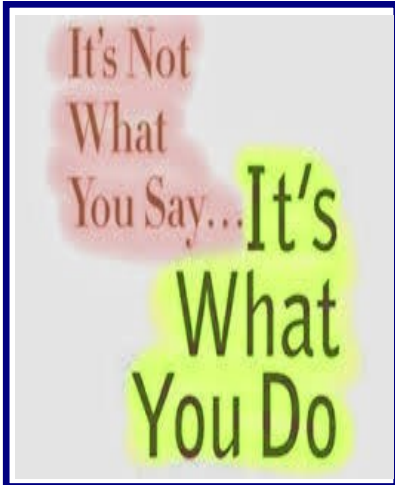


The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk
www.carpenderspark.org.uk



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 1st October 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 30th September	Vigil: 26th Sunday	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 1st October	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Kimmy Borg Ints
		10.30am	Crispin Moses & family
Tuesday 3rd October	feria	7.00pm	Raymond Patrick Cassidy RIP
Wednesday 4th October	St Francis of Assisi	9.15am	Helena Duckett RIP
Thursday 5th October	feria	9.15am	Peggy Hyde
Friday 6th October	feria	9.15am	Alex Anton & family Thanksgiving followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 7th October	Vigil: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	Patrick O'Sullivan Ints

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: 1st October 2023

Entrance Antiphon: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Responsorial Psalm: Remember your mercy, Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.

Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: Isaiah 5: 1-7 Psalm 79 Philipians 4:6-9 Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus' words and actions often challenged the social norms and attitudes of his time. In last Sunday's parable of the workers in the vineyard, the owner does not pay the workers on the basis of their merit. Instead, his generosity is such that even the last comer benefits.

In today's parable, Jesus continues to portray a God who is interested in reaching out to those on the margins and making outsiders insiders. His conclusion will have shocked the chief priests and elders: "I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you."

Tax collectors and prostitutes carried the worst possible social stigma. Jesus turns things upside down. The lowly and despised who avail themselves of God's mercy are reckoned righteous. In God's Kingdom, there is no one who can be written-off as being outside the reach of God's mercy.

The Word of God today calls us to be open to God's invitation to get closer to Him. Wherever we are in our journey of faith and life, God reaches out to transform us.

In the first reading, Ezekiel speaks of the kind of God we encounter in the person and teaching of Christ – one who forgives freely, welcomes unconditionally, and loves without limits. God is the God of compassion rather than judgment. This is the same God who embraces the prodigal son, who surprises the eleventh hour worker, and who lavishes love on tax collectors and sinners.

Pope Francis is fond of saying that the Church is not a museum for saints or an enclosure for the virtuous. It is more like a field hospital, which heals the wounded, strengthens the weak, and lifts up the lowly. It is a place where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven, and encouraged to live according to the Gospel.

Help us to accept the radical grace of God who turns outsiders into insiders. As we recognise our own need of repentance and conversion, help us be the Church that reaches out to embrace, encourage, and engage with people's struggles, wounds, and failings; loving each other as God has loved us.

Certificate of Catholic Practice forms

Fr John will be available to sign your CCP form on Wednesday 11th October 6-7pm in the parish office.
No appointment needed.

Don't our grounds look well!

Many thanks to Eileen Petch who, during Richard's absence on sick leave, has kindly organised the cutting of the grass. *"There is not one blade of grass, there is no colour in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice"* (John Calvin)



CAFOD Family Fast Day appeal-Harvest Collection

Next Friday 6th October is CAFOD's Family Fast Day. Please consider giving up something and using the money saved to donate to the appeal. Envelopes are available at the back of Church. You can return the envelope next weekend. You may prefer to give online at cafod.org.uk

St Joan of Arc Catholic School , Rickmansworth –Year 7 admission in Sept 2024

Open Evening on Thursday 5th October from 5pm until 8pm

Open Morning on Friday 6th October from 9.00am until 11.30am (no speeches).

See poster at the back of Church or visit www.joa.herts.sch.uk for further details.

Annual Altar Servers' Mass

The annual Diocesan Mass for Altar Servers will take place on **Saturday 7th October** at 2.30pm in the Cathedral. All altar servers are invited to attend and to vest in the Cathedral Hall in order to be ready to process by 2pm. All are welcome to attend.



Candlelit Procession of Our Lady of Willesden

On **Sunday 8th October at 7pm**, there will be a candlelit procession with the Statue of Our Lady of Willesden from the shrine church and through the streets of Willesden, praying for the protection of London and for the gift of vocations to the priesthood. It will be lead by Seminarians from Allen Hall and Canon Stuart Wilson will preach. All are welcome. See poster at the back of Church.

Address: 1 Nicoll Road, London NW10 9AX

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine **Monday 16th -Friday 20th October 2023**. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flights, all transfers, 4 nights in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

Divine Mercy Apostolate retreat

On **Saturday 14th October** the Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a retreat at St Anthony's RC Church, 5 Garrat Road, Edgware, London HA8 9AN from **1.30 pm to 4.30 pm** . The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus.

Please call Millie on 07957 594 646 for more information.

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

Offertory for 23/24 September

Loose	£ 368.29
Envelopes	£ 178.23
Total	£ 546.52

Many thanks