

FROM THE DIARY

Sunday 23rd Aug Twenty First Sunday, OT	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>
Mon 24th Aug St Bartholomew, Apostle	9.30am	<i>The Reimers Family (Int)</i>
Tues 25th Aug, Feria	9.30am	<i>Kay McCormack (Int)</i>
Wed 26th Aug, Feria	9.30am	<i>Giuseppe Pancinella (RIP)</i>
Thurs 27th Aug, St Monica	9.30am	<i>Bill Bradish (RIP)</i>
Fri 28th Aug St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	9.30am	<i>Nigel Freeman (RIP)</i>
Sat 29th Aug The Passion of St John the Baptist	9.30am	<i>Theresa Cullavan (RIP)</i>
Sunday 30th Aug Twenty Second Sunday, OT	6pm (Sat)	<i>Liam & Mary Shine (Int)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Anna Niedzielkowska (Int)</i>
	9am	<i>Ann Smith (RIP)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Margaret (Rita) McQuaid (RIP)</i>
	12noon	<i>Lorina Reimers (Int)</i>
Mon 31st Aug, Feria BANK HOLIDAY—No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Church; closes after Rosary	9.30am	<i>Rohan Selvaratnam (RIP)</i>
Tues 1st Sept, Feria	9.30am	<i>Rollo Burke (Ann)</i>
	12 noon	Marriage of Sara Fonseca & Anastasis Avraam
Wed 2nd Sept, Feria	9.30am	<i>James & Peggy Haughey (Ann)</i>
Thu 3rd Sept, Feria Saint Gregory The Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church	9.30am	<i>Breda Malonney (RIP)</i>
Fri 4th Sept, Feria	9.30am	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Sat 5th Sept, Feria	9.30am	<i>Nancy Rattigan (Ann)</i>
	11.30am	Baptism of Caelan, Arlan, Thomas & Freddie
Sunday 6th Sept Twenty Third Sunday, OT	6pm (Sat)	<i>Luis & Conty De Lima (Ann)</i>
	7.45am	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	9am	<i>Brian Henriques (RIP)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Vera Murtagh (RIP)</i>
	12noon	<i>Kieran Fitzsimons (RIP)</i>
	1.30pm	Baptism of lyla

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)

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	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	23rd & 30th
<i>Parish Mass Bk</i>	TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	August 2026
<i>Pgs. 120 & 122</i>	"YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD."	

23rd Aug: It is important to read today's & next week's Gospel as two parts of a single story. These readings are a turning point in Matthew's Gospel. This week we hear Jesus name Simon Peter as the rock upon which he will build his Church. Next week we will hear Jesus call this same Simon Peter "Satan" when he reacts negatively to Jesus' prediction about his passion and death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples what people are saying about his identity. The disciples indicate that most people believe that Jesus is a prophet of Israel. Then Jesus asks his disciples who they believe that he is. Simon Peter answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God.

Jesus commends Simon Peter for this profession of faith, indicating that this insight has come from God. Because of Simon Peter's response, Jesus calls him the "rock" upon which Jesus will build the Church. This is a word play on the name Peter, which is the Greek word for "rock." Peter is then given special authority by Jesus, a symbolic key to the Kingdom of Heaven. Peter will play an important role in the early Christian community as a spokesperson and a leader.

30th Aug: Now the disciples have acknowledged that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he must suffer and die in Jerusalem, to be raised on the third day. Peter rejects this prediction and Jesus rebukes him severely, calling him "Satan." In opposing this aspect of Jesus' mission, Peter shows that he is no longer speaking based on the revelation from God but as a human being. Jesus then teaches all of the disciples about the difficult path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in his way of the cross.

Peter was expecting a Messiah that would carry out a different plan than the one Jesus had explained. Jesus was indeed the Messiah, but his life and death would show a different understanding of what it means to be the Messiah. We too have expectations of God and our own ideas about what we think God ought to be doing in our world. Like Peter we may risk limiting our image of God by thinking only in human ways. God's plan is always more than we can ever imagine.

Loyola Press

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

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

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 palmergreensg@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, Victor Neculai, Brigid Umerah and **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Ioles Fossaluzza, Madeleine Mussi, Giacomo Castagnetti, Patrick Corcoran, Carla Bravi, Anne Jordan, Ann O'Mahoney, Mary Salmon, Lima Sanmuganathan, Annie Nemeth, Anna Scrabbi, Monica Clarke, Thomas Conroy, Fenella Skuse and Shirley Clarke. **We also pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners especially:** Joe De Souza, Paul Whitfield, Philomena Cole, John Kennedy, 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 Sun 23rd Aug

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

Readings for Sun 30th Aug

Jer 20: 7-9, Rom 12:1-2, Matt 16: 21-27

Readings for Sun 6th Sept

Ez 33: 7-9, Rom 13:8-10, Matt 18: 15-20

REFRESHMENTS

23rd Aug in the Newman Room after 9am & 10.30am Masses provided by the Knights of St Columba.

