

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
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16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 23rd 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 22nd July	Vigil: 16th Sunday	6.00pm	Theresa Kennedy RIP
Sunday 23rd July	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Dixie Chapman RIP
		10.30am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 25th July	St James	7.00pm	Remedios d'Souza in thanksgiving
Wednesday 26th July	Ss Joachim & Anne	9.15am	Intentions of Beverley
Thursday 27th July	feria	9.15am	Philip Noel
Friday 28th July	feria	9.15am	Sean Power
			followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 29th July	Vigil: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	People of the Parish

CONFESSIONS Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John

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

Entrance Antiphon: See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm: O Lord, you are good and forgiving .

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12, Psalm 118, Romans 8:28-30, Matthew 13:44-52

In our Gospel today Jesus uses a parable, or short story, to explain the kingdom of heaven to the crowds. The story takes place in a field where the owner sows grain, but during the night his enemy comes and sows dandelion or weeds, a term which in Hebrew derives from the same root as the name "Satan". We recognize the presence of evil in the world which undermines God's goodness by sowing weeds amongst his wheat, creating division between individuals, families, nations and peoples. In Jesus' story the servants wanted to uproot the weeds immediately, but the field owner stopped them, explaining that: "when you weed out the dandelion, you might pull up the wheat with it". Weeds growing together in the field can look very much like good grain, and there is the risk of confusing them.

Jesus parable tells that the evil in the world does not come from God. The field owner's enemy goes at night to sow weed, in the dark, in confusion; he goes where there is no light. The enemy is astute: he sows evil in the middle of good, making it difficult distinctly to separate them.

Jesus' story contrasts the impatience of the servants and the patient waiting of the field owner, who represents God. At times we are in a great hurry to judge, but God knows how to wait. With patience and mercy he gazes into the "field" of life of every person. He knows us better than we know ourselves: he knows the weeds that grow in our lives, but he also sees the seeds of good and waits for them to grow. Our God is a patient father, who always waits for us, nurtures us and forgives us. He is always there to bring forth a rich harvest from the seeds of his love planted in us.

Catholic Listeners Telephone Helpline Service

Catholic Listeners is a confidential telephone helpline service, a Diocese of Westminster initiative, for those who are returning to the faith. The helpline is all about listening to others, and to those who might have become isolated during the pandemic. Although not a counselling service, the helpline is staffed by a professional team of volunteers who are trained to signpost callers to other services and agencies. The service aims to help those in need of a safe space to talk. **Operating from 4pm to 7pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays** Calls are Free on 0800 448 0704
For information email Catholiclisteners@gmail.com

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 prayer cards can be found on our website, www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk

Parish Administrator vacancy

Westminster is currently advertising a vacancy for a Parish Administrator in the nearby parish of Eastcote. **Closing date is Noon on 31st July**. Check out <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/> for further details

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/

WYD in London

World Youth Day (WYD) takes place in Lisbon in a couple of weeks' time. For those who cannot attend the main event, there is an invitation to join WYD in London, a day celebration on **Saturday 5th August 11am-5pm** in the Church of Notre Dame de France, Leicester Square, WC2H 7BX. The programme will include music, prayer, talks, activities and Mass. To register a group or individually, visit bit.ly/wydlondon The event is aimed at young people 15+ years of age and young adults. See poster on the side wall.

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

World Youth Day Summer Picnic

Westminster Youth Ministry is holding a Summer Picnic on **Saturday 2nd September** at the Youth Ministry Retreat Centre at Pinner to give participants *A taste of Lisbon*. This event is aimed at young people aged between 16 and 35 who were unable to attend World Youth Day. See poster on the side wall.
Sign up at <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/world-youth-day-summer-picnic/>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Spaces are still available on the annual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, which takes place from **19th to 27th November**, led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. It will include visits to Galilee, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Flights will be from Heathrow. Costs are £2,265 per person sharing, £682 single room supplement; travel insurance essential. Booking forms are available from Elizabeth Uwalaka in the Pilgrimage Office or at www.tangey-tours.com
See poster at the back of Church.

Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers, especially Bebe Ryan, Dawn, Phil Carey, Alice Sheppard, Christine Kempster and Mark Howman.

Offertory for Sunday 16th July 2023

Loose £ 366.86

Envelopes £ 155.80

Total £ 522.66

Standing orders for June 2023

£1,862

Many thanks