

FROM THE DIARY

SUNDAY 26th July SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>*Young Adults (18-35 after 10.30am Mass (Small Hall))</i>	6pm Sat	<i>Mary & Tim O'Connor (Ann)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Cecilia & John Cawston (Ann)</i>
	9am	<i>Judy Linnane (RIP)</i>
	10.30am*	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	12noon	<i>Agnes & Aiden Fitzsimons (Ann)</i>
Monday 27th July Feria	9.30am	<i>Gennaro, Alfonso & Angelo Barile (Ann)</i>
Tuesday 28th July Feria	9.30am	<i>Joseph Tran (RIP)</i>
Wednesday 29th July Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus	9.30am	<i>Mary Austin (Int)</i>
Thursday 30th July Feria	9.30am	<i>Breda Moloney (Ann)</i>
	3.10pm	<i>Legion of Mary (Newman Room)</i>
Friday 31st July Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest	9.30am	<i>Delia Ballan (Int)</i>
Saturday 1st August Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	9.30am	<i>Peter Nguyen (Ann)</i>
	11.30am	<i>Baptism of Jasper & Lucian Cawthorn, Penelope Newman & Niamh Moran</i>
SUNDAY 2nd August EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6pm Sat	<i>Jim Casey (Ann)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Mary Batey (Int)</i>
	9am	<i>Agnes Quinn (RIP)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Iolanda Azzali (Ann)</i>
	12noon	<i>Bridget Grimes (RIP)</i>

MASS TIMES

Sunday (Sat 6pm), 7.45am, 9am, 10.30am, 12noon. Mon-Sat : 9.30am
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)
Exposition and Benediction: Saturdays after 9.30am Mass until 11am
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 <i>Parish Mass Bk Pg. 108</i>	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of Heaven	26th July, 2026
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Today's Gospel concludes three weeks of readings from the 13th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel. Throughout these three weeks we have heard Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven, and we have heard Jesus interpret some of his teachings for the disciples. In this week's Gospel, Jesus offers three more short parables.

The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second parable, Jesus proposes that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

The third parable that Jesus proposes in today's Gospel is different from the first two, but it is reminiscent of the parable of the sower heard in last week's Gospel. The kingdom of heaven is compared to fishing with a wide net. After the fish have been collected, the good fish are kept and the bad fish are thrown away; so too, in the final judgment, will the wicked and the righteous be separated.

Today's Gospel concludes with a curious statement about the scribe who understands the kingdom of heaven. Here a metaphor is offered: this scribe is like the head of a household who "brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." The scribes referred to here are experts of Mosaic law. It is possible that Jesus is here instructing the early Christian community on how to proceed in the interpretation of Jewish law with respect to Jesus' "new" teaching. Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of heaven does not replace the Jewish tradition; it interprets it in a different light.

Loyola Press

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

Parish Priest: Canon Mehall Lowry Assistant Priest: Father Sean Power

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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: Frank Abrami, Krystyna Szajewicz, Finnuala Quinlan—Bennett, Eileen Thomas, Christina Joseph and **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Hugh McGhie, Thomas Noone, Rita Ferdenzi, Louis Appiah, Aiden Fitzsimons, Tony Hawes, Dorothy Dickson, Jack Pryke, Gloria Papadopoulos, Edna Constantinos, Czeslaw Kulakowski, Mary Karacochi, Doreen Quigley, Clare Byron, Hannah Breslin, Patricia McGurly, Agostino Torre, Giacomo Castagnetti, Peter Crawley, Brendan Kelly and James Casey. **We also pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners especially:** Paul Whitfield, Philomena Cole, John Kennedy, Victor Neculai, Theresa O’Rielly, Sylvia, Richard Pople, Lydia Meniano, Doreen Matthew, Marie Herry, Ronnie Lynch, Ronald Walner, Jim Ball, Sandy Philbin and **those in our care homes:** Anastasia Lodge, The Beaumont, Brookwater House, The Conifers, The Hollies, Queen Ann Care Home, Amberley House and The Woodlands **and hospitals:** North Middlesex and Chase Farm.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

1 Kings 3: 5-6a, 7-12, Rom 8: 28-30,
Matt 13: 44-52

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Isa 55:1-3, Rom 8: 35, 37-39,
Matt 14: 13-21

TODAY

Today is the 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The theme chosen by Pope Leo “I will never forget you” (Is 49:15) – reminds us that God’s unwavering love is the ultimate answer to the isolation and neglect so often experienced by the elderly. It brings comfort and hope, assuring us that the Lord knows each of us personally, forgets no one, and loves us unconditionally, even through the frailties of old age.

