

FROM THE DIARY

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>
Monday 3rd August Feria	9.30am	<i>Keith Barber (RIP)</i>
Tuesday 4th August Saint John Vianney, Priest	9.30am	<i>Monica McGrath (RIP)</i>
Wednesday 5th August Feria	9.30am	<i>Carmel Lacharmante & Jos Appadoo (RIP)</i>
Thursday 6th August THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD	9.30am	<i>Krystyna Szajewicz (RIP)</i>
	3.10pm	Legion of Mary (Newman Room)
Friday 7th August Feria	9.30am	<i>Nick & Emily Moore (Int)</i>
Saturday 8th August Saint Dominic, Priest	9.30am	<i>John Ranaldi (Ann)</i>
	11.30am	Baptism of David Gael Cockshaw
SUNDAY 9TH August NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6pm Sat	<i>Tom Kilcommons (Ann)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Juliet Salva (Int)</i>
	9am	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	10.30am	<i>Noel Rowan (Int)</i>
	12noon	<i>Judy Linnane (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	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	2nd
<i>Parish Mass Bk</i>	<i>"He took pity on them and healed their sick."</i>	August,
<i>Pg. 111</i>		2026

The theme for pilgrimages to Lourdes in 2026 is '**Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.**' (Lk 1:28) This is a year of welcome, of listening and of the 'yes' that changed everything—themes that we have been exploring in St Monica's in the spirit of renewal in our parish.

Below is Archbishop Richard Moth's message to pilgrims this year:

Dear Fellow Pilgrims,

Our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is one of the great events in our year. We travel in response to the call of Our Blessed Mother to St Bernadette, coming to the Shrine to wash in the waters of the spring and to pray. Lourdes is a place of renewal, a place where our relationship with Christ is deepened. The experience of Pilgrimage changes us as we spend time in quiet reflection; as we open ourselves to forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and in the healing of the Sacrament of the Sick. Such an encounter is a time of renewal, most especially in the celebration of the Eucharist, the summit of all prayer.

We bring with us in mind and heart those who cannot travel this year; those have been with us on previous pilgrimages and have now gone before us marked with the sign of faith; the needs of a world that is torn apart in so many ways. May this pilgrimage be a time of blessing for pilgrims, for our Diocese and—because the power of prayer knows no bounds—for the wider world.

Today's Gospel is the feeding of the 5,000 by Matthew—a miracle of the multiplication of 5 loaves + 2 fish. Yet this generous miracle is preceded by the news of the death of John the Baptist and Jesus withdrawing to grieve. His heart was filled with sorrow, but when he sees the people waiting for him, Jesus "... took pity on them and healed their sick." Jesus understands every aspect of our lives; He also shows us how a relationship with our Heavenly Father transforms our hearts and lives. In His grief, Jesus would have been more keenly aware of the wounds, brokenness, hurts and sorrows of the people, and we may be the same, yet he didn't transmit any pain or anger; rather his sorrow was transformed into Love in Action—Caritas.

In Lourdes, people come to seek Mary's intercession for healing and Jesus Christ continues to 'take pity on them and heal their sick'. May each of us be healed and renewed, so our hearts, wounds and sorrows are transformed through His grace; and make us beacons of hope for others through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Anna McMullan

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email: palmersgreen@rcdow.org.uk Website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/palmersgreen/>

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

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

Parish Sister: Sr Joyce Dionne joycedionne@rcdow.org.uk 07752 050653

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

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Jenny Farrell palmersgreensg@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: Frank Abrami and **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Patricia McGurry, Agostino Torre, Giacomo Castagnetti, Peter Crawley, Brendan Kelly, James Casey, Frank Stratta, Iolanda Azzali, Michael Flaherty, Agnes Gallagher, Monica Patient, Sandra Fernandes, Ernesto Cennamo, Evelyn Savva, Yvonne De Comarmond, Bruno Sesenna, Thomas Kilcommons and Misia Gavriel. **We also pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners especially:** Paul Whitfield, Philomena Cole, John Kennedy, Victor Neculai, 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

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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

1 Kings 19: 9a, 11-13a, Rom 9: 1-5, Matt 14:
22-33

TODAY

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

Congratulations to Jasper, Lucian, Penelope and Niamh who were baptised yesterday. We welcome them into God's family and our parish community.

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

St. Monica's Church Foodbank. Our parish foodbank has now been running for 6 and half years and now has almost 1700 people registered, including over 500 children. The foodbank needs Drivers to pick up food donations from local supermarkets.

Every Sunday, Tesco and Waitrose in Enfield Town donate generous amounts of food for distribution to members the next day. This food needs to be picked up and stored in the church hall.

Can you spare no more than a couple of hours a month to pick up this food? You will need to have a car (ideally an estate car or small van) and you will be working with an amazing team of volunteers and supporting your neighbours who need food. If you are interested, contact Gerry Bell, the Foodbank Manager on 07740640258 for more details. Many thanks for your support.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Catenians who helped with refreshments last weekend. £75.45 was raised for our Food Bank.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mass Bookings for September. Can be booked from 10am on Monday 3rd August either in person, at the parish office, or by email/telephone. If you are able, please come to the office as you will have a better chance of getting the date you require.

Churches Together Prayer Meeting. Tuesday, 4th August 10.30 am. Zoom meeting <https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/74680204904?pwd=TjJhQnBIYVVuUzNRYzZXQTJ6MHEzQT09> Meeting ID: 746 8020 4904 Passcode: 8zq1F7

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.



SAVE THE DATE

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.

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.

Adoremus 2026. This year, the *Adoremus* Eucharistic Festival comes to London. It will take place over two days - **10th and 11th October 2026**. More information will be announced nearer the time. In the meantime, please, make a commitment to pray for *Adoremus 26* each day, making a devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament:

O Jesus, truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament, I adore You, I love You, and I trust in You. Remain with me, strengthen my faith, and make my heart a dwelling place for You. Amen

VACANCIES

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

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.

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 for your support. Chair of Finance Committee



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.

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.

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.

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

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

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-Y6BDhNvVBvxjgmuh7yw/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.

N14 Tutoring Services. Retired headteacher and former class teacher with thirty years' experience. Having worked in primary schools across Enfield, Barnet, Haringey and Hertfordshire mainly across Key Stage 2. I have also successfully prepared children for KS 2 SATS and 11+ Entrance Exam and hold an enhanced DBS certificate. Please make an enquiry by contacting Charlie via email at: charlie@n14tutoring.co.uk or visit the website at www.n14tutoringservices.co.uk. Please also see poster in porch. *(authenticity and clarification rest with those who engage these services, not the responsibility of St Monica's parish)*

St Monica's 6th Palmers Green Guides and Brownies. Brownies are girls between the ages of 7 and 10 years old. **Meet:** St Monica's Scout/Guide HQ, Cannon Road N14 7HE. Wednesdays 6.30pm till 8pm term time only. There is a waiting list so it is important to register your daughter as early as possible. Please register at <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child>, select 6th Palmers Green Brownies. Once registered a leader will be in contact with you. For more information to join Scouts please email: 20thsouthgatescouts@gmail.com