

Church of the English Martyrs - Streatham

For the hard of hearing, an Induction Loop is fitted in the Church

Communiqué

1st June 2008
Year A

Ninth Sunday -

Fr Gerard Mulvihill
Parish Priest

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SUNDAY MASSES

SATURDAY
6.30pm

SUNDAY
9.30 & 11.30am
5.30pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

MON - SAT
9.30am

Except TUE:
Eucharistic Service

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY
10.00-10.30am
&
5.30-6.15pm

All Mass
Intentions are as
recorded in the
**Mass
Intentions
Book**

LITURGY TEAMS

Today:
LUKE

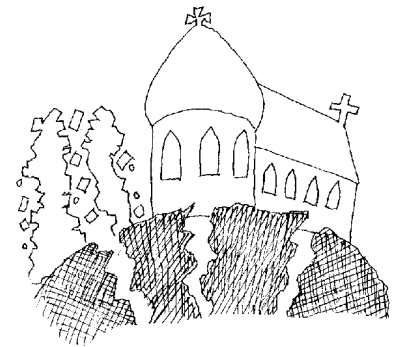
Next Sunday:
JOHN

EARTHQUAKE-PROOF?

The church of St Sophia in Istanbul, Turkey, has stood for centuries in a country that is famous for earthquakes. But when other buildings have crumbled, it has remained standing. Is it something that the architect did? Is it built on special ground? Or is it just good luck?

In today's gospel, Jesus tells a story of two types of people: those who build their homes on sand and those who build them on rock. These houses symbolise our relationship with God. Some of these houses can withstand whatever is thrown at them while others crumble in the face of the elements.

What are the things that keep the house of our faith together? What stops us from crumbling in the face of opposition? Our other Christian friends and our local church community are a great support when we are having a rough time. We get courage and strength from the example of others. Knowing what the Church teaches is indispensable if we are not to fall at the first



hurdle that comes along to shake our belief. So a sound understanding of our faith is an insurance against subsidence!

But the thing that earthquake-proofs our faith, that underpins its foundations, is the word of God. For our faith and our relationship with God is founded not just on tradition, not on custom or whim, but on what God has revealed to us in his word. We take our cue from the revealed word of God in Jesus Christ. If we build our faith on this rock then we will stand firm. But if our faith is based on the sand or any other sort of foundation, then it's time to stand back and wait for the crash!

ST BONIFACE OF MAINZ (5TH JUNE)

St Boniface was one of the great missionaries of Church history. Born in England around 680 AD, Winfrid ("friend of peace", as he was named) would become known as Boniface, the Apostle of the Germans. Legends usually have some facts and the missionary accomplishments of Bishop Boniface are well established in history. Among the legends are the story of his chopping down the great Oak Tree. Because of him people light candles on nativity wreath hang presents on Christmas trees.

Boniface was made Archbishop of Mainz by Pope Zachary III in 747. Even in old age, Boniface was not ready to quit missions to those who had not heard the Gospel. In 754, he landed in Freisland (Holland) with a large group of over thirty-seven missionaries. Savagely set upon by the Freisens, he and most of his companions were martyred. He lifted a Bible toward his attackers and was killed by a thrust through it with a sword. That is why he is often represented by a book pierced by a sword.



Why not **Start the Week** each Monday at 7.30pm in the Presbytery when we meet to reflect on the scripture readings for the following Sunday? Members of the liturgy team for the following Sunday also attend. You are most welcome to join us.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Tues: SS Charles Lwanga and companions, martyrs; Thurs: St Boniface, bishop and martyr.

Next week's
readings:
ninth Sunday
Deuteronomy 11: 18,
26-28, 32; Psalm 30;
Boniface
Romans 5: 21-25, 28;
Matthew 21-27.

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to our young people, who were Confirmed by Bishop Patrick Lynch last Sunday, 25th May:



*Aletha Adu
Sophie Eyles
Awuraama Hagan
James Henshaw
Laura Kacoutie
Ozias Malume
Kelly Wocial*



Also, Antonella Cutrona and Gennaro Effuso from the Italian Mission, Brixton Road

Recently deceased: Please pray for **John Mooney**, whose Funeral Mass was on Friday last. He was not a parishioner, but his family had requested that his funeral be at English Martyrs. May he rest in peace.

THURSDAY LUNCH

Last Thursday's lunch was a great success and we raised £115 towards the Building Project. Many thanks to all who came. Next lunch: 26th June. *Events Group*



*And also thanks to the cooks!
Fr Gerry*

YOUTH FESTIVAL AT AYLESFORD

Saturday, 5th July – 10am-8pm

Young people of school year 8+ are welcome to go along to this year's Youth Festival in Aylesford, Kent. The theme is 'Witness' and it is a day of varied activities of music and celebration. For more details, please see jean@scys.org.uk or call Jean on 01227 272900.

Vincentian volunteers: A positive opportunity for young people to undertake interesting charity work for one year, living in community with fellow volunteers. Accommodation and living expenses provided. Volunteer year starts in September. If you would like to know more, contact Sr Barbara Quilty DC on 0161 2269561 or 0161 2736881. Or visit the website www.vincentianvolunteers.org or email barbaraquilty@hotmail.co.uk

WORD FOR TODAY

We listen to God's word in Jesus in order that it may guide us along our road of life. To know what God's paths are but walk along another route is foolishness. And yet this is often what we do.

ENGLISH MARTYRS BUILDING PROJECT

There will be a parish meeting to discuss our plan for development of our premises when there will be an opportunity for questions. The meeting will take place **this Thursday, 5th June at 8.00pm in the hall.**

As we are nearing the time when construction work should begin, we very much hope to see many of our parishioners at this meeting. Please see our building display in the porch.



The Repository will be open today in the hall with plenty of gifts and cards for First Holy Communion.

Last day today of CAFOD's exhibition

Pure Gold?

A new exhibition explores the impact of gold mining on communities around the world.

At the.gallery@oxo, Oxo Tower Wharf, Bargehouse Street, South Bank, SE1

Visit www.cafodpuregold.net

Admission free

ENGLISH MARTYRS ARTS GROUP

Cancellation of concert

The Arts Group very much regrets that we have had to **cancel** Sylvie's and Erika's concert on **13th June**. Sylvie has had to go to Canada.

Our next concert will be on 12th July as part of English Martyrs' open day during the Streatham Festival and we will shortly be announcing the full programme of concerts for the autumn and winter.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The children receiving First Holy Communion today for the first time are:

Finnian Anyanwu	Gemma Bellamy
Klaudine Capuno	Trevor Chalobah
Natalie Covino	Edrin Dafiaghoh
Oghenetjiri Dafiaghoh	Molly Doherty
Gus Gabriel	Ella Kennedy
Jade Lai-Wu	Samuel Moody
Conor Murphy	Cameron Mordi-Semple
Rebekah Peters	Emily Rees
James Shepherd	Benjamin Smith
Louis Smith	Michael Tait
Pietro Vendittelli	



Our congratulations to the children on this happy occasion.

Offertory: £1,190.19 of which £192.20 was Gift Aided including £278 in Standing Orders. *Thank you.*