

# NEWS

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12 September 2021

## FR TOM WRITES:

*Dear Friends,*

*I write this as I sit amongst boxes that need to be unpacked in my new parish, but I need to thank you all for your kindness to me, not only over this last weekend, but over the last two years. As I took leave from you, I felt overwhelmed by the love and generosity that you have shown me. It has been an incredible two years as we have journeyed through the pandemic and the various types of lockdowns that we faced together. It has been a great joy to see the generous response of people who volunteered to be stewards that enabled our churches to be open. I know I have said it time and time again, but I had a real sense of pride at how people have responded.*

*As I leave, I am conscious of the fact that there is a lot of unfinished matters – especially those who I have prepared for the sacraments and who are still to come back to worship within the parish community. I'm also sorry that there was not more time (due to lockdown regulations) to spend more time with people.*

*As I sit at my desk, I feel daunted with the task ahead, but as we heard in last Sunday's scriptures "Courage, do not be afraid". So please pray for me, as I continue to pray for you, that we may be open to the Lord's will and mission. It has been a real blessing to work with Fr James and I am grateful for all his support to me. As Fr James said on Sunday afternoon, I'm not going far, so I will probably be back to visit (at Fr James' invitation).*

*I'm sure you will welcome Fr Chinedu as well as you did me, he has many blessings ahead of him.*

*With my love and prayers.*

*Fr Tom*

**WELCOME TO FR CHINEDU:** Our new Assistant Priest, Fr Chinedu Udo, moves in this week and will be with us at Mass on the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for him as he settles in and I know everyone will make him very welcome. Fr Chinedu's regular day off will be Thursdays.

**DIOCESAN WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE MASS:** will be celebrated by Bishop John Sherrington at the Cathedral on 11 September at 2.30pm.

**CALLING ALL SINGERS!** As we start parish life again we will be building up the music as an important part of our worship, starting with reviving the choirs at 10am and 11am Sunday Masses. Do you want to help sing in a choir? Would you like to learn a bit about choir singing? All ages and all standards are welcome! Please speak with Simon, the Director of Music, or with one of the clergy after Mass. *"Whoever sings prays twice!" said St Augustine. Singing in the choir is a great way to serve God and it is also good fun and fellowship. It takes a little commitment and application, but it is well worth it!*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE NEXT STAGE OF FIGHTING COVID:** With the easing of Covid restrictions we will have all the more need of volunteers to keep the churches clean and safe. There will be less stewarding work to do, however. Please can you help by offering an hour or two every so often?? Everyone over the age of 18 can be a volunteer, including those over 65 who have received both vaccinations. Send you contact number and email to [harrowsouth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:harrowsouth@rcdow.org.uk). **THANK YOU.**

## SCHOOL NEWS:

**CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL OPEN EVENINGS:** Please note that there is no need to book for these events.

Year 7 Open Evenings - Tuesday 14th and Thursday 23rd September 2021. The Head will speak at 4.30pm and at 6.00pm. The last tour of the school will take place at 6.15pm.

Year 12 Open Evenings - Thursday 7th and Tuesday 12th October 2021 at 5.00pm. The Head will speak at 5.00pm. The last tour of the school will take place at 6.00pm.

contact information: [www.cvms.co.uk](http://www.cvms.co.uk) | 020 7603 8478 | 89 Addison Road | London | W14 8BZ

## SACRED HEART LANGUAGE COLLEGE WEALDSTONE OPEN EVENINGS:

Those wishing to apply for a place in Year 7 for September 2022 are invited to visit the school during one of our Open Evenings on the following dates:

Wednesday 15th September 2021, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Thursday 23rd September 2021 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Covid Safety: All visitors are reminded to wear a mask and maintain social distancing within the school.

Contact information: The Sacred Heart Language College, 186 High Street, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex HA3 7AY, Tel: 020 8901 3623 Also see poster in church.

See the notice boards in Church for further school information.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY: ST GREGORY'S SCIENCE COLLEGE:** School Librarian/Learning Resources Manager needed from October 2021. Salary circa 26K pro-rata, term time only. Library qualification or experience would be advantageous. Application pack available from Mrs Brennan, PA to the Headteacher on 020 8907 8828 or [schooloffice@stgregorys.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@stgregorys.harrow.sch.uk)

**NEW COURSES AND RESOURCES FROM THE LONDON JESUIT CENTRE:**

You will find a full list of LJC events, courses and retreats here: [www.londonjesuitcentre.org](http://www.londonjesuitcentre.org)

Here are some of what is on offer soon:

[Introduction to the Old Testament](#) (begins 23 September 2021)

The Old Testament is essential to understanding the history of salvation and the course will map out the main arc of the Old Testament narrative by exploring four central themes: creation, covenant, prophecy and kingship.

[Prayer from Scratch](#) (begins 29 September 2021)

Prayer is at the very heart of the Christian life and this course, over five Wednesdays, will help participants see prayer in a new way. There will be time for discussion and reflection, as well as periods of guided prayer.

[God and Suffering I - Philosophical Questions](#) (begins 23 September 2021)

It has been a centuries old cry of atheists – how can there be a perfect, loving God given that the world is so full of suffering? The course will explore some of the key philosophical arguments and help participants understand the issues more deeply.

**RIGHT TO LIFE UK: NEWS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES:** We are expecting another attempt by the abortion lobby here in the UK to change abortion law this year. Unfortunately, the assisted suicide lobby are also attempting to introduce assisted suicide to the UK through a Bill that is currently progressing through the House of Lords. This means we will be facing battles on two major fronts, likely at the same time.

We are now working on ensuring that we have all the key infrastructure in place to be able to contribute heavily to the defeat of both of these upcoming attempts - along with continuing to increase the impact of our ongoing work.

