

A parishioner writes

SUNDAY REFLECTION

Today's Readings cover an episode in Jesus' healing ministry.

Leprosy in Jewish times concerned general, contagious skin diseases and the quarantine and social banishment of those who suffered in this way. The earlier Book of Leviticus Prescribed rules and the people treated the lepers as an outcast group with little involvement. The phrase 'To treat someone like a leper' has come down to us over the centuries as a result of this prejudice. Lepers existed in early England and other places in the world.

The Gospel story not only demonstrates Jesus' ability to challenge the established teachings but also shows his willingness to challenge the taboos at the time.

Considering Paul's words to the Corinthians we should really ask ourselves

– In these strained times who are today's lepers?

- People of differing colour to our own
- HIV/AIDS sufferers
- Those with Psychiatric problems and mental illness
- Economic lepers who may be homeless or have no job
- Spiritual lepers who may have lost their faith
- Those with addictions and health problems

Like Paul we should live in His likeness and this means reaching our hands out of touch these people as Jesus did. We should be open to approaches for help from those suffering too in the way the leper approached Jesus and asked for help.

Can we be more approachable in our daily lives?

We have chosen His Way. Why not follow His example?

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday	8.30 am	Pro Pop	Thursday	8.00 am	Claire Murphy <i>RIP</i>
	10.00 am	Gerry O'Brien <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm	Tommy Tierney <i>RIP</i>
	11.15 am	Deceased Members of the Healy Family	Friday	8.00 am	John Egan <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm	Joaquim Mendes <i>RIP</i>		3.00 pm	Holy Souls - Hospital
Monday	8.00 am	George Sanglay <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm	Catherine Odea <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm	James Paton <i>RIP</i>	Saturday	10.00 am	Douglas Pennefather <i>RIP</i>
Tuesday	8.00 am	Eamon Walsh <i>RIP</i>		6.15 pm	Patrick Keating <i>RIP</i>
	6.15 pm	Kieran McNamara <i>RIP</i>	Sunday	8.30 am	Pro Pop
Wednesday	10.00 am	Foundation Mass		10.00 am	Tony Duffy (Get Well)
	6.15 pm	Mary Jane Blaikie <i>RIP</i>		11.15 am	Martin Silvester <i>RIP</i>
				6.15 pm	Philip Russell <i>RIP</i>

OFFERTORY COLLECTION Last week's collection was £1,113.00. Thank you.

ST ANSELM'S CHURCH

9 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS Telephone: 020 8672 2179
www.st-anselms-tooting-bec.org.uk

6th Sunday of the Year 15th February 2009

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Parish Team:

Fr William Hebborn,
Fr Oliver Antao & Thelma Lewis

Parish Sisters:

The Little Company of Mary

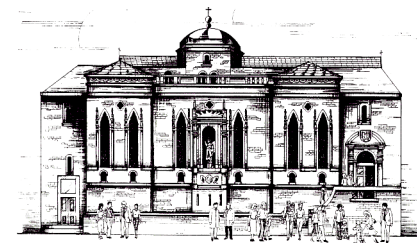
Mass Times: Saturday evening 6.15 pm,
Sunday 8.30, 10.00, 11.15 am & 6.15 pm.

Mass times during the week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday 8.00 am & 6.15 pm.

Wednesday & Saturday 10.00 am & 6.15 pm. (No 8.00 am.)

Holydays: 8.00, 10.00 am & 6.15 pm & 8.00 pm

Confessions: Saturday 11.30 – 12.30 pm & 7.00 pm



WEEKDAY READINGS

Monday:	Gen 4:1-5,25; Ps 49; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Gen 6:5-8, 7:1-5,10; Ps 28; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Gen 8:6-13,20-22; Ps 115; Mk 8:22-26
Thursday:	Gen 9:1-13; Ps 101; Mk 8:27-33
Friday:	Gen 11:1-9; Ps 32; Mk 8:34-9:1
Saturday:	Heb 11:1-7; Ps 144; Mk 9:2-13
Sunday:	Is 43:18-19,21-22,24-25; Ps 40; 2 Cor 1:18-22; Mk 2:1-12

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH

We pray for all our housebound parishioners, including those in the six nursing homes and Springfield Hospital.

Recently ill: Sadie Short, Rev. Deacon Michael Choppen, Rebecca Hebborn, Bryony Medor and Helen Bellman.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46

Once a priest has diagnosed a person with leprosy, that person is regarded as unclean and must live apart from the community.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1

Thinks about others, imitate Christ and glorify God in all that you do.

