

FROM THE DIARY

SUNDAY 20th September 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6pm Sat	<i>Frank Mullahy (Ann)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Denis Tangney (RIP)</i>
	9am	<i>Lydia Sequeira (Int)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Daniel Mahoney & Bernie Boston (Ann)</i>
	12noon	<i>Anthony Gallagher (Ann)</i>
Monday 21st Sept SAINT MATTHEW	9.30am	<i>Mary & Willie Gillespie (Ann)</i>
	7.30-9pm	RCIA Group (Newman Room)
	8pm	KSC Meeting (Small Hall)
Tuesday 22nd Sept Feria	9.30am	<i>Joe De Souza (RIP)</i>
Wednesday 23rd Sept Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest	9.30am	<i>Mickey Byrne (RIP)</i>
	12noon	Funeral of Annette McLaughlin RIP
Thursday 24th Sept Our Lady of Walsingham	9.30am	<i>People of the parish</i>
	12noon	Wedding of Thushani Bernard & Matheesh Suntaresh
Friday 25th Sept Feria	9.30am	<i>Anna Pyke (RIP)</i>
Saturday 26th Sept Feria	9.30am	<i>Ellen Elmes (RIP)</i>
	7-11pm	KSC Karaoke Evening (Large Hall)
SUNDAY 27th September 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>*Young Adults (18-35) "Live Life to the Full" after 10.30am Mass (Small Hall)</i>	6pm Sat	<i>Nadeesha Jayawardena (Ann)</i>
	7.45am	<i>Caterina & Raoul Tossut (RIP & Ann)</i>
	9am	<i>Valerie d'Souza (RIP)</i>
	10.30am *	<i>Joe De Souza (RIP)</i>
	12noon	<i>Maura Herron (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	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	20th Sept,
<i>Parish Mass Bk Pg. 131</i>	In the parable of the workers in the vineyard, Jesus teaches about God's generous mercy	2026

This year, Pope Leo has given the Church the beautiful gift of an encyclical entitled *Magnifica humanitas*. It has been called Pope Leo's manifesto for the defence of human dignity in the AI age, but it so much more than that. It is fundamentally about the reality of the deep yearning all humanity has to see the face of God, whether we realise this or not. It is "hardwired" within us. It is an essential part of our humanity.

The encyclical paints a picture of the grandeur of God writ large in the world, seen and experienced fully within His creation (namely us humans) and above all when we encounter the face of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. Pope Leo makes clear that we face a pivotal choice: Will we build Babel or will we construct a city of God? The world in which we live is rapidly changing, and Pope Leo is calling us to ask one key question about what is unfolding: What are we building? Leo poses a few key questions worth considering: "Where are we going? Toward what goal do we wish to orient ourselves? What direction should we choose as people and as a human community?" (MH, 6). And to guide us through these questions, he offers two scenarios/characters: the building of the Tower of Babel and the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem.

"With the heart of a shepherd and a father, I ask everyone to abandon the construction of yet another Tower of Babel and to join forces in building up the common good, so that humanity will never lose its beauty, and the world once again will come to recognize the human heart as the place where God desires to dwell." (MH, 16).

The Holy Father quotes St. Augustine's famous line from The Confessions of St. Augustine: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." Pope Leo is reminding us that human flourishing cannot be reduced to technological fulfilment; the human heart is ordered toward God (MH 11).

As the shepherd and Father we need, Pope Leo is constantly pointing us back to Jesus. This beautiful encyclical, then, is reminding us of what the task and purpose of Home Mission Sunday is about – pointing us always to the beauty and joy of knowing Jesus Christ. This is the work, the mission, of the whole Church, it is the Great Commission, and comes into every area of life within the Church.

Abbot Hugh Allan O.Praem

1, Stonard Road, London N13 4DJ ☎ (020) 8886 9568

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: Stephen Giffin, Antonia Panico, Veronica Canavan, Annette McLaughlin, Fr Lamont Phillips, Joe De Souza and **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Eugene Lambe, Daniel Mahoney, Bernie Boston, John Kelly, William Grey, Sabatino La Marco, Fernand Trainor, Graham Oatham, Nancy Rattigan, Ida Resmini, John O'Malley, Baby Lewis Wordsworth, Jerry Houlihan, Nora McGarvey, Rita Ruocco, Alison Grady, Bernadette Campbell, Giuseppe Alfano, Giovanni Cattini, Patsy Dodson, Luigia Pirroni, Norah Rynne, Kathleen Breslin, Paul Hopwood, Matthew Stromeier and Czeslawa Laszczak, **We also pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners especially:** Baby Liam O'Dwyer, Sereno Beschizza, Philomena Cole, John Kennedy, Sylvia, Richard Pople, Lydia Meniano, Doreen Matthew, Marie Herry, 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 55:6-9, Phil 1: 20c-24, 27a,
Matt 20: 1-16

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Eze 18: 25-28, Phil 2: 1-11, Matt 21: 28-32
TODAY

Thank you to the Children's Choir who sang at the Saturday evening Mass this week.

