

FINANCE thank you for your generosity. **7th April:** Envelopes £1028, Loose £1312.

CAFOD to date: £4300.55.

Count Would you be able to help with the count on a Monday or Tuesday (daytime)?

If so, please contact Fr Mehall. Thank you.

200 Club Winners in the March draw: 1st Philomena Cole £159.00; 2nd Mary Rohan £119.25; 3rd Rachel McArdle £79.50; 4th Shirley Mercer £29.75.

Easter Offerings to your priests can be made using the special yellow envelopes available in the porch, (if you do not have a box of planned giving envelopes).

FROM THE DIARY

Sun 14th April *Palms blessed at all Masses but please bring greenery if you wish*
PALM SUNDAY 9am Knights of St Columba Corporate Communion
10am Mass begins in Large Hall with congregation of St John's
(earlier 10.30am)

Mon 15th April **Sacrament of Reconciliation 10-11am**
Monday of Holy Week 10.15am Big Church Clean & Leaflet Folding
12noon Funeral of Jessica Michael RIP
8.15pm Knights of St Columba meeting, Parish Centre

Tue 16th April *12noon Chrism Mass, Westminster Cathedral*
Tuesday of Holy Week **11.30am Funeral of Penelope Rigby RIP**
Sacrament of Reconciliation 7-8pm

Wed 17th April *Office closed as usual*
Wednesday of Holy Week **Sacrament of Reconciliation 10-11am**
Sacrament of Reconciliation 7-8pm (visiting priest)

Thu 18th April **Sacrament of Reconciliation 9.30-10.30am**
MAUNDY THURSDAY 5.30pm Legion of Mary, Newman Room
8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Fri 19th April 3pm The Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
GOOD FRIDAY 7.30pm Ecumenical Meditation (with Worship Band)

Sat 20th April **Sacrament of Reconciliation 10-10.50am**
HOLY SATURDAY 2-4pm Blessing of food, Large Hall (Polish)
8pm Easter Vigil

Sun 21st April Mass at 7.45am, 9am, 10.30pm, 12noon, 3.30pm (Polish)
EASTER SUNDAY *no evening Mass, church closes 4pm.*

MASS TIMES

Sunday (Sat 6pm), 7.45am, 9am, 10.30am, 12noon, 3.30pm (Polish) & 5.30pm

Daily 9.35am; 9.10am Morning Prayer (Mon-Fri); Rosary (Sat)

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) : Sat 10-10.50am & 5.15 - 5.45pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament : Mon & Fri 4-5pm, Sat 10-10.50am

Weds : 2nd, 4th & 5th 7pm Holy Hour; 1st & 3rd 7.30pm 'No Agenda' prayer & praise

Thursday : 7pm Rosary Hour Friday : 7pm Stations of the Cross

St Monica's Church, Palmers Green

A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster

Newsletter

PALM SUNDAY

14th April

"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Luke 19:38)

2019

The account of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem from Luke's gospel this weekend makes no mention of palms, telling us only that people spread cloaks along the ground; Mark and Matthew mention the use also of branches. The Church's liturgy most closely reflects the account given in John's gospel: this alone has the crowd coming out to meet Jesus with palm branches, as he approaches Jerusalem.

The use of palm branches in ceremonies has a long history: they were used in ancient Egyptian funeral rites to symbolise eternal life and were included on some victory monuments of ancient Greece. In the Greek and Roman empires palms were awarded to winning athletes and became symbols of victory in war. The vanquishing roman leader had a toga bearing a palm image and since victory brought an end to war, the palm also might symbolise the beginning of an era of peace; in Luke's account the crowds proclaim "peace in heaven and glory in the highest".

Under the Romans the date palm was a symbol of Judea's fertility and appeared on coins. Palms are established as marks of rejoicing in the book of Leviticus where they are required to be used along with branches of other "luxuriant trees", to launch the Jewish festival of *Booths* or *Tabernacles*.

Jesus' acclamation from the crowd ("Blessed is the King . . .") is from Psalm 118 and the people will probably have taken up a popular chant used in the Temple for the feasts of Tabernacles and Passover. "With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar" (v 27) . In the original psalm, the King is going up to the Temple to offer the *todah* or thanksgiving sacrifice. For those who welcome Jesus, the true King of Israel is coming to his city to offer the supreme thanksgiving sacrifice not of bulls and goats, but of himself.

Be with us Lord as we begin our Holy Week journey with you to the consummation of your Sacrifice on the altar of the Cross.

