



# 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](mailto:clerkenwell@rcdow.org.uk)

webpage: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/clerkenwell/>

## Second Sunday of EASTER 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024

NO weekday Mass this week

NEXT SUNDAY MASS: 9:45 am & 12noon

### The 'lesson' of Easter.

Easter teaches us that believers do not linger at the tomb, for they are called to go forth to meet the Living One. Let us ask ourselves: *In my life, where am I going?* Sometimes we go only in the direction of our problems, of which there are plenty, and go to the Lord only for help. But then, it is our own needs and not Jesus, to guide our steps. We keep seeking the Living One among the dead. Or again, how many times, once we have encountered the Lord, we return to the dead, digging up regrets, reproaches, hurts and dissatisfactions, without letting the Risen One change us?

Dear brothers and sisters: let us put the Living One at the centre of our lives. Let us ask for the grace not to be carried by the current, the sea of our problems; the grace not to crash against the reefs of discouragement and fear. Let us seek him, let us allow ourselves to be sought out by him, let us seek him in all things and above all things. And with him, we will rise again.

*Pope Francis*

### Annual Mass for Matrimony

The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 25th May at 2.30pm for couples celebrating significant anniversaries such as 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+.

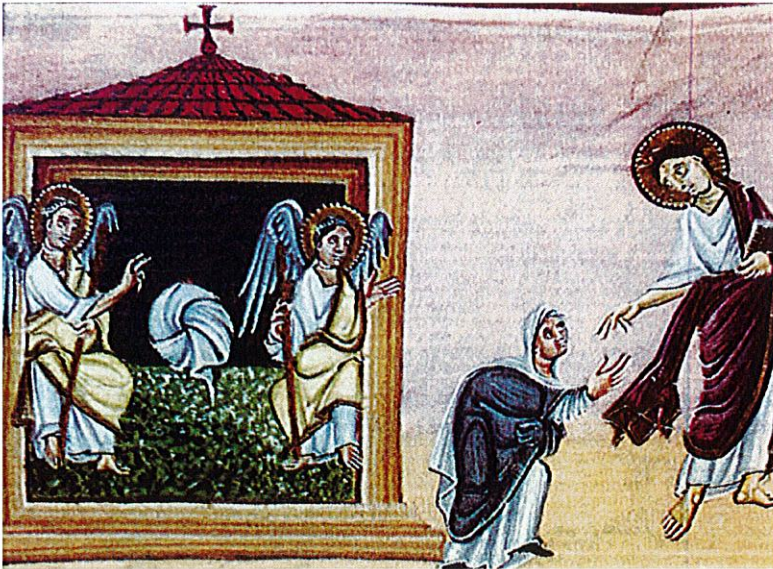
Easter lasts 50 days... until Pentecost Sunday...



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



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



"Woman  
why are you  
crying?"

CHRIST  
our hope  
is RISEN  
ALLELUIA!

Have you ever heard of "tomb psychology"?  
Thinking that everything is going badly in my life and things can't get worse... Losing heart... feeling sick in spirit... cynical, negative and despondent... Growing disheartened and tempted to judge everything in the light of our failures... Dissatisfied and confused... not knowing really why... A succession of complaints... litanies of disappointments... We begin to feel as if we have reached the end of our life, as if we were standing in front of a tomb, the tomb of our hope!

All our hopes... the hope of getting married, the hope of being happy, the hope of being healed, the hope of being forgiven, the hope of being in communion, the hope of being able to love someone, the hope of a new life, the hope that my life can change... all these hopes are, so to speak, buried, and I find myself standing and watching, full of sadness and self-pity.

This is how the apostles felt when they buried Christ's body. This is how the women felt on the morning of the Resurrection. And yet... the tombstone has been removed; THE TOMB IS EMPTY!  
**CHRIST IS ALIVE, HE IS RISEN, and HE IS OUR HOPE.**

Yes, our hope is Christ who is alive, in him everything is possible. Yes, **every-thing is possible**, I can hope and my hope is not in vain. We can come out of our sadness and self-pity, full of life, full of new spirit. You can abandon resignation and dissatisfaction, old fears, sorrows and doubts.

The Resurrection of Christ has opened a new space which did not exist before, a space where life is stronger than death, where hope is always ALIVE, always, because it is person, risen from the tomb.

**It is Easter!**

**Do NOT bury Hope! Never! We are Christians and Christ is alive!  
He is our hope: everything he touches becomes alive, new, young.**

*fr. Ivano*

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