

FROM THE DIARY

Sunday 17th March	6pm (Sat)	<i>Sidonio Henriques (Ann)</i>
Fifth Sunday of Lent	7.45am	<i>Maggie Kelly (RIP) & Lily Culbert (RIP)</i>
St Patrick	9am	<i>Clifford & Ray Shaw, George Edward & Robbie Cooper (RIP)</i>
	10.30am	<i>People of the Parish & Holy Souls</i>
	12 noon	<i>Brian Harvey (Ann)</i>
Monday 18th March	9.30am	<i>Felicity Caiado (Ann)</i>
Lent Feria	11.30am	Funeral of Michael Howard (RIP)
	7.30pm	FHC Parents Session (Large Hall)
	7.30pm	RCIA (Newman Room)
Tuesday 19th March	7.00am	<i>Valerie Mendonsa (Int)</i>
St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Diocese	9.30am	<i>Kathy McCarthy (100th B'day)</i>
	7.30–9pm	Confirmation Preparation (Large Hall)
Wednesday 20th March	9.30am	<i>Norene Steel Hristov (RIP)</i>
Lent Feria	11.30am	Funeral of Patrick Swift (RIP)
	7.30–8.45pm	God who speaks through the Triduum (Newman Rm)
Thursday 21st March	9.30am	<i>Lodovico & Adelaidina Littardi (RIP)</i>
Lent Feria	3.10pm	Legion of Mary, (Newman Room)
	7.00pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Service, Church
Friday 22nd March	9.30am	<i>Norene Steel Hristov (RIP)</i>
Lent Feria	11.30am	Funeral of Francesco Di Maria (RIP)
	7.00pm	Stations Of The Cross
	7.30pm	<i>Michael McGurrin (RIP)</i>
Saturday 23rd March	9.30am	<i>Erminia Mazzucca (Int)</i>
Lent Feria	10–11am	Catechism Programme (Newman Rm)
	10–11am	Preparation for FHC 5, St Monica's School
	3–4.30pm	Altar Servers Training (Church)
Sunday 24th March	6pm (Sat)	<i>Anne & John McMahon (RIP)</i>
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	7.45am	<i>David Pinckney (Ann)</i>
	9am	<i>People of the Parish & Holy Souls</i>
	10.30am	<i>Sheila Grady (RIP)</i>
	12 noon	<i>Francisco Raposo (RIP)</i>

MASS TIMES

Sunday (Sat 6pm), 7.45am, 9am, 10.30am, 12noon.

Mon-Sat : 9.30am (extra masses at 7am and 7.30pm on Holy Days of Obligation)

Morning Prayer: Weekdays 9.10 am **Rosary**: Weekdays after Mass & Sat 9.10am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Mon-Fri 2-3pm (except Bank Hol)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 10.15-10.45am, 5.15pm–5.45pm

St Monica's Church, Palmers Green

A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster

Readings	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	17th March
<i>Parish Mass Bk Pg. 173</i>	If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.	2024

Today's Gospel reading is taken from the Gospel of John. We are reading much further into John's Gospel than we have for the past two weeks. Chapter 12 of John's Gospel is a preparation for the beginning of the passion narrative to follow. Jesus has just raised Lazarus from the dead—an important sign in John's Gospel, which inspired many people to believe in Jesus. This event also marks the turning point in Jesus' conflict with the Jewish authorities. John's Gospel tells us that the Sanhedrin met after this event and made plans to kill Jesus. In the 12th chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus is anointed at Bethany and enters Jerusalem in triumph. We again see evidence of the significance of the raising of Lazarus to this event; John reports that the crowds also gathered to see Lazarus.

Following his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, Jesus predicted his suffering, death, and Resurrection and prepared his disciples to believe in the salvation that his death would accomplish. Using the metaphor of the grain of wheat, Jesus presented the idea that his dying would be beneficial. He also taught that those who would be his disciples must follow his example of sacrifice. This theme will be repeated in John's account of the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples as an example of how they must serve one another.

