



## St. Paul's Church, Cheshunt

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Parish Priest: Fr. Clement Nyarko

**17/18 FEBRUARY 2024**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR B**



<b>Saturday</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>5.00 pm</b>		Mary Walsh RIP
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18th</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>		People of the Parish
		<b>11.00am</b>		Salvatore Spadafora(10 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.) Vincent Paul Adams (7 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Feria	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Feria	Holy Souls
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	St. Peter Damian	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>23rd</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	Stations of the Cross & Mass (St. Polycarp)	Tracee Dizenzo RIP
<b>2nd Sunday Lent Year B</b>				
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24th</b>	<b>5.00 pm</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25th</b>	<b>9 &amp; 11.00 am</b>		
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 4:30-pm or telephone the presbytery for an appointment</b>				

**We pray for the sick in our Parish especially, Margaret Watson, Patricia Reilly, Mariesha McDonagh, Barbara Bassett, Barbara Alexander and for those who have no one to care for them. We pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed especially Andrew Cash, Mary Maray, Benedict Clifford De Silver, Alexander Nicolaides, Thomas Kilcommons and Rosalinda Zanre and those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially Salvatore Spadafora and Vincent Paul Adams.**

### SUNDAY READINGS

**First Reading:** Genesis 9:8-15 The rainbow as the sign of God's covenant with mankind.

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3:18-22 Christ's sacrifice which gives baptism its cleansing power.

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 1:12-15 The start of Jesus' public ministry

### THOUGHT OF THE WEEK- Children of the Desert

It is not surprising that the three great world religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, were all born in the desert. It was through the desert that Moses led the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land. It was from that desert that John the Baptist came to herald the Messiah and soon after Jesus followed to proclaim himself Messiah. The desert is a purgatory man must pass through to reach paradise. What is impressive about the desert is its sheer aridness. There is no vegetation, no bird life and, apart from the odd tiny lizard, almost no animals.

The silence is almost total. In that bleak landscape, nothing comes between man and his God. One either discovers God or succumbs to despair. It is no wonder that those Bedouins who ply the salt trade following their caravans across the desert are deeply religious. No life thrives here except the inner life. It is not surprising that it was the Desert Fathers who created that great institution dedicated to fostering the inner life, Western Monasticism. It has so profoundly marked Christianity that we are all now, in a sense, children of the desert.

### CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give next weekend using the envelope or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

## REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open after the 11.00 am Mass this weekend. It has been restocked with cards for Confirmation, First Holy Communion, St Patrick's Day etc There are also small gifts and plaques for these occasions. Please note that it is cash only for purchases

## TOWARDS OCTOBER 2024 -PARISH MEETING

The Diocese is asking us to prepare for the next stage of the ongoing Synod. Bishops and Laypeople from around the world met in Rome for four weeks last October and considered all the submissions which had been sent in from the consultations which had been held. Two dominant themes of the Synthesis Report from the First Session were Co-responsibility and Formation. In preparation for the next session of the Synod, which will take place in Rome this coming October, we are being asked to consider how what was said about these two themes might inform a discussion about how, as a Parish, we might better organise ourselves for the mission of spreading the Good News of God's love for the world in our local area. **Parish meeting dates for a discussion on the two themes are either Sunday 18 or 25 February 2024 at 3pm in the church. You are all invited to attend on the day that suits you.**

## SAFEGUARDING; Achieving a culture of safeguarding in our Parish

To help create a safe space and build a culture of safeguarding, I would like to remind parishioners that, the parish has a Safeguarding representative in the person of Trevor Mills. Contact Trevor on 07954438606/[cheshuntsg@safeguardingrcdow.org.uk](mailto:cheshuntsg@safeguardingrcdow.org.uk). [www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk](http://www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk). [www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/safeguarding](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/safeguarding). The diocesan safeguarding coordinator can be contacted on: 0207 7989350.

## SUPPORT SVP

"The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, thermal hat, two pairs of thermal socks, face flannel, toothbrush, toothpaste, information sheet and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237. Thank you so much for your support."

## KNOCK PILGRIMAGES

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock & Co Mayo, 10th March 2024. £899.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

## DIOCESAN JOBS

Are you looking for job opportunities? Westminster Diocese has some opportunities for you. For a list of current vacancies and further details, please visit <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

## BROXBOURNE FOOD BANK

We will continue to support the Broxbourne Food Bank. Food donations can be put in the container near the altar. Money donations can be made via BACS to Broxbourne Foodbank, Lloyds Bank, sort code 77-05-13 Account Number 15360568

## PARKING

Please park only on church property to avoid blocking residents' driveways. The road is narrow so even parking opposite a driveway can cause problems. There is extra parking available at Holly Lodge on Church Lane at weekends. When parking in the church carpark, please park so that the maximum numbers of cars can fit in.

## APPRECIATION

Thank you for your continuous support to the Parish, especially to our stewards and all of you, for your generous giving to the Parish. Thank you to Father Joseph Mensah for looking after the Parish whilst I was away.

To receive the Newsletter by email contact [allensusan73@gmail.com](mailto:allensusan73@gmail.com). If you are on the list and do not receive your copy, please check your spam folder.