



Our Lady of Grace & St Edward's Chiswick and St Dunstan's Gunnersbury with St Joseph's Grove Park

020 8994 2877

www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org

chiswick@rcdow.org.uk

For even more regular news on parish life and activities, check the Latest News page on the parish website www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org or follow the parish on Twitter @ourladychiswick or Facebook at Our Lady of Grace & St Edward, Chiswick, London W4

19TH JULY 2020

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Fr Michael Dunne
Fr Mike Maguire
Fr Brendan Carmody SJ
Sharon Bowden

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
In Residence
Administrator

Fr Michael writes:

It's been great to see so many braving the new arrangements and returning to Mass since 4th July. Over both weekends we were nearly at capacity with the social distancing maximum of 48 places at each of the six Masses and equally the two daily Masses are also well attended. Hundreds, soon to become thousands over the weeks, are rejoicing to be home again at Mass! We priests are also rejoicing to be celebrating Mass again with parishioners. The feeling of the sting of lockdown being lifted is palpable and we give thanks to God. Those who can come to Mass know very well the gratitude they owe to those other parishioners who enable them to come – the volunteer stewards. However, in the words of the Prophet Elijah's servant at the top of the mountain looking out to sea, "Now there is a cloud, small as a man's hand, rising," and it soon brought a lot of rain! With the holiday season upon us, many stewards are less available, returning to work or perhaps away with family. A cloud is rising imminently over our stewarding. **In late July and through August even at weekends, on Sundays especially, we are currently down to one or two stewards booking in to volunteer. For Mass to take place, Our Lady of Grace needs FOUR stewards as a minimum**, otherwise we cannot do what is expected of us to open safely and be 'Covid secure'. The responsibility for stewarding does not fall on those who are already doing it to do more but for the many more of working age who would be able even to offer *one two-hour shift a week* for perhaps two weeks or three. If, on the other hand, it is argued that this is asking too much and an unreasonable hope, I would have to accept that view as parishioners of course have many varied responsibilities and commitments and they are the only ones who can determine their availability. The pity for us all, though, is that if enough stewards do not have the availability to book and turn up then the decision not to open the church at 11.00am or at the other church opening times, must be taken without notice. Those already awaiting the opening of the doors for Mass must prepare themselves for the occasions when I or Fr Mike will regrettably have to explain that we cannot open. If we know in advance that we do not have enough stewards (which is the current position for late July and August) then we would be able to give a week's notice on the the church door when Mass could not take place. We cannot appoint untrained stewards for immediate service even if someone suitable turns up. Please, therefore, for any eligible parishioner who can help us sustain a partially open church, consider volunteering even a little and visit the parish website to sign up if you can: www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 18/7 6.30pm	Vigil Mass	Eamonn King	ANN
Sun 19/7 8.30am 9.45am 11.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm	16 TH SUNDAY IN O.T.	Nori Crowther Joan Zohaddi Canon Peter Gilbert People of the Parish The Tirant Family	RD RIP ANN INT INT
Mon 20/7 11.30am 12.30pm	Feria	Eamonn King – Birthday Patrick Fintan Kehoe	RIP ANN
Tues 21/7 11.30am 12.30pm	Feria	Veronica Ryan Des Pritchard	INT RIP
Wed 22/7 11.30am 12.30pm	ST. MARY MAGDALENE	Helen Holland Felicia Agidee	RIP INT
Thurs 23/7 11.30am 12.30pm	ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN	Barbara Phillips Sheila Walsh	RIP INT
Fri 24/7 11.30am 12.30pm	Feria	Tim Archer Maureen Kehoe	RIP INT
Sat 25/7 11.30am 3pm-5pm 6.30pm	ST JAMES	The Neary Family Private Prayer Thomas Healy	INT ANN

LET US PRAY

For those who are sick: Sandra Bocca, Cecil Pocock, Romeo Monthoy, Eulalie Raymond, Maxence Martin, together with all those suffering in the pandemic.

