

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
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15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 16th July 2023

Fr John Warnaby Parish Priest Tel: 0208 428 0088
Linda Grimes Parish Administrator Tel: 0208 428 0088
Office hours: Tuesday & Friday 9am-3pm

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 15th July	Vigil: 15th Sunday	6.00pm	Ellie Bate RIP
Sunday 16th July	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.30am	Manuel Delgado RIP
Tuesday 18th July	feria	7.00pm	Grace Ann McShane RIP
Wednesday 19th July	feria	9.15am	Dean Sahim RIP
Thursday 20th July	feria	9.15am	Mohan Lal RIP
Friday 21st July	feria	9.15am	Cathleen Chambers RIP followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 22nd July	Vigil: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	Theresa Kennedy RIP

CONFESSIONS Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John

When booking a Mass Intention please leave plenty of time if you want a special date.

Liturgy of the Word: 16th July 2023

Entrance Antiphon: As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

Responsorial Psalm: Some seed fell into rich soil, and produced its crop.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: Wisdom 12:13,16-19, Psalm 85 Romans 8:26-27, Matthew 13:24-30

Today's readings invite us reflect on the power of God's word. Isaiah tells us that God's word is like the rain and the snow, watering the earth and bringing forth its produce.

Jesus' parable of the sower in the Gospel is essentially optimistic: in spite of all of the lost seeds, the seeds which don't grow, the seeds which grow and then die, yet the seeds which fall on fertile ground produce an incredible harvest. Normal sowing of seed would yield perhaps a harvest seven to ten times as much as the seed. Jesus' description of a harvest of thirty, sixty or a hundred-fold shows the miraculous potential of God's Word.

When a person is sowing in a field, all the attention is on the accuracy of the sowing: on doing it well. God's grace strengthens us to live our lives well, carefully sowing the seeds of his gospel of love and proclaiming God's truth.

Jesus' story about the sower prepares us for the fact that not everyone will listen to us: not all seed falls on ground which will bear fruit. Even a lot of people who were able to hear Jesus in the flesh speaking God's word, chose not to follow him. Even if we sometimes feel that no one is listening to us, we remain faithful to the task of spreading God's word and giving our lives over him; keeping sowing the seeds of love as best we can.

What is certain is that there will be a harvest. God's word never returns to him without carrying out his will and succeeding in what it was sent to do. God himself will bring in the harvest; not necessarily in the way we might expect. God will make his word fruitful. God will transform the world. So today God invites us to give ourselves over as servants of the word for the sake of the kingdom. God invites us to proclaim our faith and to trust that his divine presence will renew the face of the earth.

Stella Maris retiring collection- Thank you

Last week's Sea Sunday collection for Stella Maris raised £163.91. Your generous gifts will ensure that Stella Maris chaplains can continue to be a friend for seafarers and fishers in times of need. You can still donate by visiting stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate



Procession in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

This annual procession (first held in 1883) will be on **Sunday 16th July at 3:30pm**. It starts from St Peter's Italian Church, 136 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1R 5DL. It will include a walking group of children who have recently made their First Holy Communion, dressed in their outfits. Please meet inside the Italian Church by 3pm latest, if you wish to join them. The procession is followed by an Italian street fete with music and stalls selling Italian produce.



Parish Administrator vacancies

Westminster currently has 2 Parish Administrator vacancies advertised on their website in nearby parishes of Bushey and Eastcote –**closing dates Noon on 17 July & 31 July respectively**. Check out <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/> for further details



Join **The Passage** at their *****Secret Garden Party***** on **Thursday 20th July at 6pm**

Taking place in the beautiful surroundings of the historic College Garden at Westminster Abbey, this event is a fantastic opportunity to enjoy a wonderful summer evening whilst supporting the work of The Passage. College Gardens is one of London's best kept secrets, a 900-year-old garden, thought to be the oldest in England. You will enjoy views of Westminster Abbey and Victoria Tower, as part of the Palace of Westminster. During the evening you will get to enjoy delicious food, unlimited beer, wine, Pimms and soft drinks, entertainment, a raffle, silent auction and much more. All proceeds from this event will go directly to The Passage, helping to provide essential support for those who have experienced homelessness, and preventative action to support those at risk of becoming homeless. Tickets <https://passage.org.uk/get-involved/events/secret-garden-party/> or call 020 7592 1856

Summer Holiday Club

South Oxhey Baptist Church are inviting children aged 6-11 years to book now for their holiday club. It runs from **Monday 24th-Friday 28th July**. The theme is Pyramid Rock. There will be games, songs, bible stories and more! Spaces are limited so call *Linda Gillen* on 020 8421 1542 to secure your place. See the poster at the back of church.

GK Chesterton Pilgrimage

13th Annual pilgrimage will take place on **Saturday 29th July**. Bishop David Oakley of Northampton will preach at the Mass at 2.30pm at The Bridgettine Convent, Fulmer Common Road, Iver, SL0 0NR. Please send any prayer requests to; CatholicGKCSociety@yahoo.co.uk or text them to 07795205114. Details of the many different ways in which you can be involved on the day, as well as printable GKC prayercards can be found on our website, www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk

Pilgrimage of Reparation

There will be a Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life to **Walsingham** on **Saturday 5th August** led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald. It will take as its theme 'Accepting the Gift'. The poster at the back of Church has some details of coaches leaving from various points in the diocese which may be of interest and help to parishioners. While many may not be able to attend the day physically, there will also be the opportunity to follow online and join in this day of prayer for life at www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/

Formation Week for young adults in Norfolk

The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer. As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham. There are two choices of dates: **14th - 21st August or 30th August - 6th September**. See the poster at the back of Church.

To find out more, please **enquire by 31st July** by emailing the COLW Sisters freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org

Offertory for Sunday 9th July 2023

Loose	£ 351.52	
Envelopes	£ 197.58	
Total	£ 549.10	<i>Many thanks</i>

Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers, especially Bebe Ryan, Dawn, Phil Carey, Alice Sheppard, Christine Kempster and Mark Howman. Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Marty Spires who was laid to rest during the week.