Fr John

1, Stonard Road, London N13 4DJ ☎ (020) 8886 9568

email: palmergreen@rcdow.org.uk **Website:** www.stmonica.co.uk

Live Streaming of all services: www.churchservices.tv/palmersgreen

Parish Priest: Fr Mehall Lowry **Assistant Priest:** Fr John Warnaby

Parish Sister: Sr Joyce Dionne 07940 500908 **Youth Co-ordinator:** Anna McMullan 07532 374291

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Jo Day palmergreensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Monica Maxted Jones **Polish Chaplain:** Fr Krzysztof Chaim 07902 432343

Parish Office hours: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri 9.30am-2.30pm (closed Wednesday)

PARISH NOTICES

We pray for Jessica Michael, Penelope Rigby, Giuseppe Vaccaro, Joan Stripp, Llewellyn Paes, Joseph Zanelli, Salvador ('Cyril') Mendes, who have died recently and Agnes Corner, Anne Mullen, Margaret Gallaway, Rita Elsbon, Gina Ferdenzi, Cathy McAuley-Nathan, Patrick Flannagan, Marie Modeste, Jane Hinton, Karol Gabzdyl, Cyril Tims, Mary Garvey, Madeleine Latham-Fox, whose anniversaries occur now.

Please Pray for Sick and Housebound Parishioners

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Acts 10:34, 37-43, Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6-8,

Jn 20:1-9

TODAY

Readings for Palm Sunday can be found in the purple books on page 192 for evening and 12noon Mass and on page 194 for the morning Masses. Please join the 'Crowd'.

Ministers of the Word and Eucharist—Holy Week Please check your rota on the notice board in the Nursery Room.

Holy Week Posters will be distributed by the Knights of St Columba after all Masses. The posters are free but any donations to defray KSC printing costs will be gratefully received.

SACRAMENTS

Sacrament of Reconciliation Celebrating this most beautiful and liberating sacrament is excellent preparation for Easter. There are plenty of opportunities this week—please see the diary section.

Baptism Preparation The next course will take place on Sunday 5th May in the Newman Room. Please contact the parish office to enquire about booking on to the course. Dates for Baptism cannot be set until the course has been completed. If you live outside the parish, a letter of permission from your local parish priest is required.

YOUTH NEWS

Good Friday Children's Workshop The popular workshop, open to all children of primary school age, will take place on 19th

April, 9.20-11.30 am. Collect a free ticket from the Parish Office during the week or after Mass at the weekend. **Parents...**Are you free on Good Friday, 9.20-11.40am? Would you like to help? Please contact Anna.

PARISH GROUPS

Week of Guided Prayer at St Monica's, 9th-15th June, facilitated by Mount Street Jesuit Centre. An invitation to: take some time out; deepen your relationship with God; explore new ways of praying; share with an experienced prayer guide. Please take a booking form from the porch (places are limited).

Big Church Clean for Easter after morning Mass, Monday 15th April. Jobs for all, including folding of Easter leaflets. Please come and help if you can.

Children's Choir sing at the 6pm (Sat) Mass once a month. The choir is open to any child in Years 4-8. For more information, pick up a leaflet in the porch or contact Christine on callenN4@aol.com or 07966 140508. The next practices will be on Saturdays 4th & 11th May, to sing at the 6pm Mass on 11th.

PARISH SOCIAL

Easter Drawing Competition Organised by the Catenians, open to all school years - Year 1-13 & a new Adult category. Theme '*Easter*'. Closing date is today.

Parish Centre The bar has now closed and will not re-open. For the time being, the Parish Centre remains available for parish groups who wish to use it and to parishioners who wish to hire it for children's parties. All use of the building **must** be booked through Annette who will confirm whether rooms are available. Please contact her on 07955 037251 or at palmergreenpcadmin@rcdow.org.uk

The Memory Lane Cafe & Carers' Club has moved to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre, 375 Bowes Road, N11 1A. The Club offers a range of activities for those experiencing memory problems. Those attending **must** be accompanied by a relative, friend or carer. For further details, contact Mandi on 07961 881453.

Repository Easter, First Holy Communion and Confirmation cards are now on sale.

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 8th June, 3pm The Cardinal will invite to this Mass all couples in the Diocese celebrating their 5/10/25/30/40/50/60th (& every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2019. If you are celebrating, please give these details to the parish office: husband & wife's names, wedding date, address & email (or tel no. if no email) by 24th April.