For those recently deceased: Ewa Blonska, Gaby Goubran, John Rowntree, Theresa Donovan, Agnus Browne. May they rest in peace.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Eamonn King, Canon Peter Gilbert, Patrick Fintan Kehoe, Thomas Healy

THANK YOU TO THE STEWARDS – Because of the generosity of the volunteer stewards we are able to have the church open and to have two daily Masses. Without them we would have to remain closed. To volunteer please see www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org

MONDAY to FRIDAY

Church opens 11.00am

Mass 11.30am & 12.30pm

Church closes 1.00pm

SATURDAY

Church opens 11.00am

Mass 11.30am

followed by,

Private Prayer 12.15

(Last entry 12.45pm)

Church closes 1.00pm

Private Prayer 3.00pm to

5.00pm

(Last entry 4.45pm)

Church opens 6.00pm

Mass 6.30pm

Church closes 7.15pm

SUNDAY

Church opens 8.00am

Mass 8.30am,

9.45am,

11.00am,

12.15pm

Church closes 1.00pm

Church opens 6.00pm

Mass 6.30pm

Church closes 7.15pm

VIRTUAL WESTMINSTER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE! - As the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage cannot take place this year, a virtual pilgrimage will take place instead from 26th June to 1st August, with a full programme of Masses and devotions. Full details can be found on the events page of the diocesan website and on the poster at the back of the Church. All are welcome to join in this virtual pilgrimage on the dedicated Westminster Diocese Lourdes Pilgrimage YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9AT-YIsH22Hbp2rnIG7jsA>

COMBONI SISTERS ZOOM MEETING - celebrating the success of the Covid-19 Appeal for the Elderly Sisters in Bergamo: Saturday 25th July, 16:00 – 17:00. Sr Graça and Sr Natalia are thrilled that the Appeal launched at the beginning of June and supported in July with a Great International Zoom Quiz Night which brought together a wide range of people who generously supported the cause, **has raised £12,000**, an amount beyond all expectations! The ZOOM Meeting will aim to give thanks for all this support and give an update on the current situation with the elderly sisters as the appeal is closed. All are welcome. If you would like to join the meeting please e-mail: combonicentre16@gmail.com or phone: 020 89941220 and we will send a link to join the meeting.

PARISH ASSOCIATION WITH THE CATHOLIC UNION – Our parish has become the first in the country to have a formal association with The Catholic Union www.catholicunion.org.uk and many more will follow where there is shared interest. Fr Michael much recommends going to the website to sign up for their news briefings directly emailed completely free of charge. The news from parliament is always interesting if often rather worrying with initiatives to challenge the common good.

BAPTISMS, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION – Even with Masses for restricted numbers now being offered, the return to large and festal occasions such as First Holy Communion or Confirmation Masses is more distant. The instructions for Baptisms have, however, now been published by the Bishops' Conference and so dates are being booked into the diary and the parish is contacting those families who had booked baptisms from the lockdown period. There is to be only one baptism and family group at a time with a maximum of 30 present and socially distant (2M) in church. Rescheduling the First Holy Communion and Confirmation Masses is going to have to wait for as near a return to normality as possible perhaps in the Autumn. The parish will swiftly contact parents and guardians of existing candidates for these sacraments as soon as authority is given.

CENTERING PRAYER – In the current lockdown the Centering Prayer group has found a new way to convene via the internet platform Zoom. The group will now be meeting fortnightly on Mondays at 7.30pm. The next meeting will be 27th July so if you would like to join please phone or email John O'Brien who will be happy to assist: 07747611616 or john@jobrien.co.uk

MARRIAGE CARE, COUNSELLING SERVICES – *Marriage Care*, established in 1946 in response to the pressure on family relationships following the end of the Second World War, now offers support from trained counsellors to couples and families who need help in coping with the pressures of 'Lockdown'. Further information: <https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/marriage-and-family-life/news/marriage-care-at-75---we-are-here-for-you/>

THE CATHOLIC HERALD is now monthly. If you wish to subscribe you can do this directly at www.catholicherald.co.uk/subscribe at an annual cost of £59.99. An annual subscription gives the monthly print edition plus free access to all of the content on their website including regular news updates, podcasts, etc. so is excellent value for money and ensures you never miss an issue or news updates/podcasts on the website. The monthly issue will be a minimum of 80 pages each month and includes the original features of the previous weekly edition and many new ones.

TO OUR CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES READERS:- at the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you. SPECIAL OFFER 3 MONTHS :-£18.00 or 12 Months:- £72.00.

GUNNERSBURY NOTES

Thank you to those who have volunteered to be stewards and cleaners at St Dunstan's so that we can resume and sustain at least a 10.00am Sunday Mass. The aim is to have the first public Mass in St Dunstan's after the lockdown at **10.00am Sunday 26th July** and thereafter every Sunday of the summer and onwards while the lockdown is slowly lifted. In order to achieve this the **TRAINING SESSION FOR STEWARDS AND CLEANERS is scheduled for 5.00pm Friday 24th July**, for one hour. *Please try to attend.* Eventually stewards can train further stewards so it is essential to have a good group at the start. Please also remind parishioners that Mass will not be 'normal' as before. Mass must be short and simple with no singing, bidding prayers, sign of peace, Precious Blood, and Holy Communion taken in silence. Sacristan and Reader must wear disposable gloves as must stewards and cleaners. PPE will be provided. The church will have a much reduced capacity, perhaps around 20 (final figure yet to be determined) due to the requirements of social distancing so all parishioners would not be able to attend at once in any case. However, let us begin with the aid of volunteers. The volunteering will be for about 90 minutes weekly: 30 minutes before Mass, 30 minutes at Mass, and 30 minutes washing and disinfecting, working on four or five volunteers who must be between 18 and 70 years of age and with no underlying health conditions. New volunteers pls email chiswick@rcdow.org.uk Please see Fr Michael's front page article on the unavoidable consequences if a lack of volunteers come forward in these strange and demanding times. Much better avoided if at all possible.

GROVE PARK NOTES

Thank you to those who have provided their email addresses to Fr Michael so that the recruitment of volunteers can begin in order to resume and sustain at least one public Mass at St Joseph's each weekend over the summer and onwards. The aim is to have the first public Mass at **6.30pm Saturday 25th July** and each subsequent Saturday at 6.30pm. In order to achieve this the **TRAINING SESSION FOR STEWARDS AND CLEANERS is scheduled for 5.00pm Tuesday 21st July**, for one hour. *Please try to attend.* Eventually stewards can train further stewards so it is essential to have a good group at the start. Please also remind parishioners that Mass will not be 'normal' as before. Mass must be short and simple with no singing, bidding prayers, sign of peace, Precious Blood, and Holy Communion taken in silence. Sacristan and Reader must wear disposable gloves as must stewards and cleaners. PPE will be provided. **The church has a much reduced capacity of just sixteen places** due to social distancing requirements so all parishioners would not be able to attend at once in any case. However, let us begin with the aid of volunteers. The volunteering will be for about 90 minutes weekly: 30 minutes before Mass, 30 minutes at Mass, and 30 minutes washing and disinfecting, working on four or five volunteers who must be between 18 and 70 years of age and with no underlying health conditions. New volunteers pls email chiswick@rcdow.org.uk Please see Fr Michael's front page article on the unavoidable consequences if a lack of volunteers come forward in these strange and demanding times. Much better avoided if possible.

Update on St Joseph's Jungle Garden aka Project Paradise Regained – After a careful selection process a landscape gardening company has been commissioned for a two-phased rejuvenation of the parish garden. Phase One is Clearance which will happen in late July and/or early August, weather permitting, and will, name notwithstanding, keep what should be kept. Phase Two is Replanting and this will happen in September in good time for the autumn rains to bed in the new garden for winter. Between Phases One and Two the garden will not be pretty but this too is a phase and will pass.

In other news progress on the presbytery is necessarily slower while the late Fr John's estate is being settled by his Executor. Also as yet the time is not right to book in a Parish Memorial Mass for the late Fr John as we will wish all parishioners to be able to be present and so we will have to wait for social distancing restrictions effectively to be lifted altogether.

Collection for last weekend:

£3710.83

Thank you for your generosity.