

Parish of St Peter and St Paul

ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

THE PRESBYTERY
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Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A) 19th March 2023

SUNDAY MASS: 9:45am & 12noon
WEEKDAY MASS: Monday & Friday 12.30pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 8am
CONFESSIONS: *(on request)*

FRIDAYS IN LENT
6:30pm

STATIONS of the CROSS



Sacrament of Confession is available
after the Stations of the Cross

LENTEN ALMS



*Keep your deeds of
mercy secret*

Today, March 19th is **Mother's Day**. Tomorrow, March 20th is the Feast of **Saint Joseph**.
Mother and Father, the most important persons in our life.

Do not forget to call you mum and dad on the phone or videocall, if they are far from you.

Do not forget to hug your mum and dad and kiss them, if they are near you.

Do not forget to pray for them, if they they passed to the Father in heaven.

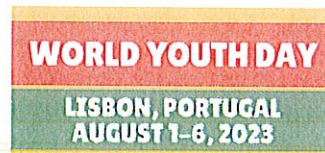
Today is **Laetare Sunday**, a little stop in the long 40 days of Lent.

We will 'break the Lenten fast' with **Tea & Coffee** in the Parish Hall after 9:45am Mass.

Fundraising to get to World Youth Day



 Team fundraiser
Maria Mila Carbonere and Gabriella Carbonere are organising this fundraiser.



SCAN to help
these young
people to go to
the WYD in
Lisbon



Where can I find happiness?

Where is the fullness of life to which I aspire?

Where can I find a love that does not fade away, a love that lasts even in the face of frailty, failure and betrayal?

What is the meaning of my crises and sufferings?

Do you recognise these questions?

Sincerely, can you find these questions deep down inside of you?

If that is the case, what are you going to do with them?

You may say, 'These are questions of teenagers, I am a grown-up, I have a mortgage to pay, I need to find a husband, I need to carry on with my business, I haven't got the time for all this'.

Before going to bed, first thing in the morning, do you take a handful of "tranquilizers of the soul"? Surrogates meant to sedate our inner restlessness and suppress these very questions: new items to consume, empty promises of pleasure and non-stop social media, the idolatry of fitness. Everything seems to tell us: don't overthink things; let go and enjoy life! Often, we try to soothe our hearts with creature comforts. We bury our heads in the sand in order not to see, not to question, not to think.

These are not teenagers' questions we grow out of as and when we grow up. No. These questions are God's gift to us to help us shake off our apathy and open our eyes. Questions that challenge us to leave behind our presumption that everything is fine, questions that open us to what is beyond us. Beyond a functional solution to our problems, beyond our preconstructed ideas of happiness, beyond the pain and suffering we experience today. Our eyes need to be filled with yearning for the infinite, they need to be opened to scan the heavens, to marvel and experience the quest for the transcendent.

Today is the Sunday of the **Second Baptismal Scrutiny**. In the Gospel we meet a man born blind who is healed with **mud and water**. We need mud in order to desire to be wanting to wash. We need these *restless questioning* in order to desire an answer adequate to our deep search. These unsettling questions are the very mud that push us towards the fountain of water, Jesus Christ.

Happy Lenten scrutiny!

In manus.

Father Ivano