

FROM THE DIARY

Sunday 21st April	(6pm (Sat))	<i>Cyril Tims (Ann)</i>
Fourth Sunday of Easter	7.45am	<i>Roddy Beare (RIP)</i>
'Good Shepherd'	9am	<i>Michael Linnane (RIP)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Rita (Susan) Whitfield (RIP)</i>
	12 noon	<i>Norene Steel Hristov (RIP)</i>
Monday 22nd April	9.30am	<i>Michael Kilbane (RIP)</i>
Easter Feria	11.30am	Funeral of Anne Keogh (RIP)
	7.30pm	RCIA Meeting (Newman Room)
Tuesday 23rd April	9.30am	<i>O'Kane Family (Ann)</i>
Saint George, Martyr, Patron of England	12 noon	Wedding of Saffienne and Simon
	7.30-8.15 pm	Confirmation Rehearsal Groups A&B (Church)
	8.15-9.00pm	Confirmation Rehearsal Groups C&D (Church)
Wednesday 24th April	9.30am	<i>Eileen Purtill (Ann)</i>
Easter Feria		
Thursday 25th April	9.30am	<i>Holy Souls</i>
St Mark, Evangelist	3.10pm	Legion of Mary, (Newman Room)
	7.30pm	Lourdes Pilgrimage Meeting (Newman Room)
Friday 26th April	9.30am	<i>Rita Cunningham (Ann)</i>
Easter Feria		
Saturday 27th April	9.30am	<i>Johnny Kelly (RIP)</i>
Easter Feria	11.00am	Confirmation Mass
	2.30pm	Confirmation Mass
Sunday 28th April	(6pm (Sat))	<i>Brian Henriques & Alzira Fernandes (RIP)</i>
Fifth Sunday of Easter	7.45am	<i>John McPhillips (Ann)</i>
	9am	<i>Luigi & Andrea Azzali (Int)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Mary Campbell (Ann)</i>
	12 noon	<i>Norene Steel Hristov (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	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	21st April
<i>Parish Mass Bk Pg.265</i>	The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep	2024

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd. This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death. In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires. **Loyola Press**

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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: Father John Warnaby, Alexandra McBride, Anne Keogh, Kathleen McCarthy and for **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Bridget Hampson, Delia Flaherty, Francis Johnstone, Michael Collins, Rosina Filippi, Anna Kulakowska, Giovanni Rospo, Eileen Purtill, Christopher Bray, Lisa Ward, Martin Cassidy, Celia Cusmano, Joanna Bernasinska, Mary Barrett, Kathleen Wells, Shaun King, Audrey Cozens, Mary Fetteroll. **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, Mary Jordan, Donna Cummings, Sheila Corbett, Elizabeth Frangeskou, Agnieszka Puszek, Marie Herry, Akhter Zabier, Pauline Monaghan, Claudette Seeboruth, John Flanagan.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10: 11-18

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15: 1-8

Dear Parishioners

I write with the sad news of the death of Fr John Warnaby.

Fr John died peacefully on Saturday 13 April, at the Birmingham Hospice in Erdington.

Our condolences and prayers are extended to Fr John's family, including his mother and three sisters, friends and colleagues.

Father John was Assistant Parish Priest here at St Monicas's from 2017 to 2019. May he rest in peace.

Funeral arrangements

Fr John's mortal remains will be received at St Joseph's church, Oxhey Drive, Carpenters Park, Watford WD19 7SW on Monday 29 April by Bishop Paul McAleenan at 6.30pm, followed by a Requiem Mass at 7pm.

On Tuesday 30 April the Funeral Mass will be at St Joseph's at 12noon.

TODAY

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday and our second collection will support the **Priest Training Fund**. This fund pays for the priestly

formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently **48** men studying at Allen Hall seminary, **14** of whom are from our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also from our Diocese. Last year **8** men who studied at Allen Hall were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ's call to dedicate their lives to serve God's people. Please be as generous as you can. Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests. If you do not have a donation envelope, plenty are still available at the back of the church. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

The Easter edition of **Allen Hall Seminary News** can be found in the porch.

Refreshments in the Newman Room after 9am & 10.30 Masses provided by the Catenians.

Legion Of Mary will have their *ACIES* (for members to renew their consecration to Mary) today at 2pm at St Edmunds RC Church, Edmonton. Auxiliary members are invited to attend.

THANK YOU

Thank You from Jenny and Albie to all those who supported their cake sale last weekend. £150 was raised for the Marie Curie Hospice.

Thank you to the **Childrens Choir** who sang at the Saturday evening Mass.

MUSIC APPEAL

If you are looking for an opportunity to contribute your musical abilities to the parish, whether singing or playing an instrument, we'd love to hear from you!

For Sunday 10.30 Mass Music Group, contact John Dodd on jsdodd@btopenworld.com or 07802 498801.

For Sunday 12 o'clock Mass speak to Anna Cechova anna.cech@hotmail.co.uk

To sing with the Children's Choir at **Saturday evening** once a month, (children in year 4 or above), contact Christine Dench on 07966 140508 or callenN4@aol.com Or just speak to any of us after Mass! There are also registration forms at the back of the Church.