As part of our preparations, we are hiring for a number of positions across media, public affairs, digital and operations. We are looking for highly-skilled, hard-working, professional individuals to join us to ensure we have the right team in place.

**Apply to work for Right To Life UK**

Are you looking to leave a corporate career and instead use your skills and energy to make a significant positive difference to this world?

Right To Life UK are currently hiring for a number of positions across media, public affairs, digital and operations.

In particular, they are looking to urgently fill positions in their Public Affairs team, to ensure that they have the right team in place ahead of their opposition making further attempts to introduce radical changes to abortion and assisted suicide legislation. They are looking for highly-skilled, hard-working, professional individuals to join them.

If this is of interest to you or if you know of anyone that would be suitable for one of the positions, please visit the link below to view the roles they are looking to hire for and learn how to apply.

[www.righttolife.org.uk/jobs/](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/jobs/)

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY** in the harvest season is on Friday 1 October. The habit of fasting is of course a most ancient practice to help us to grow in spirit. Please help mark the regular Family Fast Day, and symbolically the “proceeds” - that is the money we save that hasn’t been spent on our needs that day we contribute to the CAFOD collection. (CAFOD is the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.)

CAFOD experts are helping around the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. You can make a direct contribution and this year we ask you to do this electronically as follows:

Go to the CAFOD website [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) to donate online.

Text CAFOD10 to 70580 to donate £10. (They ask us to say that you should also text CAFODNOINFO to 70589 if you don’t want to receive other communications.)

For more information about the work of CAFOD visit [cafod.org.uk/fastday](http://cafod.org.uk/fastday).

Also, there’s a CAFOD petition you can support, in preparation for the November Climate talks in Glasgow in November. With the eyes of the world on the UK, we must urge the Prime Minister to make sure communities hardest hit by the climate emergency are listened to at the COP26 conference. If you wish to sign this petition, go to [cafod.org.uk/reclaim](http://cafod.org.uk/reclaim)

**HELP FOR HAITI:** Our prayers are very much needed for the people of Haiti after another earthquake. Not reported in the UK was the loss of life among worshippers, religious sisters and others. Even a bishop was pulled from the rubble of his cathedral! Aid to the Church in need are sending relief to Haiti, so an efficient way to support the church there is via ACN. See the link from our website, or go to [acnuk.org](http://acnuk.org).

**NEWS FROM CARITAS WESTMINSTER:** *“Introduction to Volunteering”*: 21st September, 10 – 11:30 am, Zoom.

Thinking about volunteering? Find out how to get started at a free interactive session run by Caritas Westminster. It is for people thinking about or just starting out in volunteering. Explore what your perfect role could be and how to find it, discover what your first days might be like, and how to deal with issues that may crop up along the way. This event covers all the basic need-to-knows about becoming a volunteer.

Book your place on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-volunteering-tickets-159672389415>

**Volunteering Opportunity with the Caritas Volunteer Service:**

The Caritas Volunteer Service is growing! We are looking for a couple of volunteers who share our passion for social action and volunteering. This is an opportunity to help transform lives throughout the Diocese by helping charities and outreach projects find volunteers. Deadline for applications: 31 July. For more information please contact: <https://www.caritasvs.org.uk/volunteer-with-us.php>

**JOB VACANCIES WITHIN THE DIOCESE.** On the diocesan website you can see a number of job vacancies that are available. For more details go to <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

**CATHOLIC HISTORY WALKS:** See [www.catholichistorywalks.com](http://www.catholichistorywalks.com) for information. There’s a regular programme of events around London. Trouble is they usually tell us about them with too little notice! If you would like to join the group for these interesting excursions, check the website.

**EUCCHARISTIC OCTAVE:** The International Eucharistic Congress is due to take place in September in Budapest. Travel restrictions are likely to make it difficult to be there, and as such, there will be a Eucharistic Octave in London organised by several of the London Parishes to celebrate our Eucharistic Lord.

- Saturday 11 September: a day of Adoration, with Mass celebrated at 12noon by Cardinal Vincent Nichols

- The week of 13 September: Mass at Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane every evening at 6:30pm. Will include Mass in the Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms of the Roman Rite, the Ordinariate Use and the Ukrainian Divine Liturgy. There will also be a Requiem Mass for all those who have died from Covid-19.

- Sunday 19 September: a grand Eucharistic Procession at 3:30pm, departing from Our Lady of the Assumption, Warwick Street, and heading towards St James, Spanish Place, via Farm Street and the Ukrainian Cathedral.

Full details of events during the octave can be found at [www.catholiclondon.org](http://www.catholiclondon.org)

**ONLINE AND REMOTE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support - providing counselling and marriage preparation throughout England and Wales. They are looking for volunteers who can spare just a few hours a week working from the comfort of their own home to help them support marriage and relationships. They are asking for help in the two following roles.

**Zoom Support:** Are you an expert on Zoom and would you like to use your tech-skills to help us run marriage preparation courses, training or CPD events online?

**Remote Secretary:** Provide a vital service to counsellors and clients, taking last-minute cancellations calls and communicating changes as necessary.

For more information please visit: [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk)

**HAND MADE ICON FOR SALE:** Cristinel Paslaru, who made the icons of the Baptism of Christ in St Gabriel’s and of the Holy Trinity in St Bernard’s is a professional Icon Writer from Iasi in Romania.

He has made a new icon of St Christopher (25cms x 12cms) which is looking for a home. His price is £150. Cristi’s work is beautiful and of the highest quality. All questions or enquiries to Fr James.





## Support our parish.

You can make a donation to the parish by scanning the QR code or making a card payment on the card machine at the entrance of both of our churches.