

FINANCE thank you for your generosity. **1st April:** Envelopes £1120; Loose £.

March Standing Orders £6348.10. **CAFOD** to date: £3446.37.

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

If so, please contact Fr Mehall. Thank you.

CAFOD Cyclone Idai Appeal This weekend 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.' For an update on the situation, see the website: <https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/Events/Online-talk-Cyclone-Idai>

FROM THE DIARY

Sun 7th April	1pm Baptism of Emma D'Souza, Natalie D'Souza
5th Sun of Lent	1.30pm Easter music rehearsal, Small Hall 3-5pm Baptism Preparation Course, Newman Room 5.30pm Worship Band play
Mon 8th April	10.15am Church Cleaning, Graziella's Team
Lent Feria	7-9.30pm Marriage Preparation Course, Newman Room
Tue 9th April	7am Mass & 9.35am Mass
Lent Feria	7-9.30pm Marriage Preparation Course, Newman Room
Wed 10th April	<i>Office closed as usual</i>
Lent Feria	1.30pm Funeral of Kevin Purcell RIP at Enfield Crematorium 7pm Holy Hour 8pm Bereavement Group Meeting, Presbytery
Thu 11th April	5.30pm Legion of Mary, Newman Room
Lent Feria	
Fri 12th April	10am-12noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament + Angelus
Lent Feria	10.15am Christian Meditation, Newman Room
Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse	10.15am Memory Lane Dementia Café & Carers' Club, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre 2pm Beloved Disciples, Newman Room (all over 60s welcome)
Sat 13th April	
Lent Feria	
Sun 14th April	<i>Palms blessed at all Masses but please bring greenery if you wish</i>
PALM SUNDAY	9am Knights of St Columba Corporate Communion 10am Mass begins in Large Hall with congregation of St John's (earlier 10.30am)

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

7th April

2019

"I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ"

(Philippians 3:9)

For anyone who has been struggling through Lent to give something up, or to take up some new devotion of prayer or charitable work, it might appear that St Paul is calling those endeavours into question.

Paul's letter to his beloved Philippians begins with his joyful prayers for them and ends by calling on them to "rejoice in the Lord always" (4:4). Chapter 3 however strikes a sombre note of warning against "evil workers". Paul is probably targeting here opponents sometimes called "Judaizers" – formerly Jewish Christians who believed that Jewish customs and practices enshrined in the Law of Moses needed to be observed by converts. In particular they believed that gentile converts to Christianity should first of all be circumcised. This dispute came to a head at the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15), which after much debate agreed that circumcision did not need to be mandatory.

Paul, apostle to the gentiles, reminds the Philippians of his own faith journey. He was a circumcised Jew himself, of the tribe of Benjamin and as a Pharisee, an expert in the Law. But all this Paul regards as "so much rubbish" compared to "knowing Christ Jesus my Lord".

External observances alone can take us only so far. Every Lenten offering we make in faith through Jesus. Just as acts of kindness to those dear to us make us happy because we love them and want the best for them, so our efforts in Lent spring from that personal relationship with Christ which should be the inspiration of everything we do.

"Let Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life. If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won't be disappointed." (Pope Francis)

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 palmersgreensg@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 Kevin Purcell, Penelope Rigby, Giuseppe Vaccaro, Llewellyn Paes, John Lynch, who have died recently and Margherita Borella, Doreen Lee, John Lynchehan, Kenneth Munns, Cecilia Prosper, Patrick Bradley, David Rawlinson, Etna Halliday, Brian Flynn, Agnes Corner, Anne Mullen, whose anniversaries occur now.

Please Pray for Sick and Housebound Parishioners

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Lk 19:28-40, Is 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11,
Lk 22:14-23:56

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

Easter Music Rehearsal 1.30pm in the Small Hall. All are welcome to join the choir to sing at the Easter services.

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

SACRAMENTS

Baptism Preparation Course 3-5pm in the Newman Room, today.

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

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.

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.

PARISH SOCIAL

Walking Group Wednesday Kings Cross to Warren Street (including via Church of Our Lady of Hal). Meet: Wood Green underground platform 10.25am or Kings Cross mainline platform 11am.

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.

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!

Congratulations to the Parish Centre B team who won the 2019 Quiz Shield with an amazing score of 101 points; thank you to everybody who has supported the quiz and previous versions at Cannon House.

Parish Centre The bar at the Parish Centre will be open on Thursday 11th and Friday 12th April between 8-11pm. It will also be open on Sunday 14th April between 1-4pm and 8-11pm. As previously announced, it will then close and 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 Annette on 07955 037251 or at palmersgreenpcadmin@rcdow.org.uk

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.

Come & See weekend 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>

Job Vacancy St Michael's Grammar School seeks a Canteen Supervisor. See poster in the porch.

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 johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Friends of the Poor Clares Spring Fair Sat 13th April, 10am-1.30pm at 102, Galley Lane, Barnet. See poster in the porch.

Sky Dive for Sue Grateful thanks to Sean, Beatrice Jonathan and Martin who joined me in this event with 40 others and to those who sponsored us We have raised over £40k for Brain Tumour Research. If you would still like to sponsor go to <http://www.insuesname.org> David Taylor

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.

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.

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 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*

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>