

FR CHINEDU: As you know, Fr Chinedu is leaving to become Parish Priest at Tollington Park after just a brief time here at Harrow South and Northolt. Please pray for him as he prepares to take up new responsibilities. Fr Chinedu's last Sunday at St Gabriel's will be 16 January and his final Sunday, when he will be presiding at Mass at St Bernard's, will be 23 January. Please use those opportunities to say your personal farewells. The whole parish is grateful to Fr Chinedu for his ministry here in these few weeks.

COVID PRECAUTIONS: From Thursday 27th it will no longer be mandatory to wear face coverings inside public places and public transport. **HOWEVER**, it remains the recommendation of the bishops that we should continue to wear face coverings in church for the well-being of the greatest number of the faithful. Please do respect this.

The high level of Covid infections still taking its toll around us makes parish life still very awkward - but we carry on with basic good sense precautions to make our buildings accessible to as many as possible. Please do take on board the regular appeals for more volunteer welcomers and cleaners - this is a simple way to help make things work well, and will help build up the parish for the future.

SYNODAL PATHWAY: We still hope to provide a practical opportunity for us all to participate in the listening stage of the Synod process that Pope Francis has begun. Perhaps when the covid infection rate starts to recede and our new assistant priest arrives this will be more easy to enable. Keep it in your prayers.

THANKS FROM "AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED": Thanks to your wonderful and generous compassion, more than 330 projects across 76 countries were paid out in 2021 by the UK office of Aid to the Church in Need – one of the best years on record and achieved in spite of the COVID pandemic. Projects supported by Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) included urgent medical support for Syrian Christian refugee families in Lebanon, subsistence aid for priests, Sisters and catechists ministering in Sudan's Nuba Mountains, and a Church-backed campaign providing emergency COVID-19 help for the poor in Delhi's slums.

Neville Kyrke-Smith, national director ACN (UK), said: "Given the immense challenges our brothers and sisters faced in so many countries last year, I am once again humbled by our benefactors' love in response to their suffering.

Mr Kyrke-Smith stressed that ACN (UK) had not forgotten long-term priorities, and was still helping Christians in the Middle East suffering from regional conflicts and targeted attacks from extremist groups. Syrian refugees who fled to Zahlé, east Lebanon, received ongoing support including food packages, hygiene kits, rent assistance, fuel, and medical needs.

The UN does not provide these Christian families with any assistance – all international aid is channelled via the Muslim-majority unofficial camps where Christians are afraid to live.

Other support provided by the UK office during 2021 included support for seminarians – particularly in Africa, Eastern Europe and the subcontinent, reconstruction of churches across the globe, such as St Joseph's, Kragujevac, Serbia, and rent support for struggling families including in the Syrian capital Damascus, as well as Mass stipends to support poor priests. Learn more about Aid to the Church in Need at acnuk.org.

CHARITY GALA IRISH CONCERT: In Aid of the British Heart Foundation and the Michael Sobell Hospice. Salvatorian College 26th February. Featuring John McNicholl; Terrance O'Flaherty and the London Irish Youth Orchestra. Poster in St Gabriel's.

CHORISTER OPPORTUNITIES AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOOL: Open to boys with musical potential in years 2 & 3. Becoming a chorister offers boys the chance to sing at the Cathedral and on tour internationally. Boys also receive an outstanding education. Interested parents should contact Director of Admissions, Ms Lucy Auger West minster Cathedral Choir school, Ambrosden Avenue SW1P 1QH. Tel: 020 7798 9081. Email office@choirschool.com web: www.choirschool.com

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK SEND NEW YEAR GREETINGS: With thanks for your support by prayer and financial donation, GCN write as follows: "I write at the end of another difficult year. A second year dominated by Covid 19 and the restrictions imposed on life to reduce its spread. And also a year which – for pro-lifers – was dominated both by

more and more attempts in Parliament to loosen abortion laws and expand euthanasia and the “pills by post” method of abortion. These home abortions mean that abortion vulnerable women have suddenly become far more difficult to reach, to offer help to and that abortion has become even quicker, allowing less time for counselling or even for calm thought and decision making. This is something the abortion industry have claimed as a great victory – more women having more abortions, quicker and more cheaply (cheaper for the abortion provider, not for the “purchaser” which is usually the NHS) in their own home. Statistics tell a different story, showing women receiving the pills with no checks on who will actually take the pill, or on any of the medical facts (is she right about how far along in the pregnancy she is? Has she got health issues or mental health issues she isn’t telling about?) and whether the woman is being abused or pressured. They also show that thousands of women have needed hospital treatment following their Pills by Post abortion.

Furthermore, the Pills by Post scheme, coupled with buffer zones at the busiest abortion centres here in London, have vastly reduced the number of women we can reach. The number of babies whose Mothers we have been able to support were down last year, and in response to these challenges we are developing new outreaches to reach and support Mothers at risk of abortion. We will monitor which approaches are most successful over the next few months and develop new services to meet the current challenges we face.”

ALSO JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT SRRCC: We are looking for outstanding practitioners who can teach GCSE and A-level to join us from September 2022 to deliver high-quality lessons to ensure great learning. Current vacancies:- Deputy Subject Leader of Maths; - Teacher of RE; Subject Leader of Physics; - Teacher of Economics
Salary negotiable dependent upon calibre and experience.

We are also looking for a Lunchtime Supervisor to join us as soon as possible, Monday to Friday 11.30am to 1pm. Please also get in touch if you would like to talk in more detail about the role. <https://www.strichardreynolds.org.uk/our-college/work-at-srr>

MASS FOR WORLD DAY OF THE SICK - PROVISIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: The annual Mass for the World Day of the Sick will take place at 2pm on Saturday 12th February 2022 at Westminster Cathedral. We are hopeful that the Mass will go ahead as planned and that we’ll be able to welcome all those who wish to attend in person. However, at the time of writing, it is unclear whether this will be possible. Thus, plans are provisional at this stage. Parishioners planning to attend with wheelchairs should alert the parish office so that the cathedral can make necessary arrangements.

ROOMS TO LET - OLDFIELD CIRCUS: Double bedroom available at £525 pcm. Single bedroom available at £350 pcm. Rent includes bills and WIFI. Females only – Suitable for single professionals, non-smoker. Beautifully presented furnished rooms in a newly refurbished 3-bedroom house in Oldfield Circus – Northolt. House includes a large modern kitchen, two bathrooms, driveway, patio/garden and use of dining room. Close to shops. 10-minute walk or short bus ride to both Greenford and Northolt stations.
Contact Veronica: 075 073 12015.



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.