Since its creation in 2021, this day for Grandparents and the Elderly has grown into a cherished tradition that teaches our communities to truly value the elderly, not through occasional gestures, but as a permanent, central part of our lives.

Let this Day be a tangible opportunity for everyone, especially young people to spend time with their grandparents, the elderly in their families, and most importantly, those who are completely isolated.

Young Adults (18-35) meeting up after the 10.30am Mass today (Small Hall). If you are aged 18-35 then please come and join us.

Refreshments in the Newman Room after 9am & 10.30am Masses provided by the Catenians. Thank you for your support.

Coffee Mornings After Mass During August/September would you like to serve tea, coffee and cake after 9am and 10.30am Masses to raise funds for charity. Contact the office for more information and dates.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism Preparation Course: Our next course is in September. Please speak to one of the priests if you are seeking baptism for your child.

THANK YOU

CAFOD Campaign - Debt Crisis. 192 parishioners signed the Petition last weekend. Thank you. Details of how to support the Petition via the QR Code or online will remain in the porch for another week.

Thank you to the Knights of St Columba who helped with refreshments last weekend. Proceeds were for the Kanyike Project which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year and Fr Kakuba will have been ordained as a priest for 50 years in August.

DIOCESAN WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

The 10th Diocesan Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Walsingham will take place on Saturday 19th September. Tickets are now available from Sister Joyce at £35.00 per passenger on the St Monica’s coach. Please feel welcome to come, pray and enjoy.

OPPOSING ASSISTED SUICIDE

The *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill* will have its Second Reading and vote on **Friday, 11th September**. Our clear principled objection to this Bill remains and we renew our call for Catholics and people of goodwill to **unite in prayer and compassionate action**. Archbishop Richard Moth, President of the Bishops’ Conference, explains our strong opposition to this legislation: this bill is wrong in principle. It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives. The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate.

“I urge you to **write to your Members of Parliament** to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading.” The charity *Right to Life UK* has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to enter your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message. If you have issues with this online form you can contact you MP via the Right to Life UK website.



<https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote> or scan the QR code.

OTHER

St Cecilia’s Abbey, Isle of Wight. The Sisters at St Cecilia’s Abbey supply our altar hosts monthly. On 6th August, Feast of the

Transfiguration, one of their Sisters, Sr Maria Michaela de Paula will be making her Solemn Profession, a very exciting day for them all. Please keep Sister Maria and all the Sisters at St Cecilia’s in your prayers.

Help Needed. An amazing 12 year old girl with Down Syndrome and her family are looking for a little help to collect her from school (APS in Bounds Green) and bring her home 2,3,4 or 5 days per week from September. It will be paid. If you think you can help, please contact Bernadette on 07939 652002. Thank you.

Mass Bookings for September, can be made from **10am on Monday 3rd August** either in person, at the parish office, or by email/telephone.

New Website. We have recently gone live with a new website. We would welcome your comments and if you have any difficulties please let us know.

SAVE THE DATE

St Monica's Karaoke evening. The Knights of St Columba are organising a Karaoke evening on Saturday 26th September 7-11 pm. £15 per head including ploughman's buffet. Bar available. Put this date in your diary and look out for booking information over the coming weeks, it is sure to be a fun evening. All welcome.

FINANCE

75% of weekly offerings are now by standing order. **January to March 2026 quarterly income/expenditure summary** is displayed in the porch. Thank you for your continued generosity. **To Donate Bank Transfer please**



use the following HSBC bank details: Sort Code: **40-05-20;** A/c no: **41096176;** A/c name: **WRCDT Palmers Green.** If you pay income tax, click on the [gift aid form](#)

to complete & return. Thank you.