The final section of today's Gospel might be read as John's parallel to the agony in the garden. Unlike the Synoptic Gospels, the Gospel of John does not record Jesus' anguished prayer in the garden of Gethsemane before his arrest. Although comparable words are found in today's reading, Jesus gives a confident response to the question he raises when asking God to save him from his impending death. After announcing his conviction that it is for this purpose that he came, a voice from heaven speaks, as if in answer to Jesus' prayer. This voice, like the one heard at Jesus' baptism and at Jesus' Transfiguration—events reported in the Synoptic Gospels but not in John's Gospel—affirms that God welcomes the sacrifice that Jesus will make on behalf of others. In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches that this voice was sent for the sake of those who would believe in him.

In today's Gospel, we also hear Jesus speak about the cosmic framework against which we are to understand his passion, death, and Resurrection. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus conquered Satan, the ruler of this world. In this way the world is judged, but the judgment is not condemnation. Instead, through Jesus' dying and rising, salvation is brought to the world.

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email: palmersgreen@rcdow.org.uk Website: www.stmonica.co.uk

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

Parish Priest: Canon Mehall Lowry Assistant Priest: Father David Knight

Parish Sister: Sr Joyce Dionne 07752 050653

Youth Co-ordinator: Anna McMullan annamcmullan@rcdow.org.uk 07532 374291

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Graham Jordan palmersgreengs@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator & Secretary: Noreen Campbell

Parish Office hours: 9.30am-2pm Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri (closed Wed & Bk Hols)

PARISH NOTICES

We pray for all those who have died recently: John Cawston, Pat Swift, Francesco Di Maria, Michael Howard, Michael Linnane, Sheila Ripsher, Richard Crossingham, Mark Casali, Kevin Guinnane, Francisco Raposo and for **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Carmine Argenza, Tom Flynn, Kevin Purcell, John Steel, Teresa Kirby, Felicity Caiado, Stella Opiola, Cristina Delmaestro, Clotilda Frection, Elizabeth Williams, David Pinckney, Gabrielle Nahaboo, Luisa Zamparolo, Mavis Wilson, Josephine Collins, Joy Moraes, Anka Worobec, Sharon Valerio, Joao Malieque. **Please pray for all sick and housebound parishioners, especially those in our care homes:** Anastasia Lodge, Beaumont, Brookwater House, The Conifers, The Hollies, Queen Ann Care, Woodlands and **hospitals:** North Middlesex, Chase Farm. Stella Whittaker, Baby Joseph Osbourne, Liz Panayi, Mary Jordan, Donna Cummings, Sheila Corbett, Elizabeth, Kathy McCarthy, Father Michael Daley, Agnieszka Puszek, Marie Herry, Anna Keogh.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Jer 31:31-34, Heb 5:7-9, John 12:20-3

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Isa 50:4-7, Phil 2: 6-11, Mark 14: 1-15:47

TODAY

Dementia Prayer Week runs annually from 12 -19 March with the aim to raise awareness and a deeper understanding of the spiritual needs of people living with dementia.

Prayers for Families and Caregivers of Those Living with Dementia

The Father's Love

from the Pastoral Care Project

As the Father has loved me,
so have I loved you.

John:15 v 9

Lord, thank you
for your presence
this moment,
holding us in your love.
Help us to share
your love with those who live
among us with dementia,
that we may see
your beauty in them.

Amen

St Patrick's Day Refreshments: You are all invited for an Irish coffee in the Newman Room after the 9am and 10.30am Masses provided by the Catenians.

SACRAMENTS

FHC Parents are reminded of their session on Monday at 7.30pm in the Large Hall.

RCIA. We keep Alejandro, Joshua, Alfie, Millie, Peter and Reuben in our prayers as they prepare to be baptised/received at the Easter vigil.

The Sacrament of the Sick – Prayers with the laying on of hands and anointing with holy Oil – is available to anyone who finds themselves dealing with medical issues, or who are about to go into Hospital for an operation or who are in the frailty of age. If you or a member of your family is ill please contact Fr Mehall, Fr David or the parish office.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday at 7pm in the Church. Eight Priests will be in attendance to hear confessions.

