

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

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 who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2019. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please the parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) by 28th April.

Job Vacancies The Nightingale Cancer Support Centre seeks a Clinical Nurse Specialist. For details see <https://www.nightingalesupport.org.uk/clinical-nurse-specialist/> or call Joan Kearns on 020 8366 9674 or email joan@nightingalesupport.org.uk. Fellowship and Aid to Christians of the East (FACE) seek a Fundraising Manager; details from facecharityuk@gmail.com.

FROM THE DIARY

Sun 31st March 4th Sun of Lent	British Summer Time begins—clocks forward 1 hr 6pm (Sat) Knights of St Columba—transfer of Fraternal Cross 9pm Parish Centre Quiz Shield final, Parish Centre
Mon 1st April Lent Feria	10.15am Church Cleaning, Siobhan's Team 5-6pm Life group meeting, Newman Room
Tue 2nd April Lent Feria	7am Mass & 9.35am Mass 7.30pm Lent Course 4, Winchmore Hill United Reformed Church
Wed 3rd April Lent Feria	<i>Office closed as usual</i> 7.30-9pm Years 7,8&9 Youth Club, Large Hall
Thu 4th April Lent Feria	5.30pm Legion of Mary, Newman Room
Fri 5th April Lent Feria FIRST FRIDAY	10am-6.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.15am Christian Meditation, Newman Room 10.15am Memory Lane Dementia Café & Carers' Club, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre 6.45pm Stations of the Cross, 7.30pm Mass
Sat 6th April Lent Feria	10am-4pm Ministers' Day of Recollection, Niland Centre 2-4pm 'Standing Together' anti-knife crime rally, Trafalgar Square 7.30pm 'Rhythm Revival' charity dance, Large Hall
Sun 7th April 5th Sun of Lent	1pm Baptism of Emma D'Souza, Natalie D'Souza 1.30pm Easter music rehearsal, Small Hall 3-5pm Baptism Preparation Course, Newman Room 5.30pm Worship Band play

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

31st
March
2019

"Having Manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded". (Joshua 5:12)

The fourth Sunday in Lent is known as Laetare Sunday, from the words of the entrance antiphon or introit of the Mass which begins "Rejoice (Latin:Laetare) Jerusalem".

Lent we might regard as a period of forty days during which we attempt, as we prepare for Holy Week, in some spiritual way to accompany Jesus in his fasting and prayer in the wilderness. The Church offers this Sunday as a break for refreshment, marking this liturgically by the use of rose or pink coloured vestments. This Sunday became known as Mothering Sunday because on this day people went to celebrate at their mother Churches; servants were given rare time off to visit church with their families and the tradition grew up to take flowers to be left in Church and be given to mothers too.

Our Old Testament reading today has the Jewish people rejoicing as they celebrate their very first Passover Meal in the Promised Land. They had been for forty years in the desert and Moses had died on Mount Nebo, overlooking the Land. Joshua had led them across the River Jordan which had given them miraculous dry passage, just as the Red Sea had done when they left Egypt. The land flowing with milk and honey would now meet all their needs for food.

Creator God as we rejoice once more in this spring season to behold new life bursting out in the world, deepen our awareness of your offer to each of us of new life through your Son and through the gift of your sacraments. Help us to grow this Lent in an awareness of the gifts you place in our lives and in a greater appreciation for your care and love for each one of us.....

Fr John

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

email: palmersgreen@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 **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 Kevin Purcell, Jess Michael, who have died recently and Molly Martin, Peggy Cagney, Sarah Taylor, Lena Ferraro, Stephen Toole, Christopher Bacon, Molly Ryan, Theresa Hurtan, Kathleen Fawcett, Rose De Sales, Threse Edirimanasinghe, Kathleen McKeon, Pierina Arthur, Margherita Borella, whose anniversaries occur now.

Please Pray for Sick and Housebound Parishioners

FINANCE thank you for your generosity.

24th Mar: Envelopes £1295; Loose £1199.

CAFOD to date: £2338.39.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Is 43:16-21, Phil 3:8-14, Jn 8:1-11

DAY OF PRAYER FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE

Friday 12th April In February 2016, Pope Francis asked each Bishops' Conference to establish a Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse. In response, the Bishops of England and Wales designated the Friday of the 5th week of Lent to be observed as this Day of Prayer. At St Monica's, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 10am, concluding with the Angelus at 12noon.

We pray for those who bear this pain. We pray for their strength and perseverance.

We pray for those who have been caught up in the circles of mistrust, silence and complicity which emanate from this abuse.

