

FROM THE DIARY

SUNDAY 27th September	6pm Sat	<i>Nadeesha Jayawardena (Ann)</i>
26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	7.45am	<i>Caterina & Raoul Tossut (RIP & Ann)</i>
<i>*Young Adults (18-35) "Live Life to the Full" after 10.30am Mass (Small Hall)</i>	9am	<i>Valerie d'Souza (RIP)</i>
	10.30am *	<i>Joe De Souza (RIP)</i>
	12noon	<i>Maura Herron (RIP)</i>
Monday 28th Sept	9.30am	<i>Matthew Stromeyer (Ann)</i>
Feria	7.30-9pm	RCIA Group (Newman Room)
Tuesday 29th Sept	9.30am	<i>Breget Michael (RIP)</i>
Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael		
Wednesday 30th Sept	9.30am	<i>Gerry Selvaratnam (RIP)</i>
Saint Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church	10.45am	Funeral of Antonia Panico (RIP)
Thursday 1st Oct	9.30am	<i>Diogo Carvalho (Ann)</i>
Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church		
Friday 2nd Oct	9.30am	<i>Eamon & Margarita Herlihy (Int)</i>
Holy Guardian Angels		
CAFOD FAST DAY		
Saturday 3rd Oct	9.30am	<i>Ronnie Lynch (RIP)</i>
Feria	11.30am	Baptism of Daniel & Finlay
SUNDAY 4th October	6pm Sat	<i>Carmel, Shane, Warren, Celine & Grandchildren (Int)</i>
27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	7.45am	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	9am	<i>Les Cook & Paddy Stafford (Ann)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Bridget Teresa Spano (RIP)</i>
	12noon	<i>Mel Kenny & Tessie Enright (Ann)</i>
	3-5pm	Baptism Preparation Course (Newman Room)

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	27th Sept,
<i>Parish Mass Bk Pg. 134</i>	Jesus poses a question to the chief priests and elders on the meaning of obedience	2026

The context for today's Gospel is the mounting tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders. Jesus has entered Jerusalem and overturned the money changers' tables in the Temple. Jesus has caught the attention of the religious authorities; the chief priests and elders question Jesus about the source of his authority. Jesus refuses to name for these religious leaders the source of his authority. Instead, he questions the priests and elders through the parable we hear in today's Gospel. The answer given by the religious leaders is correct, but it convicts them for their failure to heed the call of John the Baptist and for their inability to recognize the Kingdom of God.

The situation Jesus poses is rather straightforward. Given the same task by their father, one son asserts his disobedience in words, but then obeys in his actions; the second son obeys with his words, but disobeys in his actions. The question that Jesus poses is pointed and direct: Which son did what the father wanted? All would agree that "actions speak louder than words" and that even if his words were disobedient, the son who did the work as ordered did the father's will.

Jesus' conclusion is also direct. The chief priests and elders, the ones who speak most often about God, did not act accordingly. They did not respond to the message of repentance announced by John the Baptist with a change of heart. Instead, John's message was heeded by those one would not expect to repent—tax collectors, prostitutes, and other sinners. Because of their actions, these sinners will enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders.

Jesus could ask us the same question. Do our words indicate our obedience to God? If not our words, do our actions? God desires a full conversion of heart, that our actions (and our words as well) will give evidence of our love for God.

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: Stephen Giffin, Antonia Panico, Veronica Canavan, Joe De Souza and **those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Nancy Walshe, Giovanni Cattini, Patsy Dodson, Luigia Pirroni, Norah Rynne, Kathleen Breslin, Paul Hopwood, Matthew Stromeier, Czeslawa Danuta Laszczak, Martin Lynch, Eamon Carr, Julie O'Neill, Sarah McDonagh, Rita Leahy, Tom Hanrahan, John Abbott, Bridget Lennon, Helen Tzouvanni, Rita Bellini, Dino Belloli, Polou Moushi and John Clifford. **We also pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners especially:** Bob Stocking, 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

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

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Isa 5: 1-7, Phil 4: 6-9, Matt 21: 33-43

TODAY

First Holy Communion. The children will receive their Crucifix and Bible at Mass today.

Refreshments. The Common Home Group are hosting refreshments today after the 9am & 10.30 Masses for **CAFOD**. Everyone welcome.

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

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? The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group continues meeting this Monday 28th September in the Newman Room. 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

FAITH SHARING

Faith Sharing Theme: 'We Dare to Love'.

Thank you to all those who signed up to join a Faith Sharing Group last weekend. There is still time for interested parishioners to join a group for the coming season. Enrolment forms are available in the porch. Please return them to the parish office. **Faith Sharing Launch Mass** Saturday 24th October 6pm followed by refreshments in Newman room. All welcome.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your generosity with the recent retiring collections: **Education Sunday** raised £762.99 and **Home Mission Sunday** raised £599.44.

Refreshments: In August £171.40 was raised for the **Teenage Cancer Trust**. Your generous donation means nurses and support staff can be there to give every young person with cancer the best care

Faith Sharing refreshments last weekend raised £100.47p.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Church Cleaning. Thursday 1st Oct after Rosary. Thank you to all who help each week. If you are able, could you please give one hour of your time to come along and help clean our Church. Thank you.

Mass Intentions for November can be

booked from 10am on **Thursday 1st October** either in person, at the parish office, or by email/telephone.

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.

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.

NEXT WEEKEND

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. **Exhibition at Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St George Church Hall on Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th October.**

Mass of Creation - Sunday 4th October at 10.30 am. You are invited to this Mass on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, celebrated for his compassion and love for all Creation. Refreshments after Mass in the Newman Room. All welcome.

The **second collection** will be for **CAFOD Harvest Fast Day**. Envelopes can be found in your newsletter today. Please fill in your details so CAFOD can benefit from an extra 25% Gift Aid. You can return your envelope next weekend. You can also donate online or via the QR code on the poster in the porch.

OTHER

Adoremus 2026, 10th October. The National Eucharistic congress being livestreamed and

we are opening the Newman Room to parishioners 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. Would you like to join the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament? It begins at 3pm from Southwark Cathedral, along the South Bank of the Thames, to Westminster Cathedral finishing at 5pm with Solemn Benediction, followed by Mass at 6pm.

Register for Holy Hours or all night vigil at <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/adoremus/>

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.

SCHOOLS

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

PARISH GROUPS

The **Children's Choir** next sings at the 6pm Mass on Saturday 17th October. If your child is interested in joining, please collect a form from the porch or contact the parish office.

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.

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 the parish office.

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.