



# Parish of St Peter and St Paul

ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

THE PRESBYTERY  
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## Third Sunday of Easter (Year A) 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

**SUNDAY MASS: 9:45am & 12noon**

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

**CONFESSIONS: (on request)**

### GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Next Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> April, is traditionally called 'Good Shepherd Sunday'. We shall pray for priests and vocations to the Priesthood. We will also have a second collection for the Priest Training Fund, to support those 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](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations). At the back of the Church there are also some free copies of the Allen Hall Seminary news.

### Preparation for Baptism

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

Both of them are equally essential in view of your child's baptism.

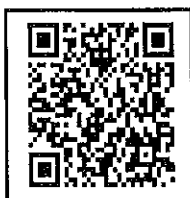
I shall soon advertise some preparation classes, which should be attended by both parents.



### Easter lasts 50 days... until Pentecost Sunday...

**Holy Water bottles.** Do take a small bottle of blessed water. Take it home, bless yourself with it, sprinkle it in your house. Let the Spirit of the Risen Lord, victorious over sin and evil, remain with you.

Look at the **Paschal Candle**. Look at its vivid colours, "read" the gospel of these coming Easter Sundays painted over. Light at home the small candle you have received at the Vigil, look at its flame, it is still burning, it is still Easter!



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

During these 50 days, we remember in prayer the young people from our Parish preparing to receive the Sacrament of **Confirmation** on May 26th. Maya & Jayden, Reginald & Matthew, Scarlett & Georgia.

by his wounds we have been healed  
(what about your wounds?)



The Risen Lord, for forty days, kept showing his open wounds. To Thomas and the disciples. To Simon and to the women. To James and hundreds of brothers and sisters. Jesus, the crucified and Risen Lord, is indeed wounded.

We too are wounded, who isn't in life? Who does not bear the scars of past choices, of misunderstandings, of sorrows that remain inside and are difficult to overcome? Wrongs suffered, sharp words, unmerciful judgements? Often hidden wounds.

The point is not whether we are wounded a little or a lot, the point is what to do with our wounds, the little and big ones, the ones that leave their mark forever on my body, on my soul. What can I do with my wounds? What can you do with your wounds?

Often, we take side paths in order to suffer less, but wounds then become infected and bear in themselves the seeds of destruction. Because of our wounds we can bear resentment and sadness, rebellion or depression, feeling sorry all the time for ourselves, living as victims. We can also react by hiding them under the 'carpets' of fun, work, holidays... running away from them as much as we can. But if buried, these wounds remain 'active' and unknown to us they disturb our behaviour. Even if swept under the carpet, we carry this carpet with us wherever we go. Infected wounds lead us to take wrong life decisions.

We can do something else with our wounds. Yes: bring them under the light and the spirit of the Risen Lord. Under the light and the spirit of Easter these wounds can become luminous.

How? By uniting them to those of Jesus. Yes, by forgiving those who hurt us. No incrimination, only love. Jesus loves and forgives those who hurt him, and thus, he converts evil into good; he converts and transforms sorrow into love.

Do not hide your wounds, bring them under the spirit of Easter. They will quickly heal, turning into "holes of light and love".

*In manus.*

Father Ivano