

OCTOBER: MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY: A message from Pope Francis: "I want to give you some advice: Never abandon the Rosary. Never abandon the Rosary. Pray the Rosary, as she asked." This is very good advice, as the Rosary is a powerful secret weapon in the war for good and virtue in our lives and in the world.

LELIA BYRNE RIP: The Funeral Mass for Leila Byrne is at 11:00 am on Thursday 21st October at St Gabriel's Church (Cremation follows at Breakspear Crematorium and Leila's mortal remains will be interred at Pinner New Cemetery.

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!*

FLOWERS IN CHURCH: In the meantime, now it is time to make plans for how to do flowers in Church at St Gabriel's in the future. How about you? Do you have a gift for floristry? If you feel you could serve God and your Parish in this way- please speak with Fr James or register your interest at the Office.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER REQUESTS FOR ENDORSEMENT: Those who need to ask for a "Certificate of Catholic Practice" are asked to send an email to the Parish Address with the following information:

- Name of parents and full name of child.
- Date of birth of child.
- Residential Address
- Name of EACH school to which an application is being made.

As you will understand, following the normal criteria for issuing certificates, almost nobody would qualify. A modified process is being followed. After receipt of your email you will be contacted from the office.

DIOCESAN PATHWAY TO THE SYNOD: The text of:

- [Cardinal Vincent's Pastoral Letter](#), and
- [The Handbook for the "Synodal Pathway"](#)

Are available here on our website. Pope Francis has requested a "Church-wide listening process" to hear where we are at and to hear people's experiences of faith with all its joys and disappointments, and to look for ways of strengthening each other. We are told by diocesan authorities to expect guidance and resources soon about how to practically organize the Synod process at parish level. In the meantime, this matter will be in the Prayer of the Faithful this Sunday and please commit it to your personal prayers.

CATHOLICS DON'T CELEBRATE "HALLOWEEN", THEY CELEBRATE THE SAINTS ON THE "EVE OF ALL HALLOWS": "The Eve of All Hallows Day" on 31 October should be for us a time of preparation for the great Feast Day. Remember, the Halloween nonsense only exists BECAUSE the following day is a great Christian festival. It is increasingly important that Catholics DO NOT get involved in "Halloween" activities, which celebrate the opposite. It might seem like harmless fun, but anything that normalises evil suits the purposes of the devil very well. Put a candle and a holy picture in your window. Have a kids' party and dress up as your patron saints. Celebrate our faith. Don't aimlessly follow the herd, but *"Be in the world, not of the world"* to paraphrase the Gospels and St Paul, for "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14).

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: 24 OCTOBER: takes place on the same day everywhere in the world. All the faithful are called to take part in whatever way they can. Their prayers and donations enable the Church to reach out and spread the Gospel in remote and impoverished areas. Please see the posters in church to give online. If you are using a "Red Box" to collect for Missio, thank you! If you would like a box, please ask at the office at after Mass on a Sunday. the theme chosen by the Holy Father is 'We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard' (Acts 4:20). Details available at www.missio.org.uk/wms.

LITTLE AMAL TO VISIT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: Monday 25th October at 2pm the cathedral welcomes a visitor who has walked from the Turkey/Syria border. Little Amal is a 3.5m high puppet of a young refugee girl, who will have celebrated her 10th birthday the day before. She is walking 5,000 miles through several European countries, reaching Manchester on 3rd November. The purpose for her journey is to draw attention to the plight of refugees, including unaccompanied minors. All places through which she passes are asked to engage and interact with her. Amal, on her way, will also visit venues associated with drama and the arts which

celebrate achievements and talent, as a reminder that refugees also have potential. More information about Amal is available at <https://www.walkwithamal.org/>

CARDINAL HUME CENTRE ADVENT CONCERT: at Sacred Heart Church, 112 Horseferry Road SW1, will be at 6.30pm on Wednesday 1 December. Numbers are limited so apply for complimentary tickets on 020 7227 1650 or email events@cardinalhumecentre.org.uk

ASSISTED DYING BILL: Commencing 14th October, we are encouraged to pray a novena to Pope St John Paul II for the flourishing of the culture of life and the defeat of the Assisted Dying Bill. The novena ends on 22nd October, when there is vote on the second reading in the House of Lords. The text of the prayers can be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/novena-to-john-paul-ii/>. Or follow the link on the homepage of our own website.

More information and resources about opposing the Assisted Dying Bill, can be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/assisted-dying-bill-2021/>. This month's edition of the Westminster Record podcast also addresses the issue of Assisted Suicide, featuring Bishop John Sherrington and Dr Sian Davies, a palliative care specialist and the chief doctor of our diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage, who shares her experience of ministering to people at the end of their lives. Listen to the podcast at <https://anchor.fm/rcwestminster/episodes/Issues-of-Life-e18mbg8>.

DIOCESAN MASS FOLLOWING THE PANDEMIC: On 7th November at 5.30 pm Bishop John Sherrington will celebrate Mass at Westminster Cathedral, for all those who have died during the pandemic, all who mourn them, all who have been bereaved or traumatised, those who were ill and those who cared for them, including all in the medical profession and care workers. All are welcome to this Mass, especially doctors, nurses, care workers and all health care professionals.

CATHOLIC TEACHERS ONLINE EVENT: The Diocese of Westminster Education Service is hosting an evening to engage with Catholic teachers and leaders currently working outside Catholic education on 23rd November from 6pm to 7.30pm. It will provide information about how best to prepare for a role in a Catholic school and an opportunity to meet with current Catholic school leaders. There will also be an opportunity to register for a mentoring programme which will support those on their journey into Catholic education. To book, scan the QR code on the attached poster or visit <https://courses.rcdow.org.uk/event/calling-all-catholic-teachers-event-23rd-november-2021/>

PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAYER: for the Sanctity of Life On Saturday 23rd October, there will be a pilgrimage for the sanctity of life to Walsingham with the theme, 'the courage to proclaim the Gospel of Life on post-pandemic Britain'. The main programme commences with midday Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation, celebrated by Bishop Mark Davies. Details of the remainder of the programme can be found at <http://www.prolifepilgrimage.org>. For those who are unable to attend, the Shrine livestream will carry the main events of the day.

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 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.

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 or email 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.