

Can you spare 90 mins once a month? If so, the church cleaning teams urgently need new volunteers. Please contact Siobhan on 020 8807 5583 if you can help.

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.

Baptism Preparation The next Baptism Preparation Course will take place in the Newman Room, 3-5pm, on Sunday 3rd September. Please contact the parish office to book onto the course.

FROM THE DIARY

- Sun 23rd July** Pilgrimage to Lourdes departs
16th Sun O.T. Traidcraft goods on sale after all Masses
- Mon 24th July** 10.15 Church cleaning, Siobhan's team
St Charbel
- Tues 25th July** 7.30pm Knitting Club, Newman Room
- Wed 26th July** *Office closed as usual*
- Thur 27th July** 5.30pm Legion of Mary, Newman Room
- Fri 28th July** 10.15am Christian Meditation, Newman Room
- Sat 29th July** 10am Ecumenical Camino departs from Holy Trinity Church
- Sun 30th July** 7pm Wedding Rehearsal
17th Sun O.T.
- Mon 31st July** 10.15am Church cleaning, Graziella's team
- Tues 1st Aug** 7.30pm Knitting Club, Newman Room
- Weds 2nd Aug** 10am Mass diary for September opens, Newman Room
7.30pm 'No Agenda' Holy Hour of Prayer and Praise
- Sat 5th Aug** 11.15am Baptism of Grace Michael & Eliana De Jesus
2pm Marriage of Steven Delpeche & Kavina Vencatasawmy
- Sun 6th August** Solemnity of the Transfiguration of the Lord

MASS TIMES

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

Daily 9.35am, Morning Prayer 9.10am

Confessions: Sat 10-11am & 5.15 - 5.45pm (Signed for Deaf by appointment)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mon 4-5pm, Fri 4-5pm, Sat 10 - 11am

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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23rd & 30th July

WHEAT AND WEEDS

2017

THIS NEWSLETTER COVERS TWO WEEKS

When change from outside is forced upon us, it often seems foreign and alien and is likely to be rejected or resented. With the stories of the mustard seed and yeast, Jesus is showing us that growth and change must come from within. Jesus asks us to trust our inner energies. The Kingdom of God begins with the power of the Spirit which is given to each one of us. It is within us now as a tiny seed that will, in time, grow to maturity. This means that we can all be agents of change.

After the story of the man sowing seed Jesus tells another story of a woman using yeast to make bread. Note how Jesus places the examples side by side to reinforce the idea that all of us - young and old, men and women - are equally involved in the process of the growth of the Kingdom of God. We see the inclusive nature of Jesus' vision.

The parable of the dandelion (weeds) gives us a different example of inclusivity. The workers expect the owner to tell them to pull up the weeds but, to their surprise, they are told to leave them and let the wheat grow. The owner is concerned that, in pulling up the weeds, they may damage the wheat.

We can apply this to our own Christian lives. God's Spirit is in us but its growth and its positive influences mingle with many negative aspects of our own personalities. To try first and foremost to uproot all the negative things within us might hinder the growth of the Spirit's positive influence. It is better to give priority to that growth. That is what counts in the end. When the field is harvested at the end of the season, the wheat will be stored in the barn and the weeds burned.

When we are tempted, particularly when the temptations are habitual, things such as gossip, theft, pornography, it is important to have something positive to do. For example - to think of something positive about a person before gossiping, to go to a Christian website when tempted to search for pornography. Nurturing the Spirit will set us free.

1, Stonard Road, London N13 4DJ ☎ (020) 8886 9568 Fax: (020) 8886 5143

Email: palmersgreen@rcdow.org.uk **Website:** www.stmonica.co.uk

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

Parish Priest: Canon Shaun Lennard **Assistant Priest:** Fr Paulo Bagini

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

Parish Secretary: Monica Maxted Jones

Parish Office hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri, **10am - 12noon** (closed Weds)

Polish Chaplain Fr Krzysztof Chaim 07902 432343

PARISH NOTICES

We pray for Solomon Michael, Brian Reilly, Canon Peter Gilbert who have died recently and Josie Moloney, Patrick Purcell, Giovanna Ferdenzi, Clynton St Clair-Hutchins, Natalia Webster, Neville Clare, Eric Ioannou, Eileen O'Neill, Jackie Reeks, Kathleen Cronley, Sebastina Novak, Dino Stratta, whose anniversaries occur now.

