



Parish of St Peter and St Paul

ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

THE PRESBYTERY
Fr. Ivano Millico, Parish Priest
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26th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time (A) 1st October 2023

SUNDAY MASS: 9:45am & 12noon

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

CONFESSIONS: *(on request)*

First Holy Communion

Parents and children are expected to attend 9:45am Sunday Mass.
The enrolment will close at end of October. Speak with Fr. Ivano directly to take part.

Baptism

Do approach directly Fr. Ivano after Sunday Mass.

Confirmation

We have a two-years Programme. Any young person who is willing to join should speak with Fr. Ivano directly before the end of October.

Marriage Course

A 5-weeks course will commence early next year.

8:15-9:15pm Fridays: 23rd Feb, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd March & Sat 23rd March afternoon.

Speak directly with Fr. Ivano for the enrolment form.

A big thank you to all who have helped preparing and serving for 'Tea & Coffee'
We shall try to have it regularly, once a month.



Saint Michael Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protection against the
wickedness and snares of the devil;
may God rebuke him, we humbly
pray; and do thou,
O Prince of the heavenly host,
by the power of God,
cast into hell Satan and all the evil
spirits who prowl through the world
seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.



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

"...just go to hell" (or not)



On 20 March 1887, at 17 Rue Montaigne (now Avenue Matignon) in Paris, was discovered the lifeless body of Regine de Montille, with those of Annette Gremeret her maid and of a little girl of twelve called Marie. All three had had their throats cut in the most brutal manner, and the mistress's jewels had disappeared. This triple crime made an enormous sensation, as much on account of the personality of the victim as of the conditions in which it had been perpetrated. All the papers described the murder with a wealth of horrid details, ensuring unprecedented sales. Admittedly, every ingredient was there to attract: a sinner of great personal beauty, a maid faithful until death, and little Marie, the sacrificial lamb, not to mention the guilty man himself, a veritable monster of monsters, Enrico Pranzini.

In the summer calm of her home, on 1st September 1887, Thérèse anxiously opened the newspaper to find in it one of the decisive signs of her life: *"The vile blackguard who murdered the three victims of the Rue Montaigne was executed this morning, and with him ends the disgraceful scandal of the past few days (...)* He was taken into the registrar's office where the executioner and his assistants were waiting for him to be handed over to them. There they cut his hair, widened the neck of his shirt and pinioned his arms. At two minutes to five, while the birds were singing in the trees of the square, a confused murmur swept through the crowd, the command, 'Draw your sabres!' rang out, the clatter of metal was heard, blades flashed, the door of the prison swung open and there on the threshold, pale as death, stood the murderer. The chaplain took position in front of him to spare him from seeing the fatal engine. The executioner's assistants held him to right and left. He pushed the priest and assistants aside. Once at the guillotine, one of the assistants grabbed his head, positioned it under the lunette and held it steady by the hair. But before all this could happen, a glimmer of repentance may have crossed his conscience. He asked the chaplain for his crucifix. He kissed it twice."

Years later Thérèse wrote in her Autobiography, "I heard of a great criminal who had just been sentenced to death for horrible crimes. The circumstances made it seem likely that he would die impenitent. **I wished at all costs to prevent him from going to hell and to do this I used every means I could think of.**" What drawn this young teenager to a brutal criminal was not compassion but, said recently Pope Francis, the zeal for evangelisation. The mission of the Church for sinners is not 'just go to hell', but Heaven. Not surprisingly this young teenager became the Patron Saint of missions, her name is Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, her Feast Day is today!

fr. Ivano

Father Ivano