

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 30th July 2023

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 29th July	Vigil: 17th Sunday	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 30th July	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Peter Hanley RIP
		10.30am	Mary Anton in thanksgiving
Tuesday 1st August	St Alphonsus Liguori	7.00pm	John & Rita Duignan RIP
Wednesday 2nd August	feria	9.15am	Christine Daley Intentions
Thursday 3rd August	feria	9.15am	Kelly Anne Keoghan RIP
Friday 4th August	St John Vianney	9.15am	Maureen Donohue RIP
			followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 5th August	Vigil: Transfiguration of the Lord	6.00pm	Anne Armstrong

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: 30th July 2023

Entrance Antiphon: God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, how I love your law!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14, Psalm 96, 2 Peter 1:16-19, Matthew 17:1-9

Today's Gospel invites us to reflect on what we treasure most in life and the steps we might take to acquire it and to keep it safe. In Jesus' time a convenient way to keep valuables safe was to bury them in the ground. The man in the parable finds treasure hidden in a field: concealing it again, "he goes off happy" to sell everything in order to buy the field which contained the treasure. Presumably what was buried in the field was worth much more than the cost of buying it. But with ownership of the land secured, his possession of the treasure it contained was guaranteed.

God offers us a field which contains treasure beyond our wildest dreams. God's kingdom is more precious and important than all our worldly goods. The merchant who was looking for fine pearls teaches us a similar lesson. Pearls in the ancient world came to represent the supremely valuable. The merchant sells everything he owns to purchase a peerless pearl: he finds the one pearl which means more to him than everything else in the world. Discovering God's kingdom reveals a valuable haul of treasure; it is like finding the most exquisite pearl imaginable.

When we discover the kingdom of God we receive the greatest possible treasure - the Lord himself. This may lead us to reassess what is important in our lives as we seek to place God at the centre. We honour his treasure as first and above everything else - our friends, job, lifestyle, what we do with our free time.

The third-century Church Father, Origen, taught that the pearl of great value is not prized just for its resale worth, but also and above all because it is so beautiful. Finding God and his kingdom is not just worth more than anything else we treasure, it is also more beautiful, more wonderful, more magnificent than anything we have ever known.

Peter Hanley RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Peter Hanley. His funeral will be on *Wednesday 9th August at 11am*. Note there will be no 9:15 Mass that day.

CELEBRATE Summer family activity pack

Download the brand new CELEBRATE online, family activity pack for summer! Packed full of activities to do, pray, read and watch. This online resource will give you ideas on how to connect with God, your family and others. Why not try the CELEBRATE Summer Psalm walk in this pack at your local park or on holiday? Use this link to download the CELEBRATE Summer pack for free today <https://www.celebratetrust.org/onlinefamilyactivitypacks>

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

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 and Christine Kempster.

Offertory for Sunday 23rd July 2023

Loose	£ 257.36
Envelopes	£ 187.80
Total	£ 445.16

Many thanks