Please Pray for Sick and Housebound Parishioners

Neville Henriques, Sheila Camgöz, Stephen Giffin, Teresa MacKessy, Ernestina Henry, Lima Sanmuganathan, Arlyn Alvin.

FINANCE thank you for your generosity.

16th July: Envelopes £1,563, Loose £1303. Thanks to 'Beloved disciples' for £66 and **Catenian** (note the singular, gentlemen!) £93.45 towards the Soup Run .

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Dan 7: 9-14, 2 Peter 1: 16-19, Mt 17: 1-9

SUMMER ARRANGEMENTS

Fr Paulo, Sr Joyce & Anna left for Lourdes this morning and return late on Sat 29th.

Fr Shaun is here until 27th July when he goes into hospital for hip replacement surgery and will then be convalescing for the rest of August.

This weekend and next we welcome **Fr Robin Ellwood** who has been with us before. On Thursday and Friday one of the priests from Enfield will be covering the morning Mass.

The Office is open Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri from 10am - 12noon, thank you to volunteers. There will be somebody in the house for security but not a priest and so, for Thursday and Friday, if you need a priest in an emergency please contact another parish,

Parking Now work has begun on the cycle route outside the church, please allow more time to get to Mass. If you are able to park and walk please leave the car park spaces for less mobile parishioners and take care not to block neighbours' driveways and other access.

Parish Magazine was published last week. If you were away, please take a (free) copy after Mass. Thanks to the Magazine team and our advertisers for a great edition.

Fair Trade please look at the stall after Mass and try some of the fairly-traded goods - then lobby your local shop to stock them!

THE WEEK AHEAD

Office Hours Owing to annual leave the office has reduced opening hours this week and is staffed by volunteers. 10am-12 noon, Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri. The office is **always** closed on a **Wednesday** as uninterrupted time is needed.

Bible Study Group will break for the summer and will resume on Mon 4th Sept.

September Mass Intentions can be booked from 10am on **Wednesday 2nd August** by 'phone or in person to the Newman Room. **Masses cannot be 'reserved' before that date** - this is the only fair way of doing this.

Driver/carer wanted to help parishioner with dementia to attend 10.30am mass. Pick up from Southgate at 10.10am and return back at 12.10am after coffee. £25. Please call Lorren 07717191389

Soup Run is doing a stock-take and does not need any items at the moment. We will ask again when we do. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Parish Centre Open Day is Sunday 17th September between 1pm-6pm. BBQ, vegetarian options and entertainment. A fun day for all so make a note in your diary now.

The Farewell a group is organising the farewell on 23rd Sept. We would like to hear any suggestions/ideas as to how to make this evening a wonderful occasion. We are Charlotte, Mel, Des, Nikki & Sinead. Please contact Des 07422 555042 or Sinead 07905 886119 with ideas and offers of help.

YOUTH NEWS

Red Caps thank the Knights, Catenian Bursary Fund and parishioners for supporting their fundraising and helping to raise almost half of the cost; if you would like to make a donation, please post it into the presbytery marked 'Red Caps'.

OTHER NEWS

Do you know somebody who is interested in knowing more about Christianity and the Church? This year 10 adults were Baptised or Received into the church and, in September, the 'Come and See' group starts meeting again. There could be somebody just waiting for you to invite them! Information and invitation leaflets are available in the porch - take one and ask!

