



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

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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

5TH JULY 2020

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Fr Michael Dunne
Fr Mike Maguire
Sharon Bowden

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Administrator

'COME TO ME ALL YOU WHO LABOUR AND ARE
OVERBURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST.'

(Matthew 11:28)

Earlier this week we took another welcome step on our journey out of the COVID pandemic as we received the joyful news that from this weekend, the 4th July, we can begin to resume the public celebration of Mass, providing that social distancing and other 'staying safe' measures are in place. And in taking this great step, those words of Our Lord in our first reading today are spoken to us personally; **'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!'** Cardinal Vincent tenderly reminds us, however, that on the 4th July "we are not going back to normal, to what we knew before March," and he says that "we [all] have to think this through differently and afresh." Our Sunday obligation to attend Mass has still not been restored, and so Cardinal Vincent gave the example that this 'new way of thinking' would be to perhaps attend one of the weekday Masses, rather than just at the weekend, so that we can get as many of our parishioners to Mass safely, carefully and as often as possible. These past months of lockdown, we've all witnessed the truly unforgettable and beautiful ways in which we have depended on each other and thought of each other – needed and responded to each other – and we, dear brothers and sisters, must now continue to do so as we begin a new epoch in the life of our Church. For every Mass we attend, someone else may not be able to or may not have been as often as we have. The social distancing and 'staying safe' measures you'll see in the church, as well as some slight changes to the liturgy for Mass will remain in place until the lockdown restrictions are completely lifted, but we will continually review them as the Government gives us further advice.

From the 4th July the weekly timetable and opening times for Mass and private prayer at Our Lady of Grace will be as follows:

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

We will continue with the changes to our liturgy that we had become familiar with before we entered lockdown, plus a few additional changes, including:

- No parts of the Mass will be sung.
- The priest will read the readings at Mass.
- The offertory procession and passing of collection bags will remain suspended, but there will be a collection bag at the Exit Door of the church, via the St Edward's room, for you to make your offering if you wish.
- The sing of peace will remain temporarily withdrawn from the liturgy.
- After the prayer and its response "*Behold the Lamb of God...Lord I am not worthy,*" the priest will hold up the Host to the Congregation and say, "The Body of Christ" to which the congregation should respond "Amen." In the same way, he elevates the chalice and says, "The Blood of Christ" and again the congregation respond "Amen."
- The queue for Holy Communion is single file down the central aisle of the church (please follow the stewards directions).
- There will be no communal use of the chalice, and Holy Communion will be in the hand only. Please have your hands as flat as possible, one on top of the other.
- As you approach for Holy Communion, you will notice two small tables on the Altar rails. Please hold your hands over the table and the priest will silently place the Body of Christ on your hand. Receive the Blessed Sacrament silently, without saying "Amen," then return to your seat via the side aisles (please don't stop to light candles).

Finally, once Mass has finished, please leave the church via the St Edward's room – not the Main Doors of the church – to safely maintain the one-directional flow through the church following the stewards' directions. Because of the level of stewarding and cleaning required to comply with Governemnt guidance enabling these Masses to take place, we are unable currently to restart public Masses at St Dunstan's Gunnersbury and St Joseph's Grove Park.

FAREWELL TO SEMINARIAN MIKE – Quite a number of parishioners have now met the Westminster seminarian, Mike Guthrie, originally from New Zealand, who has been resident in the presbytery since 1st April after the seminary temporarily closed. He was busy with studies but was also very helpful around the house and church and especially as a steward and cleaner since the church opened. He is now on holiday and has sent this note of appreciation: *Thank you for hosting me here in your parish these last months. I have felt supported and welcomed by all I have met. Especially in the last three weeks you've taught me by your example how essential the Eucharist is for us all. Whether seeing you pray in front of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament or eagerly awaiting the start of public Masses, you've reminded me as a future priest that our lives can be lived well only if we're nourished from Jesus in the Eucharist. Thank you. To our stewards and cleaners who've let me work with you, as you've ensured your brothers and sisters could come to Mass again - you're the best! I know you sacrificed a lot around your families and jobs to be here. Can I ask that you pray for me and our 24 Westminster seminarians as we continue to prepare to be your priests. God Bless. Mike*

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 4/7 6.30pm	Vigil Mass	Lieutenant Ann Healey	ANN
Sun 5/7 8.30am 9.45am 11.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm	14TH SUNDAY IN O.T.	Padraig Henderson People of the Parish Ron Kehoe Bridie Johnston Joan Zohaddi	RIP INT RD INT RIP
Mon 6/7 11.30am 12.30pm	Feria	Michael Frederick Maura O'Connor	RIP INT
Tues 7/7 11.30am 12.30pm	Feria	Carolyn Thomas Annette Clerkin & Family	RIP INT
Wed 8/7 11.30am 12.30pm	Feria	Patrick Foley Cormac Murrighy	ANN RIP
Thurs 9/7 11.30am 12.30pm	Feria	Richard Frontline NHS & Care Home Workers; the sick & their families	INT INT
Fri 10/7 11.30am 12.30pm	Feria	Stella Beaumont Michael John Keaveney	INT RIP
Sat 11/7 11.30am 6.30pm	ST BENEDICT	Caroline Greenwood Mary Colgan	RIP INT

LET US PRAY

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

For those recently deceased: James O'Brien and Ewa Blonska. May they rest in peace.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Lieutenant Ann Healey and Patrick Foley.

