

FROM THE DIARY

Sunday 14th Jan Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	6pm (Sat)	<i>Giovanni Inzalaco (Ann)</i>
	7.45am	<i>People of the Parish & Holy Souls</i>
	9am	<i>Frank Power (Ann)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Imelda Colletta (RIP)</i>
	12 noon	<i>Regina and Stanislaw Krzeczowski (Int)</i>
Monday 15th Jan Feria	9.30am	<i>Andrew O'Callaghan (Ann)</i>
	10.15am	The Chosen Series 3, Ep 2 (Newman Rm)
	7.30pm	RCIA Meeting (Newman Rm)
Tuesday 16th Jan Feria	9.30am	<i>Stephen Norman (Ann)</i>
	7.30-9pm	Confirmation Session 2 (Large Hall)
Wednesday 17th Jan Feria	9.30am	<i>Ismeria & Guilerheme Fernandes (Ann)</i>
Thursday 18th Jan Feria	9.30am	<i>Fr Robin Whitney (RIP)</i>
	3.10pm	Legion of Mary, (Newman Room)
Friday 19th Jan Feria	9.30am	<i>Delia Philbin (Ann)</i>
	12noon	Funeral of Rosaleen O'Shea (RIP)
Saturday 20th Jan Feria	8.30am	Prayers for Week of Christian Unity
	9.30am	<i>Chris Magdalinis (Ann)</i>
	10-11am	Catechism Programme (Newman Rm)
	10.15-12.30pm	Common Home Group (Small Hall)
	3-5pm	St Joseph's Saturday Club, (Newman Rm)
Sunday 21st Jan Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	6pm (Sat)	<i>Luigi & Iolanda Azzali (Int)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Damian Ryan & Frances King (RIP)</i>
	9am	<i>People of the Parish & Holy Souls</i>
	10.30am	<i>Agnes McNicholas (1st Ann)</i>
	12 noon	<i>Constance Fernandes (Ann)</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: 10.15-10.45am, 5.15pm- 5.45pm

St Monica's Church, Palmers Green

A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster

Readings	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	14th Jan
Parish Mass Bk Pg. 127	They saw where he lived, and stayed with him	2024

Although the liturgical season of Ordinary Time began last Tuesday, today's reading continues with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, which concludes the Christmas season. Today's reading follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God. Having been baptized by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

We are familiar with the title that John the Baptist uses for Jesus—the Lamb of God. We hear it weekly at the fraction rite during Mass. For those who heard John the Baptist, however, this title recalled key themes from the Old Testament. It alludes to the paschal lamb offered as a sacrifice when God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the event that is commemorated by the Jewish Passover celebration. The designation also recalls the prophet Isaiah's description of the suffering servant of Israel. In using this name for Jesus, John the Baptist predicts Jesus' passion and death and the new interpretation of Passover that will begin with Jesus' Last Supper.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. During their time with Jesus, the details of which are not specified, Andrew and the other follower came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him *Peter*, which means "rock" in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels.

In the exchange between Andrew, the other disciple, and Jesus, we see an example of the usual pattern for first-century Jewish rabbinical schools. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers.

Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, "What are you looking for?" This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask of ourselves. John the Baptist testified to Jesus' identity, the Lamb of God, using the framework of the Old Testament. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?

Loyola Press

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

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

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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: Catherine Williams, Christine Tarantela, Narciso Calderato, Rosaleen O'Shea, Fr Stuart Gullan-Steel and for **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** William Gordon, Thomas Hennessey, James Power, Rita McDonnell, Alan Shutt, Joyce Burrows, Enid D'Rosario, Patricia Devonport, Maria Szekir, Anita Spagnoli, Vincent McGoldrick, Michael McAlinden, Stanislaw Mecner, Fr Robin Whitney, Susan Clifford, Rina Zavagno, Michael Davies, Mark Bonn, Christodoulou Magdalini, Norma Balckburn, Richard Saitch. **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. John Fergus, Pat Swift, Stella Whittaker, Baby Joseph Osbourne, Eddie McCann, Arleen Riley, Norene Steel Hristov, Liz Panayi, Mary Jordan, Mary Elliot.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

1 Sam 3:3-10, 19, 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20,
John 1: 35-42

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 1 Cor 7:29-31,
Mark 1: 14-20

TODAY

We welcome back Fr Tom Convery who is helping us this week whilst Fr Mehall is on holiday.

Refreshments in the Newman Room after the 9am and 10.30am Masses. All welcome.

Retiring collection today is for the White Flower Appeal. The vision of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is for a world where abortion is unthinkable. This year's appeal calls for the Government to end the pills-by-post DIY abortion policy. As well as ending the lives of precious babies, this policy lacks safeguards against illegal late-term abortions, and puts mothers at physical and psychological risk. The Appeal is an important source of income for SPUC, plus an educational opportunity, and a spiritual support from the many Catholics who keep this work in their prayers. Thank you for your generosity.

Today is also World Peace Day. The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Their vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic

Christianity, they work with all who share their values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice. Envelopes at the back of the church if you would like to donate. Thank you for your generosity.