Gospel Mark 1:40-45

Jesus touches and cures a leper – regarded as an unclean person – and in so doing breaks a serious religious taboo.

PARISH MEETINGS DURING THE WEEK

Monday: Union of Catholic Mothers 2nd and 4th Monday [Mother Teresa] at 2.00 pm in lower hall.
Legion of Mary at 7.00 pm.
St Vincent de Paul at **7.00 pm** (2nd & 4th Monday of month).

Tuesday: Intercessory Prayer Group 8.00 pm lower new hall.

Wednesday: Exposition and Benediction after 10.00 am Mass.
Friendship Club 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm.

Thursday: R.C.I.A at 7.45pm in lower new hall.
Topic: *Family life, sexuality, marriage*

rites of welcome/sending

Next Sunday 22nd February during the 11:15 Mass the candidates and catechumens who are journeying to the Easter sacraments will be presented to the congregation. Please remember them in your prayers.

HOUSE GROUP Beechcroft Rd. No meeting this month.

LENT Commences on Wednesday 25th February. There will be four Masses 8am, 10am, 6.15 & 8pm. Ashes will be distributed at each Mass symbolising a forty day period of fasting and penance. No Gloria is said except on Feasts and Solemnities. Flowers are not used and the organ is played only to sustain the singing. The time commences for fulfilling your Easter duties with regard confession and Holy Communion.

Lenten Penance – by abstaining from meat or some other food. By abstaining from alcoholic drink, smoking or some form of amusement. By making special efforts involving family prayer, taking part in the Mass, visiting the Blessed Sacrament or praying the Stations of the Cross. By fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps by giving what is saved in this way to the needy at home and abroad. By making a special effort to help somebody is poor, sick, old or lonely.

Stations of the Cross Sunday afternoons during Lent at 5pm.

LENTEN COURSE IN THE YEAR OF ST PAUL. 'LIFE IN CHRIST'

Life in Christ presents a project of re-evangelization and spiritual renewal based on St Paul's Letter to the Romans. It is therefore neither an exegetical commentary nor a theological treatise, but an attempt to go straight to the heart of what animated the Apostle when he wrote this Letter, namely to build up the faith. In this Holy time of Lent we ask that you make a special effort to attend this course commencing on Ash Wednesday, 25th February (not Tuesday 24th as previously printed in the calendar) at 8pm in the upper new hall for 6 weeks.

SHOP ROTA Sunday 22nd February: Sandra, Katy & Tamara.

JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB Half term Sat Feb 14th & 21st. Next meeting Sat 14th March 10.30am-12 noon in the old hall. Tooting Bec Road entrance.

SENIOR YOUTH CLUB

Next meeting Friday 27th February St Anselm's School Hall.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION Sunday 17th May, 11.30am There will be a mini-retreat from 5pm in the new halls and Mass of Enrolment at 6.15 pm on **Sunday 1st March**. Bishop Paul Hendricks will be coming on Sunday May 17 to confer the Sacrament at 11.30 Mass. The programme will run on Monday evenings from 7.30-8.30pm March 2nd, 9th & 16th. Thursday 26th March (to include Penitential Service), March 30, April 27, and Wednesday 13 May.

EUCCHARISTIC SERVICES

The rite of Holy Communion outside of Mass has a long history in the Catholic Church. In countries where there is a shortage of priests it is for many people their most regular way of receiving Holy Communion. The service consists of a reading of the Word of God, prayers and the administration of Holy Communion by a Deacon or an Extraordinary Minister. Here at St. Anselm's there have been times in the past, for various reasons during holiday periods or when priests have been sick or otherwise engaged, when such services have taken place. In the future we envisage, because Father Gary is now a full-time hospital Chaplain, there will be times when such services are necessary. We will do our best to give as much notice as possible beforehand, and thank you in advance for your support, understanding and cooperation.

ARTY ANIMAL WORKSHOP Arts, crafts and cooking workshop from Monday 16th to Friday 22nd February 10am to 3pm in the old hall. For full details and to book your place, please contact Kathryn on 020 8682 0386.

ST ANSELM'S SCHOOL PTA QUIZ AND CURRY EVENING followed by dancing. To be held in the school hall on Saturday 14th March at 7.30. All welcome. Tickets are available **in advance only** from Penny Hayward 020 8672 7321 at £10 each.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION If you are planning to get married this year, please contact the parish office (Tues/Wed/Fri) to make an appointment to see Fr. Will.

THE TABLET Due to increased costs, we regret that from 7th Feb, the cover price of *The Tablet* will increase by 10p to £2.40.

HOUSE TO SHARE Female Professional. Ring 020 8672 3647.