FOODBANK COLLECTION THIS WEEK – Thank you to all those who have supported the Foodbank and left food and cash donations (in an envelope maked 'Foodbank') at the Presbytery this week. It will be delivered on Monday.

LENT PROJECT TOTAL NEARLY £20,000! – In what is an amazing testimony of parishioners' generosity in the face of the lockdown and the virus, the Lent Project appeal, which annually runs from Lent to Pentecost, has now been closed and the totals sent away. We had three charities to benefit from Lenten alms: the Cardinal's Lentern Appeal supporting projects in the Westminster Diocese received £3,152.88; the Cardinal Hume Centre, supporting homeless youth in London, received £3,371.63; and our overseas' charity, Friends of the Holy Land, received £6,251.28, with a further £100 after we had closed the appeal and £70 Gift Aid. This would have been a fine total in the lockdown circumstances of £12,945.79 but for some other generosity. Some wealthy patrons of Friends of the Holy Land had agreed to double any donation to the charity up until Pentecost Sunday. We therefore ensured that our £6,251.28 was received in good time and the charity confirmed it qualified for being doubled by their own patrons to £12,502.56! The total received by the charities' beneficiaries is **£19,197.07**.

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 again for restricted numbers from 4th July, the return to large and festal occasions such as First Holy Communion or Confirmation Masses is more distant. Baptisms, too, are still some way off but the parish would contact those families who has booked a baptism during the lockdown period as soon as we have information allowing baptisms to take place. 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.

GUNNERSBURY NOTES

and

GROVE PARK NOTES

With the Government's allowing churches to re-open for Masses this weekend it might have been thought all three of our parochial churches could re-open just as before the virus. This is not the case. In order for a church to be regarded as 'Covid secure' any re-opening has to be accompanied by stringent terms and conditions pertaining to social distancing, sanitising and cleaning after use, and subject to objective standards and external scrutiny. **For the moment therefore St Dunstan's Gunnersbury and St Joseph's Grove Park must remain closed as we have not managed to gather eligible volunteers in sufficient numbers.** Please remember that to be eligible for volunteering, applicants must be in good health, under 70 years of age, and have no underlying health conditions. Parishioners of Grove Park in particular have a still stronger incentive for volunteering via the Parish Office in order to allow Fr Brendan (see below) to begin to celebrate Mass at St Joseph's.

WELCOME FR BRENDAN – Later this week we have a new priest moving into the Chiswick presbytery, Fr Brendan Carmody SJ. Fr Brendan is a Jesuit priest of the Irish Province and formerly a Professor of Education now engaged in academic pursuits at St Mary's University in Twickenham. This will remain his week-day work while the university is in session but at weekends he will assist with Masses and particularly with St Joseph's Grove Park, where it is planned that he would be most weekends, though he will also offer Mass in Chiswick and Gunnersbury. It's a difficult time for anyone to move house and hope to settle in somewhere new when it's so difficult to meet parishioners but please make him very welcome whenever the opportunity arises over the coming months if we can look forward to expanding numbers at Masses.

THE MEN'S GROUP - Men of all ages are warmly invited to our next meeting on Thursday 9 July, from 8.30pm on the Zoom app. We will listen to a talk from Fr Larry Richard's book "Be A Man!" followed by a short discussion. Email Stephen Donnelly at donnellysm@hotmail.com for details. We are affiliated to www.catholicman.uk

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 13th 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

COMBONI SISTERS' MOTHER GENERAL MAKES APPEAL – The Comboni Sisters on Chiswick Lane would like to draw parishioners' kind attention to their Mother General's "Emergency COVID-19 Appeal Caring for the Elderly Comboni Sisters", <https://www.combonisc.co.uk/community/> The Comboni Sisters Nursing Homes in the Veneto region of northern Italy care for about 400 elderly and sick Missionary Sisters from all countries who have returned from giving their active lives in the service of others on the missions. Covid-19 has had a devastating effect in the area and aside from the tragic multiple premature deaths of retired Sisters, the exceptional expenses incurred in caring for the others through the pandemic has affected the Order's global budget for mission. Mother General Sr Luigina Coccia is appealing for prayer and for donations to help in this situation. Details on how to donate can be found by opening the above link where Sr Luigina's video can be viewed. The Chiswick Comboni Sisters, who have been praying for parishioners throughout the pandemic, say "As missionaries, we greatly appreciate every gesture that makes us all feel part of the same family. Thank you and God bless you."

THURSDAY MASS for NHS & CARE HOME staff & the SICK – The last live-streamed Mass to be celebrated by a Bishop on behalf of the Bishops' Conference at 7.00pm on each Thurs is: 9th July: Bishop Tom Williams, Liverpool Cathedral.

TO OUR CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES READERS IN THE PARISH:- 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