30th Aug refreshments will be provided by the De Freitas Family for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Thank you for your support for both.

Sunday Coffee Mornings Fundraising opportunity. Would you like to serve tea, coffee and cake after 9am and 10.30am Masses to raise funds for charity? Please contact the office for more information about available dates in September.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism Preparation Course: takes place on 6th Sept. Please speak to one of the priests if you are seeking baptism for your child.

Are you, or someone you know, over 18 and interested in being baptised, confirmed or received into full communion with the Catholic Church? In September, the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group starts meeting again. There could be somebody just waiting for you to invite them! For more details, speak to Fr Sean or email palmersgreen@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH OFFICE

The office is closed and will **reopen Tues 1st Sept.** Emails 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 Tues 1st Sept** either in person at the parish office, or by email/telephone.

WELCOME

Fr Paul Bigirwa Atwooki returns for the month of September, while Fr Mehall walks the Portuguese Camino de Santiago.

Welcome back to families, teachers and those who were away over the school holidays; we hope you are rested and ready for the new academic year.

CONGRATULATIONS

✙To Sara and Anastasis who will be celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage on Tues 1st Sept.

✙To Caelan, Arlan, Thomas and Freddie who will be baptised here on Sat 5th Sept, and lyla on Sun 6th Sept. We welcome them into God's family and our parish community.

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Sat 19th Sept. Please pay and collect your ticket to Walsingham from Sister Joyce or put it through the presbytery door (£35 cash). If you would like to join the waiting list, see Sister Joyce or contact the parish office.

PARISH GROUPS

St Monica's Walking Group next meet on **Friday 28th August.** We will be walking c.3

miles through **Holland Park Gardens**, visiting the beautiful Dutch walled garden, The Orangery & Rose Garden, and Japanese Kyoto Garden, while admiring the many sculptures & statues throughout the park. We will stop for a coffee break at the café + picnic lunch within the grounds. **Meet:** Wood Green tube station on the platform at 10:30am.

SAVE THE DATE

A Day for Ministers of the Word at Niland Centre, Bushey, **Sat 12th Sept,** 10am-1pm. Please let Sister Joyce know if you are attending.

St Monica's Karaoke evening by the Knights of St Columba on **Sat 26th Sept** from 7-11 pm. £15 per head including ploughman's buffet and bar available. Look out for booking information over the coming weeks. All welcome.

Adoremus 2026. The *Adoremus* Eucharistic Festival takes place on **Sat 10th Oct.** There will be a representative gathering of the Church with bishops, priests, and people, and livestream for remote participation. Please pray for *Adoremus* 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

Inclusive Mass. For those with learning disabilities, their families, friends, and carers at Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St George, Enfield on **Sat 12th Sept** at 3pm followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

Season of Creation & 800th Anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi: The Season of Creation commences on 1st Sept & you will find a copy of Easy Actions for the Season prepared by the Common Home Group. Do pick up a copy from the table at the back of the church to mark the Season and this special anniversary.

OPPOSING ASSISTED SUICIDE

The *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill* has its Second Reading and vote on **Fri 11th Sept.** Archbishop Richard Moth asks, "I urge you to **write to your Members of**



Parliament to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading." Scan the QR Code or <https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>

SECONDARY TRANSFER OPEN EVENINGS

St Ignatius College: Tues 15th Sept with tour from 5:30pm & Headteacher talk at 7.15pm.

Bishop Douglass Wed 16th Sept, 5-7.30pm.

St Anne's Catholic High School for Girls. (Enfield Campus) Mon 28th Sept 6-8pm. **Open Mornings** 30 Sept + 1st Oct: 9.15am – 10.30am & 11.30am – 12.45pm.

Finchley Catholic High School Tues 29th Sept, 5-7.30pm with Headteacher talks at 5.15pm & 7.15pm.

St Thomas More: Tues 29th Sept 4.30-7pm. **Open Mornings** Sept 29 + Oct 7, 15, 20 Sept at 9.30am—see school website to book.

Loreto College Tues 29th Sept, 4-7pm. **Day Tours:** 5-17 Oct by appt. See school website.

FINANCE

Our quarterly financial **Income & Expenditure Summary for April-June 2026** is displayed in the porch. 75% of weekly offerings are now by standing order. Thank you for your continued generosity. **Donate** via QR Code or Bank Transfer using **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

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.

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/1FAIpQLSenBDzPdAtiq50HPPrNSXNvAe8bRH-Y6BDhNvVBvxjjgmuh7yw/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