



Parish of St Peter and St Paul

ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

THE PRESBYTERY
Fr. Ivano Millico, Parish Priest
5 AMWELL STREET
LONDON EC1R 1UL

PARISH OFFICE
Mon, Tue, Fri: 10AM - 3PM
Tel. 020 7837 2094
email: clerkenwell@rcdow.org.uk
webpage: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/clerkenwell/>

31st SUNDAY in Ordinary Time (A) 5th November 2023

SUNDAY MASS: 9:45am & 12noon

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

CONFESSIONS: Mondays 12-12:30pm (and on request)

HOLY HOUR: Thursdays 7-8pm (animated by HAKUNA eucharistic group)

During the whole month of November, a **Book of Remembrance** is kept by the statue of the St Joseph, Patron Saint of a holy death.

Write down, by hand, on a sheet of paper the names of your beloved ones who have died and place it in an envelope voluntary donation. A **blue envelope** (if you can gift-aid) or **brown envelope** (not gift-aided). Return it to Fr. Ivano or through the Presbytery letterbox.

We will pray for all our loved ones who have died.

Parents and grandparents. Husband and wife. Brothers and sisters.

Friends and all those whose memory we cherish.

We will pray for those who in life we have found hard to love, or impossible to forgive.

Those who hurt us and did cause us to suffer. Our enemies.

Through prayer and faith, we can be reconciled with those who have died.

This Sunday, **special year's collection for the sick & retired priests of our Diocese.**

Please, take an envelope and be generous. The number of priests in need is increasing. Remember the priest who baptised you? Gave you First Holy Communion? Married you?

Next Sunday, 12th November, meeting with parents and children who wish to follow the First Holy Communion preparation, after the 9:45am Mass.



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

... and now, where shall I go?

Suddenly, on the evening of 19th November 1562, after only a few days of fever, 27-year-old Count Federico Borromeo died, leaving his 18-year-old wife childless. With the death of Federico, all eyes were now turned towards his younger brother, Carlo.



At the 'peak' of his life and youth, Cardinal and Secretary of the Papal State, charged with important diplomatic affairs, with an immense personal wealth and considerable revenues, regarded by many as the Pope's 'right eye', Carlo Borromeo had only one choice. As the sole heir of the Borromeo family, he 'ought to' marry the widow of his brother and inherit all titles, wealth and estates. It was reasonable, it was possible, it was expected.

His confessor was Francis Adorno, a very pious Jesuit and an interior man, under whose direction he most frequently made his retreats. Carlo Borromeo, familiar with the discernment of the spirits of Ignatius of Loyola, knew that the sudden death of his brother was a call to "look for and find the Will of God with regard to his own destiny". And so, he did, writing to the Pope: "Do not be displeased with me, I am now wedded to the spouse whom I have so long desired." He was ordained Priest soon after.

Desires, discernment, choices, direction, here and now. These are all ingredients of our lives. We do not find set before us, pre-packaged, the life we are to live. No! We have to decide it all the time, according to the reality that comes. God invites us to evaluate and choose: He created us free and wants us to exercise our freedom. Discernment is indispensable for living. It requires that I know myself, that I know **what is good for me, here and now**. To learn to live, one must learn to choose, to make decisions, and for this it is necessary to discern.

Carlo Borromeo 'learnt' to know himself faced with the death of brother; 'learnt' to be open and be guided by the Holy Spirit through his Spiritual Director; 'learnt' to trust in God the Father; 'learnt' to discern between what is 'good' and what is 'better'; 'learnt' to be free, choose and love.

His Feast-Day was yesterday, 4th November.

In manus.

Father Ivano