The retiring collection today is for **Home Mission Sunday** to support the work of the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate to promote the proclamation of the gospel across England & Wales. Please hold this important work in your prayers.

Faith Sharing Enrolment This Weekend. **Theme: 'We Dare to Love'.** Have you ever considered joining a Faith Sharing group? The aim of Faith Sharing is to help individuals to have a deeper spiritual experience so that they become closer to Jesus. At St Monica's we have an active, growing Faith sharing membership. Small groups of parishioners meet twice yearly during Advent and Lent for a 5-week Faith Sharing Season. Weekly sessions last 90 minutes. Groups meet at different times, on different days and on line. Members gather in small groups and with the support of a diocese resource they reflect on Holy Scripture, pray together, mutually support one another and share their personal

experiences of how God is active in their lives. Members will be outside Church at the end of every Mass to answer questions and to enrol new members. Faith Sharing members will also be covering **refreshments in the Newman Room today**, why not pop in for a coffee and have a chat? The next 5 -week Faith Sharing season begins on Sunday 25th October. **Faith Sharing Launch Mass** Saturday 24th October 6pm followed by refreshments in Newman room. All welcome.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism Preparation Course: Our next course takes place in October. 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? On Monday 21st Sept, 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 the parish office palmergreen@rcdow.org.uk

THANK YOU

To the Friends of St Monica's School for covering refreshments last weekend for Education Sunday, £65.73 was raised for the school.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Church Cleaning. Tuesday 22nd Sept after Rosary. Thank you to all who help each week. Extra help is needed, please come along if you are able to help. Thank you.

St Monica's Walking Group. Trip to Greenwich Friday 25th Sept. Meet: 10:30 on platform at Wood Green.

NEXT WEEKEND

St Monica's KSC Karaoke evening. Sat 26th Sept 7-11 pm in the large hall. £15 per head includes ploughman's buffet, bar available. To book call 07484134848 or email ksckaraoke@outlook.com. All welcome.

The Common Home Group will be hosting refreshments on Sunday 27th Sept after the 9am & 10.30 Masses for CAFOD. Everyone welcome.

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

SAVE THE DATE

In Sues Name Irish Charity Night. Friday 2nd October Penridge Suite Arnos Grove to raise funds for Brain Tumour Research in memory of 3 young parishioners from Irish families who all died from this terrible disease; Sue Blasotta, Jackie McGovern and Anthony Bourke. To book tickets the link is bookwhen.com/insuesname-irish-night or contact David Taylor 07940 877486.

Adoremus 2026. The National Eucharistic congress on 10th Oct is being livestreamed and we are opening the Newman Room to follow some of the day (until lunch). Mass at 12 noon in St George's Cathedral followed by a keynote address by Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP on The Eucharist: Our sacrament of hope in dark times. There is a break for lunch so we too will have lunch together to connect and talk about the morning. The online coverage covers the whole day including procession from Southwark to Westminster Cathedral and

Adoration that follows from 5pm throughout the night.

OTHER

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Friday 2nd October. Please have a simple meal that day in solidarity with those across the world suffering from hunger and thirst. Donation envelopes will be put out next Sunday 27th Sept and there will be a short appeal on behalf of CAFOD at all Masses.

Welcome Gathering for New Parishioners. Sunday 18th October at 3pm. If you have joined the parish within the last six months please email the parish office and complete one our yellow Census cards.

St Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition. This was created prior to his death in 2006 at the age of 15. In the exhibition you will have the opportunity to learn about the Eucharistic Miracles, as well as hear fascinating talks about the short life and amazing legacy of this wealthy young boy who, like St. Francis, shunned everything for love of God. The exhibition will at Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St George Church Hall Sat 3rd Oct to Weds 7th Oct. Please see poster in porch.

Beaver Scout Group. Children aged from 6-8 years are invited to join, they meet from 5:30pm-6:30pm on Thursdays. Further details contact Christine on 07865 601 422.

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

Pope's monthly prayer intention for September: Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

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 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

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 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 palmergreen@rcdow.org.uk

VACANCIES

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

SCHOOLS

Secondary School Certificates of Catholic Practice. Form signing will be in October when Fr Mehall returns. More information to follow.

St Michael's Catholic Grammar School have a vacancy for a Part-time Teacher of Art (Maternity Cover). An application form is available on the school website applications@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk. Closing date: Monday 5th October midday.

St Columba's College Prep and Senior School Open Day. Saturday 26th Sept 9.00am to 1.00pm. We also have a Stay and Play activity session in our Forest School on that day between 9.30am and 12.30pm for children up to seven years of age. This is a wonderful opportunity to have a full tour of the school by current students and to hear from the Leadership Team. Please register using the following link: [School Visit Registration Form](#). If you have any questions, please contact Mary Masters at masters.m@stcolumbascollege.org.

OTHER

Would you like to sing with the Children's Choir? For those in Year 4 or above. Registration forms at the back of the Church.

March for Life 2026. Where Love Walks, Life Grows. Please see a reflection from the Diocese for this day on the link below. <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/march-for-life-2026-where-love-walks-life-grows/>

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.

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)*