

FROM THE DIARY

SUNDAY 16TH August THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	6pm Sat	<i>Mary Coughlan (Int)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Mary Landucci (Int)</i>
	9am	<i>Ritinha, Sidonio & Brian Henriques (RIP)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Michael Tzouvanni (Ann)</i>
	12noon	<i>Luigi Azzali (Ann)</i>
Monday 17th August Feria	9.30am	<i>Rosaleen Victor (Ann)</i>
Tuesday 18th August Feria	9.30am	<i>Kay McCormack (Int)</i>
Wednesday 19th August Feria	9.30am	<i>Giuseppe Pancinella (RIP)</i>
Thursday 20th August Saint Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church	9.30am	<i>Bill Bradish (RIP)</i>
	11.30am	Funeral of Francesco Abrami RIP
	3.10pm	Legion of Mary (Newman Room)
Friday 21st August Saint Pius X, Pope	9.30am	<i>Nigel Freeman (RIP)</i>
Saturday 22nd August The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.30am	<i>Theresa Cullavan (RIP)</i>
SUNDAY 23RD August TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6pm Sat	<i>Christopher Durkan (Ann)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Clare Byron (Ann)</i>
	9am	<i>Michael Lovett (Ann)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Kay McCormack (Int)</i>
	12noon	<i>Sean MacSharry (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	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN, MARY	16th
<i>Parish Mass Bk Pg. 178</i>	Mary greets Elizabeth and sings God's praise	August, 2026

Today we celebrate Mary's Assumption into heaven. This is a Holy Day of Obligation, and as it falls on Saturday this year, we transfer it to Sunday.

The assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven has long been held as an important Catholic belief. It was the title that convinced the priest St Bernadette went to that Our Lady was appearing to her. The belief was not defined as dogma, however, until 1950 by Pope Pius XII. The dogma teaches that Mary, who was without sin, was taken, body and soul, into the glory of heaven.

The Gospel for this Holy Day recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the Angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. Mary responds to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favour upon the people of Israel. Mary's Magnificat, in particular, echoes the song of praise offered by Hannah, the mother of Samuel.

The Gospel for this day reminds us that Mary's Assumption into heaven is best understood with regard for the full spectrum of Catholic beliefs about the person of Christ and the person of Mary. Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the Immaculate Conception—could give birth to Christ, who is fully God and fully human. This is called the Immaculate Conception. Because of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, she does not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary is the first to receive the fullness of the redemption that her son has won for all of humanity. The Church, therefore, recognizes Mary as the sign of the salvation promised to all.

Today's Gospel highlights Mary's faith. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all. Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan of salvation. **Loyola Press**

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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: Helen Elmes, Frank Abrami and **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Mark Winters, Michael Tzouvanni, Franco Ferraro, Anthony Mould, Sally Hanley, Rene Cattini, Sheila Boyden, Ioles Fossaluzza, Madeleine Mussi, and Giacomo Castagnetti. **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

Rev 11: 19a, 12: 1-6a, 10ab, 1 Cor 15: 20-27,
Luke 1: 39-56

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Isi 22:15, 19-23, Rom 11: 33-36,
Matt 16: 13-20

TODAY

Refreshments in the Newman Room after 9am & 10.30am Masses provided by the Catenians, proceeds going to our food bank. Thank you for your support.

Coffee Mornings After Mass. Fundraising opportunity. Would you like to serve tea, coffee and cake after 9am and 10.30am Masses to raise funds for charity. **We have a number of Sundays available during September.** Please contact the office for more information. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE

The office is closed from Monday 17th August, reopening on Tuesday 1st September. The email inbox will be checked occasionally, but for any urgent matters please contact one of the priests direct.

Mass Bookings for October, can be made from **10am on Tuesday 1st September** either in person, at the parish office, or by email/telephone.

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.

PILGRIMS TO WALSINGHAM

Saturday 19th September. Please pay and collect your ticket to Walsingham. Please put your cash in an envelope (£35) and give it to Sister Joyce or put it through the presbytery door. All tickets have now been sold, if you would like to go on the waiting list please see Sister Joyce.

RESULTS

We pray for students receiving their A-Level and GCSE results. We ask God for peace, perspective, and gratitude. It reminds young people that their true worth is rooted in God's unconditional love rather than academic grades, while seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance for their next steps.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Churches Together Prayer Meeting. Tuesday, 18th August at 10.30 am. Zoom meeting [https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/74680204904?](https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/74680204904?pwd=TjJhQnBIYVVuUzNRY3ZXQTJ6MHEzQT09)

[pwd=TjJhQnBIYVVuUzNRY3ZXQTJ6MHEzQT09](https://uso4web.zoom.us/j/74680204904?pwd=TjJhQnBIYVVuUzNRY3ZXQTJ6MHEzQT09) Meeting ID: 746 8020 4904 Passcode: 8zq1F7

PARISH GROUPS

St Monica's Walking Group. Friday 28th August. Holland Park Walk. We will be walking through Holland Park Gardens, visiting the beautiful Dutch walled garden, The Orangery and Rose Garden, and the Japanese Kyoto Garden, admiring the many sculptures and statues throughout the park. We will stop for a coffee break at the café and a picnic lunch within the grounds.

The walk is approximately 3 miles. **Meet:** Wood Green tube station on the platform at 10:30am.

SAVE THE DATE

A Day for Ministers of the Word. Saturday 12th September at the Niland Centre, Bushey from 10am to 1pm. Please let Sister Joyce know if you are attending.

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. Look out for booking information over the coming weeks. All welcome.

Adoremus 2026. This year, the *Adoremus* Eucharistic Festival comes to London. It will take place on **Saturday 10th 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

OTHER

The Pope's Monthly Intentions for August- For evangelization in the city. Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Inclusive Mass Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St George, Enfield on Saturday 12th September at 3.00pm. For those with learning disabilities, their families, friends, and carers, followed by light refreshments. All are welcome.

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. If you have issues with this online form you can contact your MP via the Right to Life UK website.

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



FINANCE

Our quarterly financial summary for **April to June 2026 Income and Expenditure Summary** is displayed in the porch. 75% of weekly offerings are now by standing order. 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.

MARRIAGE

When Love needs First Aid. When we experience marital stress, we need help to move from isolation toward renewed communication, consolation, and hope. Please click on the diocese link for more information. <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/when-love-needs-first-aid/>.

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

PARISH GROUPS

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

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.

VACANCIES

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

OTHER

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.

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.

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. For more information email: 20thsouthgatescouts@gmail.com