

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We hope you enjoy your time at St. James' and we look forward to seeing you again next week.

Thank you for your offerings last week of £1,321. Mass attendance 626.	
7th July (Saturday Vigil)	Fourteenth Sunday 6pm Martin & Bridie Mulroy RIP (G Mulroy)
Sunday 8th July	9.15am People of The Parish 11am May Monaghan RIP (Monaghan Family)
Monday 9th July	Feria 9.30am John, Teresa & Terence Lynch RIP (Jackson Family)
Tuesday 10th July	Feria 9.30am Anthony Olivelle RIP (M Olivelle)
Wednesday 11th July	Saint Benedict 9.30am May Breen RIP (Jackson Family) 10.45am Eucharistic Adoration
Thursday 12th July	Feria 9.30am Frank Dawson RIP (Eileen Dawson)
Friday 13th July	Feria 9.30am Thanks to the Holy Spirit
14th July (Saturday Vigil)	Fifteenth Sunday 6pm Michael Ingrams RIP (Howell Family) 9.15am David Osemudianen
Sunday 15th July	11am Golden Wedding Anniversary of Roger & Ellen Wright (Wright Family)

Confessions are heard on Saturday, 5.00-5.45pm, or by appointment.

Morning Prayer takes place Monday – Friday at 9.10am. All are welcome to attend.

Pondering the Word (*Lectio Divina*) - A quiet reflective look at the following Sunday's Gospel. Mondays 11am-12 noon, except for Bank Holidays, here in the Church. All are welcome.

Rosary – Every day after Mass there is rosary. All are welcome.

Sunday Mornings in the Community Centre

Every Sunday coffee and tea is served after the 9.15am and 11am Masses. Please join us for a while and get to know each other over a cuppa!

*St James's
Celebration Weekend
Garden Party & Fun Run
This Sunday, 8th July
After 11am Mass*

Music, Drinks, Cakes – Fun for the whole family!

Fr David writes...

The great twentieth century Dutch spiritual writer, Henri Nouwen's most famous book is called "The Wounded Healer". In it, the author explains that the Healer is the one who is in touch with his/her own wounds first. Real healers are those who have a deep sense of their own struggles and uses their own wounds as resources for connecting them on a deeper level with others. The most fascinating people we can meet, are those who did not have an easy life. We love reading biographies of people who inspire us by their ability to not only survive through sometimes horrendous upbringing or situations but excel through them. Their stories have almost always a redemptive element in them. Their tragic stories instead of disempowering them and making them feel small, made them larger than life and more authentic because of their way of dealing with them. Prophets are people like Nouwen or St Paul, who understood that their "thorn in the flesh" was not there to humiliate them but that they would rely always not on their own "perfection" but on the grace of God in their life. The thorn in the flesh whatever it is, can be a channel of transformation for us and a means of connection with other mortal human beings like us. Nouwen's deep sense of restlessness in his life was fuelled by a sense of rejection he experienced in his childhood, especially by his father. This created in him a yearning for intimacy and acceptance by others. This much loved and famous writer who had inspired not only thousands of people of his own generation but future ones, lacked a sense of belonging all through his life.

His books were a kind of insightful reflection on his existential reality and because he wrote so authentically about his experience, touched so many people through his books. People like myself could connect and identify with his writings and his articulation had helped me to put words on my own personal experience. I felt I knew Henri Nouwen personally and it felt that he knew me. That is the power of authentic Prophets. Rejection in whatever age we experience it, can damage us for life. As human beings, especially as children, we yearn to fit in. We identify our own worth in our ability or inability, to belong to a group. Our deepest fear is rejection especially by our parents or primary carers. This kind of wound can harm our self-confidence like none other. Rejection touches the deepest core of our being.

In today's gospel, Jesus returns to his home place of Nazareth. When Jesus teaches in the local synagogue, many of his townspeople are astonished by his performance. They start to wonder and question the origin of his teachings and the nature of his wisdom, as well as the miracles that are done through him. When Jesus was at home, working as a carpenter with his family, there was no problem in accepting him. However now, seeing him as a Wise Prophet, they find it difficult to accept him as he now is threatening their status quo. The neighbours find it easier having a carpenter amongst them than a prophet. So they try to undermine him by referring to his family tree. They want to put him back in a small box. The job Jesus worked, his mother, the presence of his sisters. In their own way they are saying "Who does he think he is? We know his background. We know where he is coming from". They want to cut a tall poppy down to size. Whatever their wonder, they are not going to allow Jesus's wisdom to interfere with their memories of him. Jesus then tells them – "A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relations and in his own house". The evangelist Mark has already told us that his relations believe that he is out of his mind. Now the rejection seems to be complete. Jesus's experience of rejection in Nazareth renders him powerless to do any miracles among his own people. This is an extraordinary statement about the human Jesus. People's lack of trust limits his ministry. Distrust disables him. So he moves elsewhere, refusing to be enslaved by his failure to reach his own people. And he never returns to Nazareth again.

We flourish where we feel trusted. If we are around people who doubt our abilities or do not believe in our judgements and skills, we feel disabled. We cannot perform well if we are always being asked questions

to justify ourselves. The prophet needs space to be himself or herself in order to give to others their utmost potential. Like Jesus, if we ever find ourselves in such an environment of distrust and rejection, it is better to move on and find a place where we feel a sense of belonging in. If we keep on persevering in negative toxic situations, we could become physically and mentally sick and very resentful in vain. In these situations, like Jesus we need to be humble enough to say, we are getting nowhere here. It would be better to invest our energies somewhere else where others can benefit. These are always moments of serious discernment. These decisions are not made haphazardly but with utmost sensitivity and wisdom. I would like to bring to God this week all those who have felt or are feeling rejected by those who are close to them or in their professions. May the gift of healing and wisdom lead you to make the right decisions and choices. Blessings on your journey of discernment.

