From the Cardinal's Pastoral Letter for the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Today I am writing to thank you for your faithfulness and for your presence here at Mass. These last two years have been very difficult, and I thank God for the gift of faith which you have received, which you have nurtured and from which you receive great grace and strength. Now I would like to ask for your help.

During the last two years our lives were very restricted, but that is no longer the case. We are again able to live the way we choose. Our churches can stay wide open. Yet, many have not returned to Mass. This is where I would like your help. Would you be able to approach people you know and who are not here today, and ask them to join us? I know that this will not be easy. So, I ask you to do this with great respect and kindness, maybe you could offer to come with them.

I ask this now not just because restrictions are eased, but because Lent will start this week on Wednesday when we respond to the Lord's invitation to come forward and meet him afresh.

You know that the highest form of prayer is the celebration of the Eucharist. It is here that the Lord wishes to fill us with his gifts, that we, in turn, can offer those gifts to others. Then, when we give that which we have received, we bring this precious light of Christ into our world. He is the best antidote to the darkness of the pandemic, to the loneliness it has brought to the lack of clear hope for the future and to the deep weariness that has entered into the souls of so many.

So, please, I invite you to do what you can to help those who are missing to once again be part of this great family of faith at prayer. Then we can journey together to Easter, and we can proclaim again that Jesus alone has mastered death, that he alone is the Lord of life, that he is now among us and calling us to come and meet him here, in this House of God, in this Gate of Heaven.

"Keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain." (1Cor.15:58)

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

Under the pastoral care of the Pallottines, Society of the Catholic Apostolate.

Registered Charity No. 252929

358 Greenford Road, Greenford, Middlesex, UB6 9AN 020-8578-1363 greenford@rcdow.org.uk

COMMUNITY

Fr. Liam O'Donovan SCA, Fr. Joe McLoughlin SCA, Fr. Tom Daly SCA, Reverend Deacon Jayson Wingrove

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Saturday 9.00 am - 4.00 pm Sunday 10.00 am - 1.30 pm

MASS TIMES

From Monday to Saturday Mass at 12.00 noon will be streamed online, and on Sundays both the 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm Masses.

https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/greenford/

Saturday – 12.00 noon and 7.00 pm Sunday – 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 12.00 noon and 2.00 pm.

Confessions – Saturdays 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. and 6.15 pm to 6.45 pm

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT will be in the Church
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm,
and First Friday of the month from 5.00 pm to 9.00 pm.

The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

27th February 2022

The readings for this Sunday's Masses start on page 144 of the purple mass books.

<u>Tuesday 1st March</u> St. David, patron saint of Wales

Ash Wednesday - 2nd March

Masses at 12.00 noon and 7.30 pm Ashes will be distributed at both Masses.

Ealing Food Bank

Thank you all for your tremendous generosity in donating to Ealing Food Bank. Due to the vast amount of food being donated, our monthly delivery to St. Mellitus Church, Greenford Avenue, Hanwell, will need to be at least weekly. Currently two of our parishioners take the food to St. Mellitus. It would be greatly appreciated if we could have some more volunteers to carry out this vital function in our quest to help those in need. If you are able to help, please leave your name and contact details in the Parish Office.

CAFOD's Walk Against Hunger Lent Challenge

There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. This Lent, why not challenge yourself to walk 200 km, and help give hunger its marching orders. Do 5km a day, your way, for 40 days, get sponsored and you'll conquer your 200 km target in time for Easter – and help people around the world to live free from hunger. To find out more or take part, go to cafod.org.uk/walk

40 Days for Life

Volunteers are needed this Lent to give an hour a week from Ash Wednesday, 2nd March, until Palm Sunday, 10th April, to pray and offer help and outreach to mothers and anyone affected by abortion. To find out how you can help, please call Sarah on 07776-256-838, or email London40daysforlife@hotmail.com

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

A pilgrimage to Medjugorge is being organised for 15^{th} to 22^{nd} May this year and will be led by Fr. Joe. If you would like more details, please call Agnes on 07920-840-783.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14th May at 3.00 pm

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or phone number if no email).

Funeral Arrangements

John Junior Mitchell

Mass 1.00 pm, Monday 28th February, Visitation Church, to be followed by burial in Greenford Park Cemetery.

Advance Notice

Maxime Barbe

Mass 10.00 am, Tuesday 8th March, Visitation Church, to be followed by burial in Greenford Park Cemetery.

Eileen Slattery

Service 10.30 am, Wednesday 9th March, <u>Breakespear</u> Crematorium.

John Brendan O'Shea

Mass 1.00 pm, Wednesday 9th March, Visitation Church, more details to follow.

Margaret Mary Linehan

Reception 7.00 pm, Thursday 10^{th} March, Visitation Church. Mass 1.00 pm, Friday 11^{th} March, to be followed by burial in Greenford Park Cemetery.

Louis Jordan

Service 12.00 noon, Friday 11th March, <u>Breakespear</u> Crematorium.

George Kennedy

Mass 7.00 pm, Tuesday 15th March, Visitation Church.