to be challenged in ways that we cannot even suspect but which will carry their own rewards. Christian faith, in particular, is not an anaesthetic but an adventure.

In today's gospel we see Jesus telling Simon Peter to put out the boats into deeper water. Normally you don't catch many fish by the edge of a lake; you have to be bold and move into the middle. And, sure enough, having fished all night long and caught nothing, it was when the disciples obeyed Jesus' request to put out into deeper water that they not only caught fish but netted a catch that astounded them.

The deeper the water the more uncomfortable people feel, because you can't touch the bottom. But the deeper the water the greater the catch. Our sluggishness encourages us to remain static in faith. We're content to catch fish when Jesus promises us that we could be catching people, encouraging men and women to come to Christ. We're prepared to do the basic minimum in our faith, to enjoy the view close to the shore, when Jesus promises us a magnificent experience on the high seas. Today's liturgy challenges us to be bolder in our relationship with God and with others, to grow in faith and trust, to move to areas in our lives that are as yet uncharted. Yes, we're bound to have doubts about our safety. But God does not promise us a calm passage...just a safe landing.



100+ CLUB JANUARY WINNERS

Please collect your membership numbers from the index card box at the main entrance to the Church. January winners drawn by Uclechi, aged 7 are as follows:-

£35	(No. 21)	Eleanor Hayes
£25	(No. 34)	Maxwell Anandappa
£15	(No. 49)	David Willis

Membership is still open so please return your application as soon as possible.

LIVING AS ONE

Copies of "Living as One", the diocese's faith-sharing booklet will be arriving during the next week. Please be sure to pick up your copy next Sunday. The theme of "Living As One" is Christ's Church and what we mean when we say we believe that the Church is 'one, holy, catholic and apostolic'. Starting on the First Sunday of Lent (21 February), the booklets contain 42 daily meditations and 6 group sessions, enabling you to share your faith, experiences and thoughts with others. Booklets are priced at £1.

CELEBRATING SPECIAL ANNIVERSARIES

The Archbishop will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th and 60th+ wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2010. If you qualify, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or phone number, if no email.) The Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Saturday 22nd May at 3.00pm.

THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

Are holding a weekend for those who find themselves alone again through bereavement, divorce or separation. This will take place from 26th to 28th March at the Emmanus Centre, West Wickham. For details telephone Nicky on 01296 488289.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.

All earth's kings shall thank you
when they hear the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the Lord's ways:
'How great is the glory of the Lord!'

You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia
I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

TODAY'S READINGS: NEXT WEEKS' READINGS:

Isaiah 6:1-8 Jeremiah 17:5-8
Psalm 137 Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 1 Corinthians 15:12.16-20
Luke 5:1-11 Luke 6:17.20-26
Mass Times

SUNDAY	FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	8.30am 11.00am 12.30pm & 6.30pm
Monday	Jerome Emiliani	10.00am
Tuesday		10.00am
Wednesday	Scholastica	10.00am
Thursday	Our Lady of Lourdes	10.00am
Friday		10.00am
Saturday		6.30pm
SUNDAY	SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	8.30am 11.00am 12.30pm & 6.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation –
Saturday 10.30 – 11.00am & 5.45 – 6.15pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church each Friday morning from 9.15 to 9.45.

Offertory Last Week: £1,585.36
plus the regular Standing Orders. Thank You!

SVP

The SVP Group meets on Monday evenings at 8.00pm in the Sacristy.

RCIA

This week, the RCIA Group meets on Monday evening at 8.00pm in the Sacristy.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary meets in the Sacristy at 10.45 on Tuesday mornings.

LINE DANCING

There is Line Dancing every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in Eleanor Hall.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Confirmation Preparation is at 8.00pm on Thursday evenings in the Church

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

The Group will meet in the Church on Friday 12th February at 8pm

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

There is a meeting for First Holy Communion Catechists on Tuesday 9th February at 8pm in the Presbytery. There will be a meeting for all First Communion children on Saturday 13th February at 10am in Eleanor Hall.

FUNERALS THIS WEEK

The Funeral Mass for the late Mary Veronica Murphy will be celebrated on Thursday 11th February at 10.00am.

The Funeral Mass for the late Roger Hoare will be celebrated on Friday 12 February at 10.00am followed by burial at Lavender Hill Cemetery.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

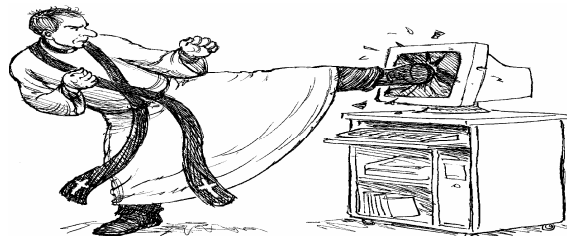
The next Baptism Preparation Course will start on Sunday 21st February at 2.30pm in The Convent, Longlands Avenue. If you have a baby to be Baptised in the near future please see Fr. John.

MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY IN LOURDES

Archbishop Vincent Nichols welcomes all to this Mass, which is also the World Day of Prayer for the Sick. It will be celebrated on Saturday 13th February at 3.00pm in Westminster Cathedral, Victoria Street, SW1P 1QW. The sacrament of the sick will be administered. If you are bringing a wheelchair, please let the Parish Office know so that space for wheelchairs and carers can be reserved.

APF-MILL HILL MISSIONARIES

There will be a meeting at 8pm on Monday 15th February at St Augustine's Church, Hoddesdon. Parish Local Secretaries and Promoters are particularly welcome but the meeting is open to anyone from the Lea Valley Deanery. This is a chance to meet with Fr. Philip Knights, the Diocesan Director of Missio-APF for Westminster and Fr. Ephraim Ohdiambo, the Westminster appeals organiser for the Diocese, catch up with news of what is happening in Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries and review our work in the Diocese of Westminster.



The computer beat Canon O'Gloom at chess but was no match for him at kick-boxing!