

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

St Peter and St Paul
28 June 2009



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She's a martyr to her corns, we say. Or perhaps we think that we shouldn't give publicity to terrorists because they'll become martyrs.

We use the word martyr in a different way from the way it was thought of in gospel times. For us, martyrdom means suffering, like the woman with her corns. And when we hear of the death of various holy people we call it martyrdom. But in fact the word martyr doesn't necessarily involve suffering or dying.

The word martyr means a witness. If you are a martyr to the cause, then you are a good advert for the cause, a good example or a witness to what the cause is all about.

In fact, although Sts Peter and Paul were both killed for their faith, they are really martyrs because they both witnessed to it. In an obvious way we can say that dying in order to witness to your faith is the ultimate martyrdom.

Yet what's important about Peter and Paul isn't that they died but that they spent their lives passing on the message of Jesus Christ. The ancient Preface prayer for today's feast speaks of "Peter, our leader in the faith, and Paul, its fearless preacher."

If we want to emulate the two saints of today's feast then we don't have to seek out death before our time; we have to be martyrs by witnessing and passing on what we have been taught and believe. In fact that's how Christian faith survives. Faith, they say, is not taught but caught. We catch it at our mother's knee, at the feet of good teachers, from the lips of holy people we come to meet in life.

It's easy to bypass our job of transmitting the faith by saying that this is the task of others, of clergy and catechists, of teachers and preachers. But the truth is that the only reason why we can celebrate today's feast is because of generations of mothers, fathers, grandparents, uncles and aunts who accepted the responsibility of handing on their faith to their own families and friends.

Peter and Paul would be happy to accept praise for their martyrdom, for the way they transmitted their faith, but they'd probably be even happier if they thought we were also joining the martyrs' queue ourselves.

PARISH SUMMER BBQ AND LINE DANCING WITH CINDY AND FRIENDS

Saturday 11th July following 6.30pm Mass, Eleanor Hall

An Evening of fun for everyone with a bar and BBQ food available for purchase. Come and try Line Dancing and you might perhaps like to join the regular classes which we hope to start soon. (Let Stewart know if you are interested in Line Dancing Classes – 01992 634445).



SPONSORED WALK – Sunday 13th September 2pm Lea Valley Park

Following the same route as last year, your sponsor form will be available soon.

ST JOSEPH'S COMMUNION PHOTOS

Please note that the group photos and any individual photos will be available for viewing at the following times:

Saturday 20th June after the 6.30pm Mass in St Joseph's Hall, Sunday 21st June after the 10.45am Mass in St Joseph's Hall and Sunday 28th June after the 10.45am Mass in St. Joseph's Hall. Photos will be available for viewing, and copies may be ordered. Prices are £8 each for an 8x6 photo which includes mounting into a presentation folder and delivery. Other sizes are available. Antonio Albano Tel. 0802 245 3615.

APF COLLECTION

It is time for the next collection from APF red box holders in the Parish. Please take home an APF envelope with your name and address on from the box at the back of the church. Please take it home, fill it with the contents of your APF box, and return it to the Church next Sunday.

The APF is the charity that helps Catholic missionaries to continue to work in countries across the world. We thank you for all the money you give to this important work. If you have any questions, please contact Terry O'Sullivan on 01992 444642.

PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD

The Nigerian Catholic Chaplaincy's Annual Pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory is on Saturday 11th July 2009. Please contact Eucharis on 07984 153877 if you are interested. Tickets: £10 per adult, £5 per child

ST PETER'S ITALIAN CHURCH, 136 CLERKENWELL ROAD, LONDON EC1R 5DL

Sunday 12th July is the festival of the annual procession of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which has been celebrated at St Peter's for over 100 years. The Procession begins at 3.30pm following Mass at St Peter's. Between 1.30 and 5pm there will be a festival with stalls of food, drinks, novelties, interesting items and plenty of music, all of which takes place in Warner Street and the surrounding area.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

I will bless the Lord at all times ,
his praise always on my lips;
in the lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called, the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress.

The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**Alleluia, alleluia!**

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.
And the gates of the underworld can never hold out
against it.

Alleluia!**TODAY'S READINGS:**

Acts of the Apostles 3:1-10
Psalm 33
2 Timothy 4:6-8.17-18
Matthew 16:13-19

NEXT WEEKS' READINGS:

Ezekiel 2:2-5
Psalm 122
2 Corinthians 2:12:7-10
Mark 6:1-6

Mass Times

SUNDAY	FEAST OF SAINT PETER AND ST PAUL	8.30am 10.45am 12.15pm & 6.30pm
Monday		10.00am
Tuesday		10.00am
Wednesday		10.00am
Thursday		10.00am
Friday		10.00am
Saturday		6.30pm
SUNDAY	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	8.30am 10.45am 12.15pm & 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: £1,505.21

plus the regular Standing Orders. Thank You!

SVP

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

FAIRTRADE STLL

The Fairtrade Stall will be open after all Masses today.

LEGION OF MARY

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

CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION

Confirmation candidates will be celebrating their Confirmation on Thursday at 8.00pm. There will be a meeting for Confirmation candidates on Wednesday at 8.00pm in the Church.

BAPTISMS THIS WEEK

Sunday 28th June at 1.30pm - Mollie & Lillie Fensome
Sunday 5th July at 1.30pm - Mark Tyner

BAPTISM PREPARATION

A Baptism Preparation Course will take place today Sunday 28th June and Sunday 5th July at 2.30pm at the Convent in Longlands Close. If you wish your child to be baptised in the near future, please contact Father John.

DIOCESAN YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE TO TAIZE, FRANCE – 8-16 AUGUST 2009

Join Bishop John Arnold and other young Adults (18-30s) from around the Diocese on pilgrimage to this unique Christian Community. A 'Holiday' with a difference, meet other young adults from the diocese, meet other people from around Europe and the world, a time for prayer, space and reflection, spend time with the Taize brothers. Take time-out in 'sunny' Central France. Price: £200. For further details, contact Dave Burke, tel: 020 7798 9357 or email davidburke@rcdow.org.uk

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION FOR 2010

Children who are in Year Two or above in School and have not yet celebrated their First Communion need to give the matter some thought with their parents. If you attend Mass at St. Joseph's Church regularly, please see Fr John to talk about registering for the next preparation.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

If you are not already a Catholic, have been away from the Church for some time or want to discover more about the Catholic Church, then there are a series of meetings beginning on Monday 14th September. For further details please speak to Fr. John or Sr. Cecily.

WEDDING THIS WEEK

Friday 3 July at 1.00pm - Doreen Dankyi and Terry Killick

THE NIGERIAN CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION

The Nigerian Catholic Association of Our Lady and St Joseph's Parish meets every 1st Sunday of the month immediately after the 10.45 Mass, in St Joseph's Hall. Next meeting is on Sunday 5th July 2009.

BRIGHTLIGHTS FESTIVAL

for young adults (16-30) at St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, Hendon, from 10th-12th July 2009. Inspirational speakers, live bands, Mass, Reconciliation, workshops all in a great, relaxed, outdoor, festival atmosphere. Campers welcome (under 18's with a group leader). Visit www.brightlights.org.uk for more information.