

## 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 Road)  
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 Saturday Masses.

## Confessions

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

## Sunday Readings

Parish Mass Book—Page 255  
Acts 4:32-35; 1 Jn 5:1-6; John 20:19-31.

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

and

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS, (PADDINGTON)**

**APRIL - MONTH OF THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST**

**7<sup>SH</sup> APRIL 2024**

**2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER [DIVINE MERCY] (YEAR B)**

## Doubt and Disbelief



The story of 'Doubting Thomas' is aimed at all those generations of people who will not see the risen Lord, yet are asked to believe. So are we really being asked to believe in what we cannot see or hear or touch, when even those closest to

Jesus had problems in accepting what was happening?

In today's gospel we see Thomas struggling with a problem that many of us still struggle with today. Thomas desperately wanted to believe in the risen Jesus, but he wasn't the sort of person to pretend he understood something when he didn't. He wasn't the sort of person that could pretend that he didn't have doubts when he did. There are many of us today who desperately want deeper meaning in our lives. There are those amongst us who have become disillusioned with the Church and wish they could embrace what it once meant. There are many of us who would like to find a deeper faith but have found only stumbling blocks. Like Thomas, we find that the gap between faith and doubt too big a leap.

For those who find belief elusive, there is an uncomfortable beatitude in today's gospel. "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." This can feel like a reproach to those of us who harbour doubts, but the important thing to remember is that doubt isn't the same thing as disbelief. Doubt can be a good thing even. Doubt means that we are still questioning something that we care about. Doubt means that we are still looking for answers ..... that we are still learning and growing. Doubt is a tool that we can use to carve a mature faith. Belief isn't something we either have or haven't got ... belief is a process, and the end product of that process, is one's own spiritual self.

*(Continued overleaf)*

## Mass Intentions for both parishes for week beginning Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Saturday (HR)	6:00 pm	Mary Kinsella (Anniv Ints)	Sunday	9:30 am	People of the Parish
Sunday	11:30 am	Sylvia Marris (RIP)	Monday	10:00 am	Deysi Martinez (50th Bday)
Tuesday	10:00 am	-	Wednesday	No Mass	
Thursday	10:00 am	-	Friday	10:00 am	-
Saturday (13.4)	10:00 am	-	Saturday	6:00 pm	Tom Kinsella (Ints)
Sunday (14.4)	9:30 am	People of the Parish	Sunday	11:30 am	Gladys Kibart (RIP)

(Continued from page 1)

**The Annunciation** Saying Yes to Jesus. The Annunciation is normally celebrated on 25th March (9 months [a pregnancy length] before Christmas), but this year that date fell in Holy Week and so its celebration has been transferred to the coming Monday (9<sup>th</sup> April).

At the Annunciation, Mary's consent was one of the most important moments in the history of salvation and in the unfolding of the Eucharistic mystery. We call that moment her '*fiat*', the first word in a Latin phrase that means "Be it done unto me according to your word." When we say yes to God, we allow his grace to be fruitful. When we say no, we are missing big opportunities to be part God's picture.

### Parish News

**Planned Giving Envelopes.** The envelopes are available for collection. If you have not collected your box please do take it.

**Divine Mercy Sunday.** The traditional Divine Mercy Sunday devotions will be held at our adjacent parish of Our Lady of Holy Souls (Kensal New Town), Hazlewood Crescent, **this Sunday (7th April)** at **2:30—4:30.** Fr Daniel and myself will be assisting there.

**Lourdes Pilgrimage 19th- 26th July 2024 –** Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve. All need to also complete the Medical Form. **All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30th April.**

Fr Daniel will be coming also. I will be booking to stay at the Alba (where most of the redcaps stay) and will be going by air rather than train. Redcaps (age 16-25)—please apply to the Catenian Bursary to help fund your trip—last year each applicant received £100. Goto <https://catenianbursary.com/lourdes-awards/> to apply.

### Life in the Spirit Seminar

Soul food will be running their annual 'Life in the Spirit Seminar'. This is a 6 week course running every Thursday evening from 7—9pm starting 18th April. The course is a back-to-basics course, with a focus on the Holy Spirit, for Catholics at all stages of their faith journey. It is based at St Charles Borromeo Church, 8 Ogle St, London, W1W 6HS (a sort walk from No 18 (Great Portland St) bus stop. There is a highly recommended residential weekend retreat in Northampton (The parish will be happy to support cost for that) 10-12<sup>th</sup> May.

See poster at the back of the church. Also website <https://soulfoodgroup.co.uk/liss>

### Did we just see the budding shoots of a Christian revival this Easter?

It was reported that on Good Friday Westminster Cathedral was full with over 3000 people attending; Spanish Place was also full, and Trafalgar Square was packed for the Wintershall Players re-enactment of the Easter Passion. In our own church over 800 Lebanese Maronites attended. Sadly we did not plan for such numbers and the timings we agreed did not make for an orderly transition of our parishioners leaving and Maronites entering the church. I can only apologise for this and Fr Fadi & I will need to reconsider how to avoid this in the future.

The Vicar General has asked the Dean to look into the matter, and he will do so after his return from annual leave.

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.

### Funeral Notice

The Reception and Rite of Committal for Cremation of the late **Florence Pitt** will take place at the **West London Crematorium** on **Tuesday 30th April at 10:00 am.**