FINANCE

DONACONTACTLESS 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.

MARRIAGE

Marriage and Family Ministry Coordinator. Please see the links below which provide a simple format for couples to feed their relationship, and to sign-post movements that support the journey. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/chair-marriage-care-on-the-ingredients-for-a-strong-relationship/> Marriage: the grace of the present moment <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/marriage-the-grace-of-the-present-moment/>.

Marriage Care. Volunteer Relationship Counsellors. Interested in training and volunteering as a Relationship Counsellor? Find out more by visiting: www.marriagecare.org.uk or emailing: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

MARRIAGE HELP - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983. Marriage Care provides a relationship counselling service for couples when life gets tough and it is hard to find a positive solution. www.marriagecare.org.uk/ TEL: 0800 389 3801 <https://rcdow.org.uk/marriage-and-family-life/news/sea-glass---beauty-from-brokenness-1/>

CHARITY

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.

RETREATS and PILGRIMAGES

Banneux ND GB Pilgrimage 12th August to the 18th August. Banneux ND GB Pilgrimages invite you to join our pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Banneux, Belgium, a major Catholic Marian pilgrimage site. It marks the spot where the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared eight times between 15th January and 2nd March, 1933, to an 11-year-old girl, Mariette Beco, calling herself the "Virgin of the Poor". During the visions, Mary indicated a stream, stating, "This spring is reserved for all nations to relieve the sick". The shrine was officially approved by the Roman Catholic Church in 1949 and was famously visited by Pope John Paul II in 1985. Please call Millie on WhatsApp 07957594646 for more information.

Parish Pilgrimage to Rome. Fr Sean is planning a Parish Pilgrimage to Rome 9th to 13th November. There are still some places available. Please email parish office on palmersgreen@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH GROUPS

Would you like to sing with the Children's Choir? For those in Year 4 or above. The Choir rehearse and sing once a month at Saturday evening Mass. There are registration forms at the back of the Church or please contact the parish office.

VACANCIES

Diocese Vacancies, for further details, please visit <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>.

SCHOOLS

Bishop Douglass Open Evening. Open Evening on Wednesday 16th September, from 5-7.30pm. Please visit their website for more information and to sign up.

OTHER

CELEBRATE Summer Faith Resources. We are delighted to share the CELEBRATE summer family faith resources, created to equip and encourage families in sharing faith with their children. <https://www.celebratetrust.org/onlinefamilyactivitypacks>

- families can choose from faith filled activities, support for family prayer, books for different ages and film suggestions.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSenBDzPdAtiq5oHPrNSXNvAe8bRH-Y6BDhNvVBvxijgmuh7yw/viewform> - designed to help families explore Psalm 139 whilst they walk in their local park or on holiday.

Come to the CELEBRATE festival - a faith-filled event for all the family. Runs from 15-19 August, at Worth School, West Sussex. Hear inspiring speakers such as Fr Roberto Pasolini (Preacher to the Pope), David Wells and Johannes Hartl, experience beautiful masses, pray in Worth Abbey, fun and formation for children and young people aged 3-24 each day of the festival, and relax in the beautiful Sussex countryside. Camp in our festival field or stay in school accommodation. Weekend tickets also available. For more information visit www.celebratefestival.org

Knights of St Columba. Are you interested in joining the Knights of St Columba? If you are male, over the age of 16 and a practising Catholic you are eligible to join. Please contact Kevin Donnelly on 0208 364 1721/07484 134848 or see our website: <https://www.ksc.org.uk>

MISSIO Red Box: If you are interested in having a Red Box at home then please collect one from the porch. Every little penny helps. Thank you.

Dads Hub. A brand new fathers' weekly group. A place for men to come and help with their mental, physical health and create a community. For more information contact: dadshub@northsideyouth.co.uk. See poster in porch.

Caritas Westminster is offering free online training for parishioners who want to volunteer and support people in their local community facing unemployment or financial hardship. More details here <https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/financial-resilience-training-for-volunteers/>. Make a real difference in someone's life.