

“Be compassionate, as your Father is compassionate.”

Today’s Gospel, from St. Luke, is the essence of Jesus’ teaching...“It springs from Jesus’s central insight that we are all children of the one Father, and it all falls into place: all of us are equal, no one is better than anyone else.” (Nicholas King, S.J.) For me, this has always been the most important passage in the Gospels, because my Mother brought us up to believe that, if we were baptised Christians and followers of Jesus, we must live in the way He taught us. She encouraged us always to live and believe these very powerful words of Jesus: “Always treat others as you would like them to treat you”; words which she always said were “the Golden Rule” of the Gospel...and...“be compassionate, as your Father is compassionate.”

My Mother and Father always gave us the example. They lived the “Golden Rule” of the Gospel by always striving to “treat others” as they would like to be treated themselves. They were compassionate in looking out for those who were in difficulty or distress. Whenever I reflect on this Gospel, I wonder how well I have measured up to all they taught me. I strive to follow their good example but, alas, I fear I often fall short of their ideals and good example. I take courage in these most comforting words of Jesus: “Be compassionate, as your Father is compassionate.”

Pope Francis has some encouraging words about compassion when he says: “Compassion has a human face. It means to suffer with, to suffer together, not to remain indifferent to the pain and the suffering of others. It is what Jesus felt in His heart when He saw the crowds who followed Him. Jesus does not look at reality from the outside, without letting Himself be moved. He lets Himself get involved. This kind of compassion is needed today to conquer the globalisation of indifference. This compassionate gaze is needed when we find ourselves in front of a poor person, an outcast, or a sinner. This is the compassion that nourishes the awareness that we, too, are sinners.”

Let us pray today for the grace always to “treat others as we would like to be treated” “to be compassionate as Our Father is compassionate.”

Sister Eugenia, OSM.

SUNDAY AT ST IGNATIUS

This Sunday we celebrate the **Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**, Year C.

Recent Collections: Last Sunday, £2,929.93. The amount given at the second collection for Racial Justice was £964.57. Thank you for your generosity!

The Counters this Week: Group B.

The Nigerian Catholic Association will meet after the 11.30am Mass.

Divine Mercy Mass & Devotions is on Wed, 27th Feb at 6.30pm.

PARISH EVENTS, DATES FOR THE DIARY

Fairtrade Fortnight (Feb 25-Mar 10)
For two weeks each year, thousands of individuals, companies and



groups across the UK come together to celebrate the people who grow our food, people who live in some of the poorest countries in the world and who are often exploited and badly paid. Please look out for goods in the shops with the Fairtrade symbol and make a conscious effort to buy at least one of their products.

Our Fairtrade Stall will be open at all the Sunday morning Masses, stocking a small selection of products, on Sunday 3 March.

Shrove Tuesday, 5th March – Pancake Day!

Please join us in the New Refectory at 7.30pm for pancakes & refreshments on this last day of celebration before we enter Lent.



SOCIAL MEDIA: the parish website (details on masthead) is once again being brought up to date. Log on for plenty of information. Also, we’ve now a Facebook page which you can find on



@stignatiusstamfordhill;

and we have just launched our Twitter feed—



search [@stignatiusstam1](#) and follow.

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION:

“Confession” is available 15 minutes before each of the Sunday Masses, and for 45 mins before the Saturday evening Vigil Mass. See the information panel, p.4, for the complete timetable.

GENERAL INTEREST

St. Ignatius College is holding a Spring Concert on Tue, 12th March at 7.00pm. Adults £5; Students & Children £2.

The Passage: Please support a St. David’s Day concert in aid of The Passage at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster; Fri.1 March 2019 at 7.00pm. Please book online through Eventbrite (<https://passage-saint-david-day-concert.eventbrite.co.uk>). Full details to book are on the website www.passage.org.uk or telephone 020 75921856 or email info@passage.org.uk

St. Ignatius College, Enfield is currently recruiting for Exam Invigilators at the College. The rate of pay is £9.50 per hour. Please contact the College on 01992 717835 for further information or email recruitment@st-ignatius.enfield.sch.uk.

The Oratory: This Catholic Day and Boarding School for Boys and Girls aged 11 to 18 is having an Open Morning on Sat, 9th March from 9.30am-12.00pm.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham: If you would like to join Cardinal Vincent Nichols on the Pilgrimage on Sat, 21st September, please call 0207 798 9173, Monday to Thursday.

Beginning Experience: A healing weekend for men & woman single again following separation, divorce or a partner’s death; 12th - 14th April 2019, Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex. For details please contact Freda 01322-838415 or Sandra 01293-783965