Churches Together Prayer Meeting

Tuesday 10.30 am. Zoom Meeting

[https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/74680204904?pwd=TjJhQnBIYVVuUzNRY3ZXQTJ6MHEzQTog](https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/74680204904?pwd=TjJhQnBIYVVuUzNRY3ZXQTJ6MHEzQTog.ID74680204904).ID 746 8020 4904 Passcode: 8zq1F7

LENT

Holy Week Posters from the Knights of St Columba will be distributed from this weekend. The posters are free but any contributions would be very grateful. This year, there will also be a card reader available.

Good Friday children's workshop, 9-11.15am—date for your diary. This is for children of primary school age with each year group reflecting on a station and sharing what they learn in church from 10.30am. More information to follow.

Walks of Witness Good Friday. This will start from Palmers Green Station and Winchmore Hill Station, meeting at St Monica's Large Hall. Thank you to the Knights of St Columba and the Catenians for their help in making this happen. See Holy Week and Easter leaflet for timings.

Palm Sunday 24th March. On Palm Sunday we bless palms at the beginning of Mass. Those attending the 10.30am Mass, we will gather for ten minutes at 10.20am in the hall where we will process with St Johns parish. I am sure you're aware of the arson incident at St Johns. Let's make every effort to gather with Rev Julie Coleman and St Johns parish in this act of worship to show our support and friendship.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024. H.E. Cardinal Vincent expresses his gratitude to everyone who can support his Appeal with whatever they can afford. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese, Donations can be made by envelope, found at the back of the church, or use the On-line QR code on the poster. Thank you for your generosity.

HOLY WEEK

Please see leaflet for details of what is happening during Holy Week and Easter.

OTHER

Thank you to the Cubs for providing the refreshments last weekend, £260 was raised

for their sponsored walk for "In Sue's Name". If you would like to sponsor them in support of this amazing charity. Please visit:
<https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/mypage/20thsouthgate>.<http://www.insuesname.org.uk/walkofhope24>

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May at 2.30pm. The Cardinal is inviting 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 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email/call the parish office with the following details: husband/wife's names, wedding date, postal address, email/telephone number by 30th March at the latest.

Columban Mission Appeal 2024 - the annual Mission Appeal will be visiting the parish on the weekend of 7th April.

Mark Casali (RIP) Funeral Wednesday 20th March 2.30pm at St Thomas On The Bourne Church, Farnham, Surrey.

Daily Morning Carer required 1.5 hours Monday - Friday (9.15-10.45 am) for elderly female living locally. Please contact Helen Power T07980757844 / hp118@hotmail.co.uk.

FINANCE

10th March Envelopes £331; Loose Plate £921; **Giving by Standing Order**, please use the following details: Bank: **HSBC**; A/c no: **41096176**; Sort Code: **40-05-20**; A/c name: **WRCDT Palmers Green** and give your surname as a reference. If you pay income tax, click on [gift aid form](#) to complete & return. Thank you for your generosity.



Chair of Finance Committee

COST OF LIVING

The **Healthy Start Scheme** provides help with buying healthy food and milk, and is open to people receiving Universal Credit or Child Tax Credits, who are pregnant or have a child under 4. Find out more here - <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Those on a lower income and claim Pension Credit - with the onset of colder weather, the Warm Home Discount Scheme with your energy provider is now open. You are also entitled to a council tax discount and, if you are over 75, a free TV licence. Speak to Citizens Advice Enfield about what else you maybe entitled to.

Small grants programme for elderly people living on low incomes, offered by Friends of the Elderly, and as identified by Caritas, the Diocesan fundraising department. Grants are c£400, cost of living grants c£250 according to their guidance. [Grants For Older People | Grants for the Elderly | Friends of the Elderly \(fote.org.uk\)](#)

Grants to help pay off energy debts - People who are in debt to their energy supplier might be able to get a grant from a charitable trust to help pay it off. See <https://fuelpovertyresource.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/>

Financial Resilience and Cost of Living Martin Lewis, the Money Saving Expert, provides information about the cost of living support package. Click on the following link for this and other topical issues to <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/cost-of-living-survival-kit/>

The Heet Project is a charity providing free services to low income, aged and vulnerable people to help improve home insulation and reduce energy bills. If you live in the London borough of Enfield, Waltham Forest or Redbridge or know someone who can benefit, please see their website for further details <https://www.theheetproject.org.uk/> or telephone 0208520 1900.

