

Parish of St Peter and St Paul

ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

THE PRESBYTERY
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Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year A) 30th April 2023

SUNDAY MASS: 9:45am & 12noon

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday & Friday 12.30pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 8am

CONFESSIONS: (on request)

Today is GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

We shall pray for priests and vocations to the Priesthood.

We will have a second collection to support men in formation for priesthood.

Please, take home today a designated envelope at the back of the Church. If a tax-payer do gift-aid your donation. You can use the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations.

At the back of the Church there are also some free copies of the Allen Hall Seminary news.

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony, Sat 13th May 2.30pm, Westminster Cathedral.
The Cardinal is inviting to this celebration all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023. If you wish to attend, send an email to clerkenwell@rcdow.org.uk with the details: names, wedding date, address, email address.

Preparation for Baptism

Consists of coming regularly to Sunday Mass and attending preparation classes.

I shall soon advertise some dates for preparation classes.

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the **Rosary** at home. At the end you can say the following prayer:

*"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions in our necessities,
but deliver us always from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin"*

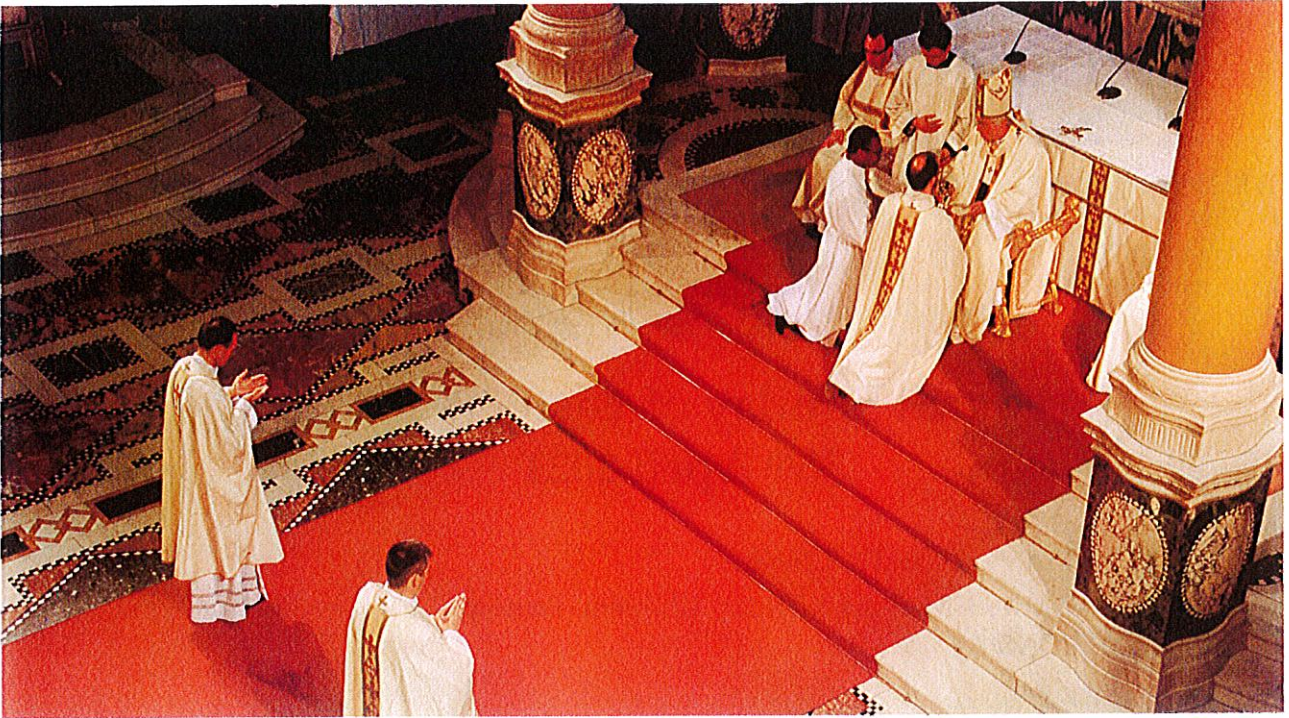


SCAN to GIVE
You can scan this QR code for your weekly Sunday donation.
Thank you.

We remember in prayer Maya & Jayden, Reginald & Matthew, Scarlett & Georgia, who will be confirmed on May 26th.

On Bank Holiday Monday, 1st May, Mass is celebrated as usual at 12:30pm

"deeper within"



During the Rite of ordination to the priesthood the bishop anoints with the Holy Chrism the palms of the hands of the priest. A perfumed fragrant oil, **the anointing of the Holy Spirit**.

This anointing has the power to change lives giving strength to make us accomplish great things. But how long does this fragrance last?

In God's time each of us experiences a 'Passover', a moment of truth. Sooner or later, we all experience disappointment, frustration and our own weakness, old ones and new ones. This is a delicate moment when dangerous temptations can arise: compromise, discouragement, dissatisfaction, inertia. We can carry on, yes, but what about that perfumed oil poured on me (and you)? Is it still fragrant?

This time of crisis can become a time of grace when that anointing can actually go deeper within the person. This can be the moment when the Spirit is poured out no longer on enthusiasm, hopes and dreams but on the freedom of our concrete situation. An anointing that penetrates the depths of our reality, where the Spirit anoints our weaknesses, our weariness, our inner poverty. An anointing that brings a new fragrance: that of the Spirit, not of ourselves.

This happens when we take the mature step of admitting the reality of our own weakness. Once that happens, everything turns around, even disappointments and bitter experiences – and also sins – since we are no longer the protagonists of our life but we can allow the Holy Spirit, that anointing, to penetrate to the depths of our being.

This is true for priests and every Christian, all the "anointed ones". The fragrance of the Holy Chrism poured on us grows as it goes deeper within us, as it penetrates the depths of our realities. This is how priesthood grows, this is how marriages grows, this is how Christian life grows, this is how the fragrance of the Holy Spirit grows.

fr. Ivano

Father Ivano