SACRAMENTS

Confirmations. Bishop John will be with us on Saturday 27th April to confirm our young people. Please keep them in your prayers.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - there will be no morning confessions or afternoon Exposition on Saturday 27th April.

Cards for Confirmation & First Holy Communion are available from the Repository.

Baptism Preparation Course The next course is on Sunday 5th May, 3-5pm in the Newman Room. Please contact the parish office to book on to the course.

THE WEEK AHEAD

RCIA Meetings resume on Monday 22nd April at 7.30pm in the Newman Room.

A Day in Cambridge on Wednesday. Join a London Interfaith group for an interreligious tour around Cambridge.

To book please email John:

woodhousesopenten@btinternet.com.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 19th- 26th July 2024 - meeting on Thursday at 7.30pm in the Newman Room. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. **All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30th April.** See <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or contact the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173

Churches Together - Eco Service. Winchmore Hill United Reformed Church (Compton Road, Hoppers Road end) will be holding an Eco Service at 10.30 am on Sunday 28th April to pray together in hope for initiatives to tackle the climate crisis. St Monica's Common Home parish group has been invited and will be joining the Service and our parishioners are also welcome.

OTHER

Mass Intentions for June can be booked from 10am on Wednesday 1st May. Please only book one Mass during the first week of booking, extra Masses can be booked from 8th May, if available.

FINANCE

7th April, Envelopes £344; Loose Plate £878



following details: Bank details: **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.

VACANCIES

Trustee Vacancy with Marriage Care. Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation providing marriage preparation and relationship counselling services across England, Wales and Gibraltar. We are looking for **Trustees** to strengthen our board and to help us continue to provide vital relationship support services to the Catholic community and beyond. For more information visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

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

OTHER

Walsingham National Shrine of England Sunday 12th May. 12.10pm –5pm, a day of instruction, devotion and intercession.

Pilgrimage to Lisieux. 6th–13th June. St Anselm and St Caecilia's, Kingsway. For further details please email Stephen Osborne. On sta.osborne@gmail.com or call 07870 769631. Please see poster at the back of the Church.

A Day With Mary pilgrimage to Fatima. 7th to 14th June, 2024. Please see poster in the porch.

DONA CONTACTLESS MACHINES. (Contactless Giving) If you would like to donate by card we have two DONA machines and the **QR Code** on the newsletter. Machines are located in the

church porch and in the parish office. For example: donations can be made for: **Sunday Collection; Votive Candles; Repository** purchases; and for **Mass Offerings**. Please select the option you want and then the amount you wish to donate. If you require assistance using the machine or the QR code then please ask any member of the parish team who will be happy to help you. Thank you for your continued support of the parish.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal. You can donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected which gets funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who are working alongside communities helping those most in need. Please see the poster in porch with the QR code. Thank you for your continued prayers.

St. Monica's Church Foodbank. Since the beginning of the year we have seen a 45% increase in the number of households we are helping. Add to this the current cost of living crisis and it is proving increasingly difficult to keep up with demand. We have had to restrict who we can help to those who live in the borough of Enfield or within 3 miles of the church hall. **More than ever we need your help to support neighbours who are struggling. You can do this by making a financial donation to parish bank account (see bank details below) using reference "food distribution". Or you could donate food to us directly on a Monday morning at the church hall.** Items like cheese; eggs; tins of corn beef; ham; long life milk; tea; coffee; cooking oil; washing up liquid; and toiletries would be most welcome.

The Legion of Mary have two statues of Our Lady for family Rosary and prayers in your home. Please contact Gloria 0208 360 3554. **Every Saturday** the Legion of Mary gather and pray the Angelus and Rosary at 12 noon at the Triangle in Palmers Green; all are invited to join them.

Laudato Si' Animators UK "Human beings must be recognized as a part of nature. Human life, intelligence and freedom are elements of the nature that enriches our planet, part of its internal workings and its equilibrium." (LD 26). "The world sings of an infinite Love: how can we fail to care for it?" (LD 65). Join the [Laudato Si' Movement](#) by subscribing for online updates. [Laudato Si' Animators program to support your "ecological conversion" journey with fellow Catholics from all continents.](#) Pope Francis Laudate Deum.

Irish Dancing Classes have resumed in the small hall. Beginners welcome. Contact Margaret on 07932056163 or email m.brennan@hotmail.co.uk.

The Mass explained by Bishop Robert Barron in 7 short videos that are currently available to watch for free <https://videos.wordonfire.org/themassepisode1> If you would like to get more from Mass, watch to discover what is happening and Who we encounter.

Proud to be the Pope's charity for world mission, Missio ignites God's love by helping local missionaries work alongside global communities who are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Whatever our missionaries need to help them share the joy of the Gospel, Missio strives to provide it. Visit www.missio.org.uk/about-missio St Monica's parish has a long history of supporting Missio—once your red box is full please return it to the presbytery and take an empty box from the church porch.

Gap Year opportunity: Step into the Gap is a fully funded year of volunteering (18-30 year olds) with food, accommodation, stipend and training within a UK placement plus a Rome and Assisi pilgrimage. visit: cafod.org.uk/gapyear