Volunteering Caritas has a service to support and develop volunteering in the diocese, to make volunteering as easy as possible for everyone. Please visit the website www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/volunteer where you can find a role for you. Or contact us directly by email caritasvol@rcdow.org.uk or telephone 020 7798 9063 or 07738 183833.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Walk in aid of Cancer Research UK on Sunday 28th April at 11am. Please call Pauline for a sponsor form or if you would like to sponsor someone on 020 8808 1268 or via this website <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/st-ignatius-sponsored-walk-2019>

London Marathon Parishioner Stephen Tims is running in memory of his father Cyril who died of Vascular Dementia in 2017. If you would like to sponsor Stephen please visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/stephen.tims> and 2 members of staff from St Ignatius College, (John Dawson, Chaplin & Simon Harris, PE teacher) will run to raise money for Jesuit Missions in memory of Fr Victor-Luke Odhiambo SJ, a Jesuit priest tragically murdered in South Sudan in 2018. Please see:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/John-dawson41> and <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/simon-harris-SAVMLMBONDS3332019-143951>

Finchley Catholic High School Annual Golf Day Friday 14th June. £65/head, including dinner, at South Herts Golf Club. For more details contact nscott@finchleycatholic.org.uk

OTHER

March for Life UK Saturday 11th May 2019 9.30am–1.30pm indoor festival called 'LifeFest19' then gather together at 2pm and process across the city to for keynote speeches, outside. (no booking required to attend the march). For more details see marchforlife.co.uk & poster in the porch.

Parish Registration We continue to invite parishioners to join the parish database, census forms are available at the back of church. Your details are solely for internal parish use, in accordance with data protection legislation (the GDPR).

Deadline To ensure notices are included in the newsletter they should be submitted by noon on Wednesday.

The Calix Society offers a Catholic ministry to addicts in recovery and their families. Meetings each Thursday (see poster in porch).

Nursery Room On the right-hand side of the church. Dear Parents, should your child become distressed or wish to play, we have a newly-equipped nursery room (affording privacy for nursing). The Mass is broadcast live on our monitor for parents to continue following the Mass. In the Church toilets, we have baby 'changing facilities'.

St Monica's Baby and Toddler Group If you have a child below school age why don't you try out our group? Term time every Mon and Weds 9.30-11.30am at the Parish Centre £1.50/ session. Indoor and outdoor toys, singing and arts & crafts. Please call Ruth on 07748 378984 for more information.

Prayer Ministry You can be prayed with on Wednesday mornings after Mass and after the evening Mass with the Worship Band on the 1st Sunday of the month.

For Mass intentions to be celebrated at St Monica's Church Attend in person or 'phone after 10am on the first working day of the month (eg for a Mass intention for June attend or 'phone the office in May). One Mass may be requested; further Mass intentions, subject to availability, can be requested a week later. We can ask priests in the diocese or overseas to offer your Mass Intention. This can be requested at any time.

Consideration to Neighbours Please park with consideration when attending Mass. Remember, not every car will necessarily be departing immediately after Mass! Younger parishioners please consider walking (or parking further away and walking). Please park only in the marked bays in the Large Hall car park and do not park across or restrict residents' driveways or other access.

Soup & Conversation 12noon-2pm every Wednesday at Grange Park Methodist church, Old Park Ridings, N21. Further details available from 07930 920941.

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information tel 0161 941 3498 or visit www.catholicsingles.org.uk

Car Parking Please only park in marked bays in the car park and not on the hatched areas. If you plan to stay on after Mass, it may be wise to move from the car park afterwards to avoid the possibility of being blocked in.

The Memory Lane Cafe and Carers' Club meets every Friday at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre, 10.45am-1.30pm. It is a self- funding club offering a range of activities for anyone experiencing memory problems. Kindly note that everyone with memory problems must be accompanied by their relative, friend or carer, it is not a drop-off club. For further details contact Mandi (07961 881453) or Adrian (07788 429 470).

Homeshare is a scheme whereby someone who needs a small amount of help to live independently in their own home is matched with someone who has a housing need and can provide support or companionship. For further details see sharedlivesplus.org.uk/about-shared-lives-plus/home-share

Health & Safety we take the safety of everybody very seriously and the diocese provides a company who assist us with regular checks of all our buildings. Please observe any safety notices **including in the car park** and let a member of the parish team know if you spot anything of concern.

To all those who volunteer in the Parish in any role: please contact me urgently at palmergreensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk if your DBS check (formerly CRB check) is more than 3 years old (2016) - or if you don't have one. These checks are important to safeguard volunteers and the people they help. Thank you. *Jo Day, Parish Safeguarding Representative*