

Rita McDonnell RIP Funeral Monday 11th February, 11.30am at St Monica's.

Youth sponsored sleep-in If you would like to support this cause, please hand your donation in to the presbytery in an envelope marked "sleep-in". Many thanks, Anna.

40 Days for Life Banquet & Conference Please join us for an inspiring evening and delicious meal in Covent Garden on Fri, 8th Feb at 6pm (formal wear). Also, on Sat, 9th from 9.30am in Westminster there will be an all-day conference with inspiring speakers and a showing of the film of 'Unplanned' in the evening. If you are interested in coming to any of these please ring Kay on 020 8882 0928 for more details.

FROM THE DIARY

Sun 3rd Feb	3-5pm Baptism Preparation Course, Newman Room
4th Sun O.T.	5.30pm Worship Band play
Mon 4th Feb	9.35am Mass & Blessing of Throats
Feria	10.15am Church Cleaning, Siobhan's Team 5-6.30pm Life Group meeting, Newman Room
Tue 5th Feb	10.30am Churches Together prayers, Winchmore Hill Baptist Church
St Agatha	11am Funeral of Seren Meadow Filby RIP 7.30-9pm Confirmation 3, Parish Centre
Wed 6th Feb	<i>Office closed as usual</i>
St Paul Miki & Companions	7.30pm 'No Agenda' Holy Hour 7.30-9pm Years 7,8&9 Youth Club, Large Hall
Thu 7th Feb	11am Funeral of Janeira ('Pat') Nolan
Feria	5.30pm Legion of Mary, Newman Room 7.30-9pm 'The Joy of Hope' 1, Large Hall
Fri 8th Feb	10.15am Christian Meditation, Newman Room
Feria	10.15am Memory Lane Dementia Café & Carers' Club, Parish Centre 2pm Beloved Disciples, Newman Room
Sat 9th Feb	11.30am Baptism of Archie Meaney, Ella Maguire, baby Maguire, Samuel Herington
Feria	12.30pm Baptism of Jacob De Silva, Regina Ayittey, Aurora Webb, Joseph Webb 5.15pm Children's Choir practice, Small Hall
Sun 10th Feb	6pm (Sat) Children's Choir sing
5th Sun O.T.	

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 IN ORDINARY TIME

3rd

February

2019

"In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love." (1 Cor 13:13)

The publicity given each year to the 3rd Monday in January, so-called 'Blue Monday', being the most depressing day of the year is itself likely to get us down. This fiction was born in a press release in 2005 for a travel company and was based on a pseudo-mathematical formula described by academics as nonsense and farcical. As well as contributing to what the mental health charity *Mind* calls "damaging misconceptions" which trivialize depression, the *canard* nevertheless is useful as a marketing tool to encourage us all to splash out on buying things to cheer ourselves up.

As the days get longer, at St Monica's we want to share together the things that bring true lasting happiness and in February we will meet to reflect on "the joy of hope".

Hope is one of the theological virtues which dispose us to live the divine life. Hope helps us to see our happiness in eternal life, trusting not in our own strength but in the Lord's promises and the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Hope inspires us in our activities and configures them to the Kingdom of heaven. It has been placed in each person by God; it helps us to avoid feeling discouraged and sustains us when we feel lost.

We are never truly alone, God is always with us, leading us on and promising us lasting joy. Christian hope keeps us safe from selfishness, for when we love others we are given a glimpse of the perfect love of the Trinity, which is our destiny.

"God is alongside me. And this is something all of us can say. I have hope because God walks with me, he walks alongside me and holds my hand." (Pope Francis)

Fr John

'The Joy of Hope' course begins on 7th February at 7.30pm in the Large Hall and continues each Thursday till 28th February.

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 Seren Meadow Filby, Janiera (Pat) Nolan, Rita McDonnell, Mark Bonn, Mary 'Josie' Carroll, who have died recently and Iris Robinson, Natalina Blasotta, Kathleen Flanagan, Emmanuel Burgess, Simon Seguna, Charlotte Bonner, Chanroutie Boodhoo, Rina Ferrari, Catherine McNaboe, Catherine Johnson, Alice Clancy, Sheila Gilligan, Thomas Mulherin, Sarah Helly, Salvatore Verde, Marley Coyle, Angela Knapp, Julian Orde, Michael McGee, whose anniversaries occur now.

Please Pray for Sick and Housebound Parishioners

Giovanni Rospo, Helen Reilly, Theresa MacKessy, Stephen Giffin, Caterina Tossut, Eugene Ginty.

FINANCE thank you for your generosity.
27th Jan: Envelopes £1184, Loose £1363.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Is 6:1-8, 1 Cor 15:3-8.11,
Lk 5:1-11

TODAY

Baptism Preparation Course 3pm in the Newman Room.

Tea & Coffee served by Red Caps.

To all those who volunteer in the Parish in any role: please contact me urgently at palmersgreensg@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*

The bar at the Parish Centre will close after the evening session on Sunday 14th April and will **not** re-open after Easter. We have taken this decision because of the declining use of the Parish Centre as we prepare for its closure and look forward to the proposed new Parish Centre. The bar staff, Sharon and Colin, are aware of the position and I wish to express my thanks to them for their service to the parish over many years. *Fr Mehall*

THE WEEK AHEAD

Blessing of Throats will take place at the 9.35am Mass on Monday.

St Monica's Life Group Please join us for our 2nd meeting at 5pm on Monday in the Newman Room for prayer and discussion as we look for inspiration on how to change our culture for the better.

