

Presbytery

337 Harrow Road, London, W9 3RB
Tel: 020 7286 2170

Parish Priest

Fr. Michael Jarmulowicz
michaeljarmulowicz@rcdow.org.uk

Also in Residence (for advanced studies)
Fr Daniel Isah

Harrow Rd Office

Parish Administrator: Mrs Jennifer Ellis
Office Hours: Mon & Friday 9 - 3 pm
Tel No: 020 7286 2170
E-mail: harrowroad@rcdow.org.uk
Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/harrowroad

Paddington Office

Parish Administrator: Mrs Mandy O'Sullivan-Whitting
Office Hours; Thursday 10 - 2 pm
Tel No: 020 7286 2672
E-mail: paddington@rcdow.org.uk
Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/paddington

Mass Times

Monday: 10:00 am (Harrow Rd)
Tuesday: 10:00 am (Paddington)
Wednesday: No Mass
Thursday: 10:00 am (Paddington)
Friday: 10:00 am (Harrow Road)
Saturday: 10:00 am (Paddington)
6:00 pm (Harrow Rd)
Sunday: 9:30 am (Paddington)
11:30 am (Harrow Rd)

Eucharistic Adoration

One hour before weekday and Sat am Masses

Confessions

During periods of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and on request.

Sunday Readings

Parish Mass Book—page 82.

Is 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

Parishes of
OUR LADY OF LOURDES & ST VINCENT DE PAUL
(HARROW RD)

and

OUR LADY OF SORROWS, (PADDINGTON)

DECEMBER - MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

3RD DECEMBER 2023

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT — YEAR B

Waiting for Judgement Day



A man goes on a journey leaving his slaves in charge, each with a job to do. A doorkeeper keeps watch to alert the slaves as to his master's return. The story illustrates the time of waiting between Jesus' first coming as a little baby at Christmas to his second

coming on Judgement Day. Did the slaves really need a doorkeeper to alert them to the master's return? After all, waiting for the second coming shouldn't be the same as waiting for a bus! The point is not to wait for the master's return before hurling ourselves into great busyness. We have to spend our waiting time in preparation and constant readiness.

"Keep alert," we are told "keep awake." We are asked to keep alert and awake not for fear of being caught out like naughty school children, but in a spirit of 'keeping our eye on the ball.' We all know how we would like to contribute. Each of us is aware of our unique place on the planet and how we would like to be remembered. Sadly, all too often it is easy for us to 'take our eye off the ball' and get caught up in other concerns.

The news is full of people who have reached the end of their life unexpectedly. None of us has been afforded an exact time and date for our final preparations. Instead we are asked to live in a permanent state of readiness seizing every opportunity on a daily basis to prepare for God's Kingdom. Our Advent goal needs to be about waiting in readiness from this day until our last.

Today's invitation is to decide on our plans and bring them to fruition. Just in the same way as we draw up any other plan, we need to do the same for our Advent goals. In the same way as we put our plans in a diary, it helps to put our spiritual plans in a diary too. Who are we going to help today and how? Whose life can we impact and by when? It probably sounds hugely trite, but we need to put Judgement Day in the diary!

Mass Intentions for both parishes for week beginning Saturday 2nd December 2023

Saturday	6:00 pm	Theresa Daly (RIP)	Sunday	9:30 am	Mary & Sidney Fourniss (RIP—anniv)
Sunday	11:30 am	Bernie McEvoy (RIP)	Monday	10:00 am	Bernadette Gillespie (Ints)
Tuesday	10:00 am	Joseph Thornicroft (sick)	Wednesday	10:00 am	No Mass
Thursday	10:00 am	Maria Ocarline, Antonia & Nilza (RIP)	Friday	10:00 am	-
Saturday (9.12)	10:00 am	Joseph Thornicroft (sick)	Saturday	6:00 pm	Sheila John & Family (Ints)
Sunday (10.12)	9:30 am	-	Sunday	11:30 am	People of the Parish

Happy New Liturgical Year!

Today, the First Sunday of Advent is the first day of the new liturgical year of the Church. Every liturgical year is devoted to a particular set of Gospel readings for each Sunday and they run in a three year cycle, corresponding to Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Last year was devoted to Matthew, while this year's readings will be primarily from Mark. Today's reading is just the beginning of many passages from Mark that you will be hearing throughout the whole year. It might be a good spiritual exercise for all of us this Advent, to sit down one evening, turn off the T.V., and read the Gospel of Mark all the way through. It's the shortest of the four gospels so try to do it in one sitting so you don't lose any of the flavour of it. Then, when we come to Mass on Sunday and hear various passages of the Word of God proclaimed, we'll know where they fit in with the whole scheme of things.

Diocesan News

CAFOD are having a Carol Concert on **Wednesday 13 December** from **7:00pm until 8:00pm** at **St James Church, Spanish Place, 22 George Street** London W1U 3QY. All are welcome.

Parish News

Advent Adult Catechesis. For the next three Mondays we will be showing 3 episodes from the famous Robert Barron series "Catholicism".

Time—7:00 pm —8:00 pm.

Monday 4th Dec — Episode 1—'Amazed and Afraid'.

Monday 11th Dec—Episode 4—on Mary.

Monday 18th Dec—Episode 7—on the Mass.

All welcome—Meeting will be in Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall. Tea and Biscuits will be provided and there will be time for discussion.

African Women Empowerment & Information Centre are holding their annual winter fundraiser in **our (Harrow Road) church hall** this coming **Saturday (8th December)** from **3pm—9:30 pm**, to help women and children refugees in Sudan and Ethiopia. Guest speakers, Presentations, Food & Drink, Raffles, fun activities for kids. Phone Feven for more information on 07931 255668.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, Advent Reflection at Sacred Heart Church, **Quex Road** on **Sunday 10 December** from **2:30 pm to 5:30 pm** led by the Marian Fathers. All Welcome.

Maronite Christmas Concert. The Maronite choir will be singing their traditional Christmas hymns at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Harrow Road, on **Friday 15th December between 7:30 and 8:30 pm.** Bishop Paul McAleenan and the Assistant General of the Maronites will be present. All are invited. There will be traditional Lebanese food (sweet) afterwards.

Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner. Reminder that we are holding our annual Christmas Dinner, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church Harrow Road, on **Saturday 16th December at 1:00 pm.** There will be Mass at 12 noon. Parishioners from both parishes are invited. Please sign up if you wish to attend. Also sign up for friends/relatives who may not be able to get to regular mass and need help getting here. There is also a list for volunteer helpers.

Advent Giving Calendar. A few are left at the back of the church—and you can leave donations in the bin at back of the church, which we will pass onto the Food Pantry at the Emmanuel Church, just along the Harrow Road.

Funeral Notices

The Reception and Rite of Committal for Cremation of the late **Hubert Mungly** will take place at the **West London Crematorium** on **Friday 8th December at 9:30 am.**

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late **Eddie Linden** will take place on **Friday 8th December at 1:00 pm** at the church of **Our Lady of Lourdes, Harrow Rd**, followed by committal at West London Crematorium.

The Reception and Rite of Committal for Cremation of the late **Michael Matthews** will take place at the **West London Crematorium** on **Monday 11th December at 10:00 am.**

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late **Barthelemy Defoe** will take place on **Thursday 14th December at 11:30 pm** at the church of **Our Lady of Lourdes, Harrow Rd**, followed by committal at West London Crematorium.

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late **Wilhelmina Angol** will take place on **Friday 5th January 2024 at 11:00 am** at the church of **Our Lady of Lourdes, Harrow Rd**, followed by burial at Kensal Green Cemetery.