Presbytery

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

Parish Priest

Fr. Michael Jarmulowicz
michaeljarmulowicz@rcdow.org.uk

Also in Residence
Fr Daniel Isah & Fr Charles Soyombo
(for advanced studies)

Parish Office

Parish Administrators:
Mrs Jennifer Ellis
Office Hours: Mon 9 - 5 pm

Mrs Mandy O'Sullivan-Whiting
Office Hours: Wed (by phone) & Thur 10 - 4 pm
Tel No: 020 7286 2170 (option 3)
E-mail: paddingtonnorth@rcdow.org.uk
Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/harrowroad

Mass Times this week

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.

Mass Readings

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Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 John 3:1-3;
Matthew 5:1-12a.

Parish of PADDINGTON NORTH

with the churches of

OUR LADY OF LOURDES & ST VINCENT DE PAUL (337 HARROW RD)
and
OUR LADY OF SORROWS, (17 CIRENCESTER ST, PADDINGTON)

NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

1ST NOVEMBER 2026

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS (YEAR A)

What Makes a Saint?

Our common understanding of the word 'saint' is people the church has canonised which declares that they are in heaven. But St Paul wrote to the Corinthians and called them saints. The word saint (from latin *sancti*) means 'holy' and at our baptism we become holy, so we become saints. However we are imperfect saints and it is a lifelong journey to reach the fullness of sanctity, which is only achieved finally in heaven.

So how do we get there? By the simple acceptance of a sermon Jesus gave over two thousand years ago. The 'Sermon On the Mount', sometimes called the 'greatest sermon of all time', which begins with a list of revolutionary statements, which we now know as the 'Beatitudes'. The Beatitudes give us a blue print for living our lives, and a key for entering the Kingdom of God.

Be poor in spirit we are told; which is humility; the opposite of pride which is putting ourselves first. We should be meek, always seeking to serve rather than seeking the power with which to lord it over others. Hunger for righteousness we are told, never tolerating injustice, always having the integrity to suffer for what we believe in if needs be. We should be merciful, not only with those we feel deserve mercy like the poor and the disadvantaged, but with those who need our forgiveness and consideration. Are we always pure of heart or do we enjoy a good gossip, a joke at someone else's expense? Are we peacemakers, or do we fuel battles against neighbours, workmates or people from different communities?

The Beatitudes are a list of challenges designed to shape our lives for the better, but are we left looking at the list and feeling that it's just too much of a tall order? As in anything that initially seems too difficult are we in danger of simply 'switching off', imagining that Jesus' ideals are meant for others but not for us?

On this the feast of 'All Saints' we celebrate the lives, not of the formally canonised saints, but the many ordinary people, including those in our

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Mass Intentions for week beginning Saturday 31st October 2026

Saturday	6:00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	11:30 am	Michael & Mary O'Doherty (Anniv)
Tuesday	10:00 am	Rita Martin (Anniv)
Thursday	10:00 am	Holy Souls
Sat (7 Nov)	10:00 am	Holy Souls
Sun (8 Nov)	9:30 am	Marie - Chantel (Ints)
Sunday	9:30 am	Dea Ligan (Ints)
Monday	10:00 am	Holy Souls
Wednesday	No Mass	
Friday	10:00 am	Leona Cicy Tavernier (Anniv)
Saturday	6:00 pm	Nygin Alexander (RIP)
Sunday	11:30 am	People of the Parish

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family, who lived as best they could following the commandments. A saint is not necessarily a perfect person, but someone who has sought his or her hardest to be faithful to God. When we determine to live our lives by Jesus' ideals what matters is our commitment and integrity, not our measure of success.

Diocesan News

Magnifica Humanitas. The Friends of Westminster Cathedral are inviting **everyone to Westminster Cathedral Hall**, for a talk by Fr Hugh MacKenzie on *Magnifica Humanitas*. The talk will be on **Wednesday 4th November at 6.30pm** and will explore Pope Leo's reflections on the distinction between human and artificial intelligence, and what the rapid development of AI means for our understanding of humanity, morality and faith. Drawing on Pope Leo's teaching, Fr Hugh will consider what makes human intelligence unique, why our God-given dignity cannot be reduced to data and algorithms, and the dangers of allowing technology to take the place of human judgement, authentic relationships or spiritual fulfilment. For further details and tickets visit *https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/news-events/*

Parish News

November Cemetery Mass. The Bi-Annual Concelebrated Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Cemetery, Kensal Green, NW10 5NU, will be on **Monday 2nd November at 11.30am**.

Help a parishioner please. Is there any parishioner who comes to the 11:30 Sunday Mass living near the top end of Fernhead Road (ie. St Luke's church end) who would be willing to help bring an elderly lady to church by bus? (or if by car you will get access to our car park). She is currently being brought here by a wonderful non-Catholic neighbour who is missing out attending her own church. Yes we are ecumenical but her vicar is upset that she is always very late for their service because she brings our parishioner here first.

Should we have joined in with Halloween Ghouls?

Halloween does have a pagan origin. They believed that the harvest had to be all in by the last day of October to prevent it being damaged by the evil spirits. Offerings of the harvested food would be offered to placate the spirits, and Druids even offered human sacrifice. You can see the link with the ghoulish masks now worn.

Pope St Gregory the Great (590 to 604) suggested that instead of trying to do away with pagan festivals, they could convert them to Christian festivals. In 609 Pope Boniface created the feast of **All Saints**, and in 741 Pope St Gregory III set it as November 1st. So a feast celebrated for almost 1300 years!

But where does the name 'Halloween' come from? In the Our Father we pray "Hallowed be thy name". Hallow is the Old English name for 'holy'. So the feast of All Saints, is—in Old English—All Hallows. The word 'evening' is corrupted to "e'en", so halloween is the evening before the feast of All Hallows. So how many know that 'Halloween' is the 1300 year old Catholic name for the vigil (evening before) of the Solemnity of 'All Saints'; so Halloween is a Christian celebration which our society has sadly re-paganised!!

Marriage Matters

(www.marriagecare.org.uk)

All Saints

(Apocalypse 7:2-4; 9-14 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12)

We too may go through tough times

Today's Gospel tells us that it is not only when we are strong that we live out God's plan for our marriage. Sometimes, when we are weak, our Sacramental way of life is mainly using our energy to minister to each other. A lot of joy can be found when we walk down a difficult road together.

Funeral Notices

The Reception and Rite of Committal for Cremation of the late **Antonio Pita** will take place on **Monday 9th November at 10:00 am** at the **West London Crematorium**.
The 11:30 Mass on Sunday 15th November will be celebrated for the Repose of the Soul of Antonio.

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late **Paul Slattery** will take place on **Friday 13th November at 10:45 am** at **Our Lady of Lourdes Church,**
followed by committal at West London Crematorium.

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late **Vernie Williams** will take place on **Tuesday 17th November at tbc**
followed by burial at St Mary's Catholic Cemetery.