Faith-Sharing Enrolment The new season 'Rejoice and be Glad' begins on 3rd March. Each group meets once a week for the following 6 weeks. People will be available outside each Mass next Sunday to answer questions and enrol new members.

'The Joy of Hope' starts on Thursday, 7:30-9pm in the Large Hall. This short course is based on the revelation of heaven that St John received while exiled on the island of Patmos. It will run on the 4 Thursdays of February and promises to be an uplifting and practical insight into the joy of living now, with hope in the future blessing of eternal life with God in heaven. With everything that's happening at home and abroad, we could all do with some more joy. So, come and give the first session a go, and then take it from there.

Beloved Disciples the group for the over 60s meets on the 2nd Friday of each month for fellowship and refreshments. We meet this week at 2pm in the Newman Room. All over 60s are very welcome.

Children's Choir sing at the 6pm (Sat) Mass (once a month) and 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. Next practice is on Saturday 9th February.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Club Years 7,8+9, Wednesday 7.30-9pm, Large Hall. Theme: St Josephine Bakhita—what her life has inspired.

Flame 2019 (Year 10—late 20s) Sat 2nd March, at the SSE Arena, Wembley with 10,000 young Catholics from the UK. Tickets £10. Contact Anna for more details.

OTHER NEWS

Parish Building project Dear Parishioners I draw your attention to the present situation concerning the parish hall and parish centre, available for collection after Mass. *Fr Mehall*

Cafod Talk 'The struggle for social and environmental justice in the Brazilian Amazon'. Wed 6th Feb, 2.30pm at Christ the King, Bramley Road, N14 4HE. To book please contact Tony tsheen@cafod.org.uk

Charity Comedy Night in aid of 'In Sue's Name'. Thu 7th Feb at The Penridge Suite. Tickets £15 at bookwhen.com/insuesname

Quiz Night at Winchmore Hill Baptist Church. Sat 9th Feb. For tickets (inc food) £10 Adults/£6 Children, call Philip on 07510 386950. Doors open at 6.30pm for 7pm start.

CAFOD Westminster seeks volunteers to travel to schools in their local area and deliver a short presentation. Full training programme (2 days in Feb & April), ongoing support and a wide range of exciting materials and resources offered. Contact Chris Driscoll on 01277 218730 / 07776 493162 or email wschools@cafod.org.uk

Initial Teacher Training places at St Ignatius College September 2019 via the School Direct programme: Chemistry, Computing, English, Maths & Physics (relevant undergraduate degree required). For further information/to attend a school experience day on 12th March, please email teachertraining@st-ignatius.enfield.sch.uk

Thank You from Caritas for £1000 donated from the monthly charities collection.

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 give the parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

Settlement Scheme for EU Citizens For those who may need to apply, please take a Bishops' Conference letter at the back of the church.

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

Congratulations to the 20th Southgate Beavers Henry, Louise, James & Darragh who came 2nd in the District Craft Competition last weekend.

Job Vacancies St Richard Reynolds Catholic College have several vacancies for teachers of English, Maths, Science and Computing. For details see their website: strichardreynolds.org.uk/recruitment

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 palmersgreenpcadmin@rcdow.org.uk or on 07955 037251. Further information about the Parish Centre is available on the parish website.

Tea/Coffee after Mass now moves to the Large Hall. There is not enough room in the Newman Room when it gets cold and we need it for Children's Liturgy when the stairs get icy. **Setting up** Groups will now need to collect a key from the office and set up hot water, tables and chairs beforehand. Please contact the parish secretary to arrange collection.

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

Soup Run we have a need for new men's socks please. Thank you.

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

Volunteers needed urgently to join the church cleaning teams. Commitment is 90 mins once a month. Please contact Siobhan on 020 8807 5583 if you can help.

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.

St Monica's Brownies meet on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm – 8pm in the Scout and Guide HQ in Cannon Rd, Southgate. Brownies are aged between 7 and 10 years old. If your daughter would like to join Brownies it is better to put her name on the waiting list when she is 5 or 6 years old. To do this, go to the Guiding Website girlguiding.org.uk find GO and follow the instructions! For more information please phone Doreen on 020 8807 2221.

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 please 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

The Memory Lane Cafe and Carers' Club meets every Friday at the Parish Centre between 10.15am and 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

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.

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.

Marriage Preparation If you are planning to marry here or elsewhere 6 months' notice is required and you MUST see a priest to register for a preparation course. The next course will be in the Spring.

Sheltered Housing for Catholics aged 60 and over at St Scholastica's Retreat, Princes Risborough HP27 0JG. Flats are £491/month with shared gardens, in easy walking distance of the church and all amenities. Open day on Saturday 16th February at 12.30pm. For more information / to let know that you are coming, please phone or email The Warden, Deacon Séan Duffy on 01844 344437 info@stscholasticas.co.uk Poster in the porch.

St Ignatius College Quiz Night The Friends of St Ignatius are holding a Spring quiz evening on Friday 29th March 7pm for a prompt 7.30 start. We hope you will be able to join us on our fun filled fund raising event. Tickets cost **£10.00** per person and will include a fully catered Ploughman's supper. Ample parking is available on the school grounds. Participants are welcome to bring their own refreshments, alcohol and nibbles on the night. Great raffle with fantastic gifts to be won. Tables of **8-10 people**, small groups or pairs of quizzers are very welcome as we can still accommodate you on a joined table. If you would like to book a table please contact Trisha on trish1011@gmail.com