We seek repentance and renewal for all who have failed in their duty to protect and respond to the victims of these crimes.

We pray for a renewal in the life of our Church that has become a lodging place for this evil.

We pray in confidence that the Lord does not abandon His Church but constantly calls us to purify our ways of life.

We pray with Mary, our holy Mother, and finest expression of our Holy Mother, the Church.

TODAY

Mothering Sunday

We pray for mothers, who give life and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; may they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen

CAFOD Cyclone Idai Appeal This weekend and next, there will be a collection to support Cafod's response to the crisis caused by the cyclone in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe. 'Please pray and give today.'

Confirmation candidates please submit their Sponsor form and name to Anna.

Knights of St Columba Fraternal Cross (which travels the country every 5 years) will be handed on to Southwark Province during the 6pm (Sat) Mass. To learn more contact Kevin on 020 8882 3047.

First Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 10am-6.30pm—please sign up to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. This can only go ahead if there are sufficient people.

Parish Centre Quiz Shield Final takes place at 9pm at the Parish Centre. Catenians v Parish Centre B. All welcome.

Planned Giving Envelopes for 2019/20 are now available, please collect your box.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Masses for May can be booked from 10am on Monday. Please only book 1 Mass during the first week; extra Masses may be booked from 8th April.

St Monica's Life Group Please join us for prayer and fellowship as we look for ways to defend all human life, with love, from conception onwards. Newman Room, Monday, 5-6pm.

'Lifting the Lid' The ecumenical Lent Course concludes on Tuesday at Winchmore Hill URC, 7.30-9pm.

Rosary Hour In answer to Our Lady's call for us to pray the Rosary, join us for the Rosary Hour each Thursday at 7pm during Lent and each following week.

Niland Centre retreat for Ministers 6th April. Please remember to bring food to share for lunch; refreshments are provided. Make sure you know your travel arrangements. *Sister Joyce*

Dance to all the hits from the 80s played live by Rhythm Revival. Large Hall, Saturday 6th April, 7:30-11pm. Fully licenced bar & snacks. To enjoy this charity event reserve your ticket, only £10 contact Des: 020 8245 4008 or kscbandnight@gmail.com On sale after all Masses today.

Baptism Preparation The next course will take place on Sunday 7th April in the Newman Room. Please contact the parish office to enquire about booking on to the course.

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.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Club Years 7,8+9, 7.30-9pm, Large Hall. Theme: Holy Week reflection

OTHER NEWS

Easter Drawing Competition Organised by the Catenians and open to all school years - Year 1 through to Year 13 *plus* a new Adult category. Theme is 'Easter'. Prize for each category. See poster and flyers in the porch on how to enter. Happy drawing!

Standing Together Rally against knife crime, Saturday 6th April, 2-4pm in Trafalgar Square. Cardinal Vincent will speak. See poster in the porch.

Big Church Clean for Easter after morning Mass, Monday 15th April. Jobs for all. Put the date in your diary now!

Post-Synod Reflections for Young Adults Meeting takes place at Archbishop's House, Tuesday 2nd April, 6.30pm. All young adults (18-30) are invited. RSVP youth@rcdow.org.uk.

How do you see and use the Bible? The Bishops' Conference ask you to complete their survey which can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LDJBN5Y>

Come & See weekend for young women discerning a vocation to the contemplative life. 12th-14th April at Minster Abbey. For more details see minsterabbeynuns.org or email sraelrederwin@gmail.com

Job Vacancies for the Diocese can be found online at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk>

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.

The Parish Centre is at 6 Cannon Hill, next to St Monica's School and is used by several parish groups. The bar is open on Thursday and Friday from 8-11pm and on Sundays from 1-4pm and 8-11pm. All parishioners are welcome. It is available for parties or other events. If you wish to make a booking please contact Annette at palmergreenpcadmin@rcdow.org.uk or on 07955 037251. Further information is available on the parish website.

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.

Beginning Experience A healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner. 12th-14th April at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex. For details please contact Freda 01322 838415 or Sandra 01293 783965 or email johnabrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

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.

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.

Homelessness if you are concerned about someone sleeping rough at night you can contact Streetlink (website or app).

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.

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.catholicssingles.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, 10.15am-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 palmergreenpg@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*

London Marathon Two 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. To find out more about the legacy of Fr Odhiambo; Jesuit Missions and to make a donation please see: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/John-dawson41> and <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/simon-harris-SAVMLMBONDS3332019-143951>