NEXT WEEKEND

The Marian Missionary Sisters of England and Wales will be visiting our parish to share with us their work all over the world. They are appealing for your financial support on behalf of the group. They will speak about the work of the Missionary Sisters and also to the vocation of being missionary that belongs to us all by virtue of our Baptism and the implications of that. Thank you for your generosity.

Looking After Our Common Home. Recycling for Good Causes. We are trialling an initiative to collect specified items after the Sunday masses of the 21st and 28th January. These items are (1) Jewellery: Unwanted gold/silver including damaged items, costume jewellery, watches (2) Coins and currency UK or foreign: Banknotes and Coins of any age/unchangeable currency (3) Mobile Phones, Cameras & Gadgets: Video cameras, old film cameras, digital cameras, sat navs, Game consoles, Games & Accessories, iPads, MP3 players, Tablet computers (4) Stamps: Loose/single stamps, First Day covers, Presentation Packs. Please place your items into the sack provided in the porch after Mass. After receipt of the

collected items, a donation will be received by the Parish (which will go to Parish charities: Food Bank, CAFOD, etc). We hope you will support this initiative. Please see handout/poster in the porch.

SACRAMENTS

Congratulations to Rory and Jude who were baptized yesterday.

Baptism Preparation. The next course will take place on Sunday 4th February in the Newman Room, 3-5pm. Please contact the office to book your place.

Marriage Preparation If you are planning to marry here or elsewhere, please speak to one of the priests and contact the parish office about courses.

THE WEEK AHEAD

The Chosen Series 3 - Every Monday after Mass in the Newman Room. Come & experience Jesus in a new & heartfelt way through this multi-series drama on His life and the people who encountered Him.

Westminster Cathedral Interfaith Group. Worried about the climate crisis? The group meet on Wednesday in the Hinsley room. Studying chapters 1 and 2 of *Laudate Deum* Pope Francis' exhortation to COP28. All are welcome. For more information contact woodhousesopten@btinternet.com

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Churches Together in Palmer Green). 18th – 25th January 2024 During which there will be the opportunity to pray together in each other's churches for about 30-40 minutes each morning. All are very welcome to join us, either in church or, in solidarity wherever you are.

Thursday 18th Jan at 8.30am, Winchmore Hill Baptist Church Compton Rd;
Friday 19th Jan at 9.30am, Winchmore Hill United Reformed Church Compton Road;

Saturday 20th Jan at 8.30am here at St Monica's Church;

Monday 22nd Jan at 9.30am, Palmers Green United Reformed Church Junction of Fox Lane & Burford Gardens;

Tuesday 23rd Jan at 8.30am, Grange Park Methodist Church, Old Park Ridings (junction with Park Avenue);

Wednesday 24th Jan at 9.30am, John's CoE Church Palmers Green, Bourne Hill (junction with Green Lanes);

Thursday 25th Jan at 8.30am, St Paul's CoE Church Winchmore Hill, Church Hill.

Please also see the poster in porch and on our website.

PARISH GROUPS

St Monica's Walking Group Saturday 20th January. Our walk takes us along tree-lined streets and canal paths, Paddington Gardens, BBC's earliest studios, Little Venice, the Warrington Hotel and Paddington Basin. **Meet:** Wood Green tube station on platform at 10.25 am for tube to Maida Vale. **Return:** Edgware Road Station.

200 Club Winners for December: 1st Prize **£133.00** Gloria Williams, 2nd Prize **£99.75** Margaret Croy, 3rd Prize **£66.50** Mark Casey, 4th Prize **£33.25** Cathy Drury.

Would you be interested in joining the 200 Club to raise funds for the Parish? The subscription per entry is only **£5/month**. Please contact the parish office.

FINANCE

7th Jan Envelopes **£229**; Loose Plate **£893** ;

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/>

St Michaels's Catholic Grammar School have two vacancies. Head of Religious Education (closing date Friday 26th January) and Physics Technician (closing date 15th January). Application forms are available on the school website. applications@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk. Please also see adverts in church porch.

OTHER

Right To Life UK. Praying for the unborn and women facing crisis pregnancies **Stop two extreme abortion amendments**. Pro-abortion MPs, Stella Creasy and Diana Johnson, have tabled two extreme abortion amendments in an attempt to hijack the Criminal Justice Bill. Right To Life UK has launched a tool on its website that makes it easy for you to email your MP to ask them to oppose the two extreme abortion up to birth amendments and sign Early Day Motion 131 to stop abortion pills being sent out without an in-person medical appointment. Please visit <https://righttolife.org.uk/abortionamendments> to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds.

Do you know somebody who is interested in knowing more about Christianity and the

Church? There could be somebody just waiting for you to invite them to be Baptised or Received into the church. Speak to Fr Mehall after Mass to find out more.

HOW TO BE A SYNODAL CHURCH - 10 February 2024. Please see poster in porch with details of a Synodal Day of Discernment, preparing for the October 2024 Synod Assembly in Rome. **Vinnie Packs** The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237 . Thank you so much for your support.

Would you be interested in joining the 200 Club to raise funds for the Parish? The subscription per entry is only £5/month. Please contact the parish office.

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.

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock & Co Mayo, 10th March 2024. £899.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights' in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

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.