“Drop-In” Evening Surgeries – Please note the next drop in will be Wednesday 8th August. Fr. David will be on home leave from the 16th July to 31st July.

Liturgy Pillar

Eucharist Adoration - takes place for an hour **each Wednesday shortly after the morning Mass starting at 10.45 am and finishing at 11.45 am.** This Devotion to the Eucharist is a time of silent prayer and quiet music. Everyone is welcome for all or part of this time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

First Friday of Month - Eucharist Adoration also takes place on the **1st Friday of each month from 7.30 pm – 9pm,** the next will be on the 1st June and concludes with Benediction. Everyone is welcome for all or part of this time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

Pastoral Pillar

Helplines and Counselling Services.

As part of our care for the community a list of helplines and counselling services has now been added to the Parish website and also, placed in the porch. The purpose of this is to give contact details of various organisations which can provide help in difficult times thereby enabling people to seek privately the information and support they may need.

Evangelisation Pillar

There will be a meeting for all catechists of **Baptism preparation, Children’s Liturgy, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Journey in Faith** on **Wednesday 11th July 8pm** in the Community Hall.

Please join us for a glass of wine / juice and nibbles to celebrate our achievements, and to share and support the catechist family.

POSTPONED because of a certain football match!

St. James’ Primary School

The school underwent a Denominational Inspection by the Diocese of Southwark in May 2018. Staff and Governors of the School are delighted to announce that the School was awarded an Outstanding grade. The Inspection, which is carried out every five years, is very important to the School as the Catholic ethos with Christ at the centre underpins and influences all that the School does. The Report affirms the Catholicity of St. James’ School and the full Report may be read on the School website.

Justice & Peace

Foodbank update

Please note that they don’t need any more sanitary wear! They’ve received so much that it is being given to other charities (including one which sends it to Africa). They have completely run out of shampoo. The usual food items such as Long life fruit juice, squash, jam, custard, cold meat (corned

beef, spam, tinned ham), tea, Washing up Liquid, Washing Detergent, Men's and Women's deodorants, Men's Shower Gel. Many Thanks

Petts Wood Catholic Women's League

Advance notice - Our Annual Teddy Bears' Picnic will be held on Thursday afternoon, 19th July - hopefully outdoors in the Church garden. If anyone is looking for a home for soft toys please bring them along and put them in the box at the back of the church ready for our children's tombola.

Social Pillar

Film Night

The next Saturday Film Club will be held on 14 July. We will be showing *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, a highly entertaining & touching British comedy/ drama, released in 2011, which has a great cast of actors, including Dames Judi Dench & Maggie Smith. As before, please feel free to bring a cold snack with you if you wish. The bar will be open. The film will start at 7.45pm & runs for just under 2 hours. Sign up sheets are in the porch. We do hope you will join us!

The very generous donations raised at our previous event were passed on to the Food Bank in the form of £5 & £10 gift cards. You may have noted from the warm letter of appreciation we received from the Food Bank Manager, how gratefully our additional support has been received, particularly as the imminent school summer holidays will place an additional burden on already struggling families. While we are mindful of our intention for the Film Club to support diverse charitable initiatives, we have decided, exceptionally, that donations raised this month will be passed on once again to the Food Bank.

For your diaries! There will be no Saturday Film Club in the holiday month of August but please note the following dates for the remainder of this year: 1 September, 20 October, 17 November, 15 December."

Youth Pillar

Youth Film Night – Save The Date

The youth film night for people aged 12+ will be held on Saturday 21st July at 7pm in the Community Centre. The film showing will be 'What We Did On Our Holiday'. Food will be provided. There will be a suggested donation of £2. We look forward to seeing you there!

Polite Reminders

The Parish disabled parking spaces are for Blue Badge holders only.

Please refrain from eating and drinking in the church.

Seeing a Chaplain if You Are Admitted to Hospital

- **Protecting personal information** (data protection) is really important when you become an inpatient in hospital.
- **So please specifically ask hospital staff to pass on your details** to the hospital's Roman Catholic chaplain as soon as you are admitted if you would like a Chaplain to visit you.
- **Fr. David would always be very happy** to visit you too, so please ask a relative or friend to let him know about your admission. You, or they, can email Fr. David on: father.david@stjamespettswood.org, or phone the parish office on 01689 827100.

Rotas for this week: *Thank you for helping*

Saturday 14th July 2018	
Cleaning the Church	Readers

Wednesday Coffee 11th July	Madeleine Howell
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15th July 2018			
Mass	Saturday 6pm (Vigil)	Sunday 9.15am	Sunday 11am
Welcomers	K Drabowicz	D Hairs C Hairs	S Ingle J Ingle
Readers	C Kiely K Salter	R Lim B Cotta	Z Bajorek D Ducat
Ministers of Holy Communion	P Crosland C Wakefield C Cosgrave P Cosgrave P Driscoll	S Cotta D Hairs B Cotta T Forde M Howell	V Terry Z Bajorek P May S Ingle T Troy
Bar			P Troy M Wright
Coffee		L Lynch S Barradell	T Troy J Cosgrave
Altar Servers			
Tellers	C Delf M Troy		