Ecumenical Camino the annual ecumenical pilgrimage takes place on Saturday 29th July starting at Holy Trinity Church, Winchmore Hill at 10am. It is always a great day with a moderate amount of walking involved, visiting some churches in the area and a picnic lunch. See poster for full details.

Coffee Mornings After Mass During August would you like to serve tea, coffee and cake after 9am and 10.30am Mass to raise funds for your charity? Contact the office to book your date 29th July, 6th August still available. Thank you to those who keep this important welcome going throughout the year.

Pilgrimage to Aylesford Sun 13th August with Society of Our Lady of Lourdes, £14. All details from Virginia: 020 8363 2569.

Memorial Service for Madeleine Latham-Fox RIP will be held at St Monica's School at 7pm on Friday 8th September. If anyone would like to do a reading, share a memory etc, please can they contact Kate Baptiste at headteacher@st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk All are very welcome.

Marriage Preparation and other Volunteers needed Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation providing marriage preparation and relationship counselling services through over 50 centres across England and Wales. Our centre for Barnet and Enfield is in need of Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators (training is provided) as well as Assistants to help with general assistance on the day. They are also looking for a Secretary and Qualified Relationship Counsellors (who hold a recognised couples counselling qualification). For more information or to apply, visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

Parish Centre is at 6, Cannon Hill, N14 and open to all parishioners. The bar is open on Thursday, Friday and Sunday from 8pm-11pm and on Sunday between 1pm – 4pm. Venue available for parties or other events. Brochures in porch. To book palmersgreenpcadmin@rcdow.org.uk or Laura on 07955 037251. **SUMMER CLOSURE** the parish centre is closed from 14 - 31 August inclusive.

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.catholicingles.org.uk

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 9.30am to 11.30am at the Parish Centre £1.50/session. Indoor and outdoor toys plus singing and arts & crafts. Please Call Katie on 07960 281068 for more info.

The Repository is opened by volunteers and more are needed. If you can help please contact Doreen on 020 8807 2221.

Job Vacancies for the diocese are online at <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/>

Teaching Opportunities at Nicholas Breakspeare Catholic School Are you a graduate and interested in becoming a teacher? If so, Nicholas Breakspeare Catholic School has opportunities for salaried training positions (up to £25K depending on subject). Nicholas Breakspeare Catholic School is an 11-18 mixed comprehensive school situated on the outskirts of the historic city of St Albans. For further information or to arrange an informal visit, please contact Jackie Clifford on 01727 860079 (ext 212) or email cliffordj@nbs.herts.sch.uk

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

Consideration to Neighbours Please park with consideration when attending Mass. Younger parishioners please consider walking (or parking further away and walking).

Enfield Refugee Welcome 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me' A body has been set up, which includes many church representatives, to support the 'at risk' Syrian families who are to be welcomed into the borough under the government scheme. Many skills are needed before the process can start. They are particularly looking for people with property letting skills (and landlords). If you are interested and can help please email the parish office.

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

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

Tea & Coffee after Mass the main purpose of this is to bring parishioners together, to welcome new parishioners and so build community. Please bear this in mind if you are arranging a raffle - people can be invited to buy tickets but not harassed. Also, if you are selling a strip of five tickets you are indicating that there are five chances of winning—so tickets should be separated before the draw.

Parish Library: Were you aware that the church had a crying room and that the crying room doubled as a parish library? The parish library has been revamped and will be open again during Mass times. There are books on history, theology, spirituality and scripture, and travel, and there will be instructions on how to go about borrowing some. Parishioners are also invited to donate some books.

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 team know if you spot anything dangerous.

Studying in the sixth form at Nicholas Breakspeare Catholic School Due to the continued expansion of the school, places have become available to study in our sixth form from September 2017. If you would like the opportunity to achieve your full potential at Level 3 study and enjoy the vast array of enrichment opportunities that make our school such a wonderful community, whilst being fully prepared for Higher Education or employment, then please contact Mr C Laing, Director of Sixth Form on 01727 860079 or email: Laingc@nbs.herts.sch.uk