JOB VACANCIES

Diocesan jobs - For further details, please visit <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

Head Teacher Required at Our Lady of Muswell Catholic Primary School - September 2024 Our Lady of Muswell Catholic Primary School, Muswell Hill, London is seeking to appoint a Head Teacher from September 2024. Full details of this job vacancy can be found at <https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/head-teacher-haringey-2020444>. If you are interested or require further information, please contact the School Business Manager - Katherine Johnston via email sbm@ourladymuswell.haringey.sch.uk. Application Deadline is Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 10am.

St. Michael's Catholic Grammar School: Head of Geography Year 7 to Year 13. from 1st September, 2024. Closing date Monday 25th March. An application pack is available on the school website. Please send completed forms to applications@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk

St. Michael's Catholic Grammar School: Temporary Part-time Teacher of Spanish & French – Maternity Cover. The Governors are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and well-qualified Teacher of Spanish & French for this temporary contract while the incumbent is on maternity leave. Closing date: Wednesday 20th March midday - early applications are encouraged as we reserve the right to call candidates to interview before this advert is withdrawn. An application pack is available on the school website. Please send completed forms to [\[michaels.barnet.sch.uk\]\(mailto:michaels.barnet.sch.uk\)](mailto:applications@st-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Head of Religious Education at St James' Catholic High School, Colindale, NW9 5PE. If you would like to find out more about this exciting opportunity, please follow the link below: [link https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/head-of-religious-education-barnet-1998078](https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/head-of-religious-education-barnet-1998078). Visits to the school are welcomed and can be arranged, by emailing Ms Rock at: brock@st-james.barnet.sch.uk

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) wishes to recruit a full time Administration Assistant, for a full job description and application form, please contact Lucille McQuade at Lucillemcquade@spuc.org.uk or on 020 7091 7091.

OTHER

Can you help? A 50 year old male working in North London. Looking to rent a room in shared accommodation or otherwise. Able to pay weekly/monthly. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help.

Daily Morning Carer required 1.5 hours Monday - Friday (9.15-10.45 am) for elderly female living in Palmers Green. Please contact Helen Power T07980757844 / hp118@hotmail.co.uk.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 19th- 26th July 2024 – Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. **All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30th April.**

St Ignatius College is excited to announce our new Alumni page and LinkedIn group for all of our Old Ignatians to reunite and stay up to date with all of our news and events. We are looking forward to all of our Alumni signing up soon. AMDG. <https://www.st-ignatius.enfield.sch.uk/3472/dear-alumni>, <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12893571/>

The interfaith group will meet on Wednesday March 20th from 1.30 pm to 3 in the Hinsley room next to Westminster cathedral, Morpeth Terrace, SW1P 1EP to discuss the last two chapters of Pope Francis' Laudate Deum. Refreshments available and all welcome. If you would like to join our day in Cambridge on Wed April 24th please contact woodhousesopen@btinternet.com.

St. Anne's Gospel Choir Concert on Friday 22 March 2024 - 7.30pm, at our Upper Site, 6 Oakthorpe Road, Palmers Green, N13 5TY. We invite you to enjoy the sounds of an outstanding Gospel Choir. Tickets are £10 for Adults, £5 for Students & Children (Under 55 free) and £22 for a Family Ticket (2 Adults & 2 Children). Tickets can be purchased online via our E-Shop: <https://tinyurl.com/StAnnesEShop> or reserved by calling the school on 0208 886 2165.

A Day With Mary—St Mary Magdalen, Athenaeum Road, Whetstone N20 starting at 9.30am. A day of instruction, devotion and intercession.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday Retreat at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Saturday 6th April 10 am-4:30 pm. The retreat will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction.