

FROM THE DIARY

Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	6pm (Sat)	Anne & John McMahon (RIP)
	7.45am	David Pinckney (Ann)
	9am	People of the Parish & Holy Souls
	10.30am	Sheila Grady (RIP)
	12 noon	Francisco Raposo (RIP)
Monday 25th March Holy Week	9.30am	Donna Cummings (Int)
Tuesday 26th March Holy Week	7am	Candido Corres & Jacinto Perote (Ann)
	9.30am	John Steel (Ann)
	12noon	Chrism Mass Westminster Cathedral
Wednesday 27th March Holy Week	9.30am	Lydia Meniano (Int)
Thursday 28th March Maundy Thursday	No Morning Mass CHURCH CLOSSES 4pm – 7pm for preparation 8pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper	
Friday 29th March Good Friday - Bank Holiday	No Morning Mass 9am Children's workshop, Large Hall 10.30am Children's Good Friday Service, Church 11.30am Walks of Witness 3pm Solemn Liturgy of the Passion 7.30pm 'Evening Reflections at the Cross' - ecumenical reflection in words and music, Church	
Saturday 30th March Holy Saturday	No Morning Mass 10am Rehearsal RCIA Easter Vigil Mass 2.30pm Altar servers rehearsal, church	
Sunday 31st March Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord	(2am Start of British Summer Time—Clocks forward one hour) 8pm (Sat) Maria Arnold (Ann) 7.45am Elizabeth (Int) 9am Konan Kouame Alphonse (RIP) 10.30am Anne Fallon (Ann) 12 noon Norene Steel Hristov (RIP)	

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	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD	24th March 2024
Parish Mass Bk Pg. 187	"...See, your King comes to you; gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" Mt 21:5	

"Jesus knew the appointed hour for him to die; he had pondered all 7 prophecies concerning himself and was waiting until everything had taken place that the Prophets said would occur before his passion began...

'Listen to those prophecies, and see if they are true. Among the other things that were foretold of Christ, it is written: "They mingled gall with my food, and in my thirst gave vinegar to drink." How this came about we know from the Gospel. First they gave Jesus gall; he took it, tasted it, and rejected it. Then, to fulfil the Scriptures as he hung on the cross, he said: "I am thirsty." They took a sponge soaked in vinegar, tied it to a reed and lifted it up to him where he hung. When he had taken it he said: "It is finished." What did he mean by that? It is as though he said: "All prophecies foretelling what would happen before my passion have been fulfilled. What then is left for me to do?"

'So, after saying "It is finished", he bowed his head and gave up his Spirit. Did the thieves crucified beside him choose when to die?

They were imprisoned in the flesh with no power over its limitations. But it was when he himself chose to do so that the Lord took flesh in a virgin's womb. He chose the moment of his coming among us and the duration of his life on earth. He also chose the hour he would depart this earthly life. It was in his power to do all this: he was under no compulsion. So in waiting for the hour of his choice, not the hour decreed by fate, he made sure that everything that had to be fulfilled before he suffered was duly accomplished.

'How could Christ be subject to the decree of fate when elsewhere he had said: "I have power to lay down my life... No one can take it from me; I lay it down of my own accord, and I will take it up again"? Unless he had been willing he would not have suffered, his blood would not have been shed; and if that blood had not been shed, the world would not have been redeemed. So let us pour out our thanks to him, both for the power of his divinity and for the compassion of his suffering for humanity.' (St Augustine of Hippo)

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: 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: Fr Michael James Daley, John Cawston, Richard Crossingham, Kevin Guinnane, Francisco Raposo and for **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Anka Worobec, Sharon Valerio, Joao Malieque, Vincenzo Pellegrini, Donald Smart, Denis Carroll, Joan Carthy, Paul Snadden, Julia Mongon, Laura Rodriguez, Romeo Pini, Jessica Michael, Duncan Sawyer, Claudio Callegari, Margaret Cagney, Penelope Rigby, Maria Arnold, Bill Duffy, Angelina Medici. **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, Agnieszka Pusko, Marie Herry, Anna Keogh. Akhter Zabier, Pauline Monaghan.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Acts 10:34, 37-43, Col 3:1-4, John 20: 1-9

TODAY

At 10.20am we will be gathering in the Church Hall for the blessing of Palms, we will process with St Johns parish. 10.30 Mass will begin in Church as usual.

Refreshments in the Newman Room after the 9am and 10.30am Masses provided by the Knights of St Columba.

There will be a **Retiring Collection** on Good Friday for the Holy places of Palestine.

Easter and (Christmas) collections are your gift to your priests. These contributions make up the annual allowance that does not come from parish offertories or Standing orders. Online banking details: Bank: **HSBC**; A/c no: **41096176**; Sort Code: **40-05-20**; A/c name: **WRCDT Palmers Green**; Reference: Priest Gift. Thank you for your generosity and support. *Fr Mehall*

SACRAMENTS

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.

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week leaflets available at the back of the church or [online](https://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk).

Chrism Mass Tuesday 12noon at Westminster Cathedral and can be viewed on <http://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk> Please pray for our priests on this day in particular.

Maundy Thursday 8pm. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.

Good Friday children's workshop, 9-11.15am—forms can be filled in when you drop your child(ren) on the day. Registration between 9-9.10am with Children's reflections on the stations from 10.30-11.15am in the church. Pick up children promptly.

Walks of Witness Good Friday. This will start from Winchmore Hill Green at 11.30am. Palmers Green Station at 11.40am. Meeting at St Monica's car park for a short service. Thank you to the Knights of St Columba and the Catenians for their help in making this happen.

Good Friday – A day of fast and abstinence.

The Christian practice of not eating meat on Fridays is longstanding and dates back to the first century. Catholics were required not to eat meat as a penance, and in remembrance of the crucifixion. Many other days in the year were similarly designated for penance. The obligation for no meat Fridays was reintroduced in England and Wales in 2011. A recent study at Cambridge suggests that this resulted in about 875,000 fewer meat meals per year, and a reduction of 55,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of about 82,500 individual return flights between London and New York.

Easter Vigil Saturday, starts at 8pm and we will celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord with the baptism/reception of Alejandro, Joshua, Alfie, Millie, Peter and Reuben followed by a gathering in the hall.

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

OTHER

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 Missionaries Appeal. We welcome Fr Patrick O'Beirne who will be visiting the parish the weekend of 6th/7th April. The principal purpose of the appeal is to raise awareness of their missionary vocation. To encourage people to become more involved in the missionary work of the church and support for the mission magazine, 'The Far East'. There will be a Mission collection after each Mass. Father O'Beirne would like to thank everyone for their support and generosity.

Mass Intentions for May can be booked from 10am on **Tuesday 2nd April**. Please only book one Mass during the first week of booking, extra Masses can be booked from 9th April, if available.

St Monica's Walking Group. Wednesday 17th April. Warren Street to Baker Street.

Our walk leads us to Fitzroy Sq designed by Robert Adam which is full of Blue plaques. St Andrew's Place, St Marylebone Church followed by a circular walk of Regent's Park to Baker St. **Meet:** Wood Green underground on platform 10.25am. **Return:** Baker St tube.

Planned Giving Envelopes will be ready to collect from the Porch this weekend. Perhaps consider using a standing order next year as this will help to reduce our Parish ongoing costs. Your financial support is greatly appreciated.

FINANCE

17th March Envelopes £317; Loose Plate £840; **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.

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

St. Anne's Catholic High School for Girls. Sharing Good News: We're thrilled to announce that attendance at **St. Anne's Catholic High School for Girls** has been recognised among the **Top 10%** of secondary schools in England! This is a testament to the dedication of our students, staff, and community. Thank you to everyone for your commitment to excellence!

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>

A Day With Mary—St Mary Magdalen, Athenaeum Road, Whetstone N20 Saturday 6th April 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 and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate is holding a Divine Mercy Reflection on Saturday 13 April 1-4:30 pm at St Mary's R C Church, 157 Aldershot Road, Guildford GU2. The Reflection will include the Holy Rosary, teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information.

Brookwater House Care Home invite us to pray with them in one of their reserved rooms. If you are interested please see Sister Joyce

Would you like to become an Altar Server? If you are interested, please speak to Fr David and collect a form.

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