NEWS

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 September 2026

OUR PARISH NEWS

DEVOTIONS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: St Gabriel's: Monday 10.30am - 11.00am
St Bernard's: Thursday 10.30am - 11.00am
Saturday 10.30am - 11.00am

Devotion to Sacred Heart of Jesus (First Friday only): St Gabriel's: 10.30am - 11.00am

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (First Saturday only)
St Bernard's 10.30am - 11.30am

Holy Rosary: Monday - Friday: after Mass

Morning Prayer of the Church: Monday - Friday at 9.40am before Mass

Our Lady Queen of Peace Prayer Group: St Bernard's: Monday 6.30pm.

August the month of prayer to the Precious Blood of our Lord

LAST WEEK OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS: £1307.31

Thank you for your generosity and commitment.

SPIRITANS' MISSION APPEAL- at ST GABRIEL'S THIS WEEKEND: Founded in 1703, The Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers) are a Roman Catholic Religious Congregation dedicated to sharing hope and love worldwide. For over 300 years, our mission has been clear: to evangelize the poor and the needy, pursue justice, foster peace, care for creation, inspired by Luke 4:18 and advance God's kingdom here on earth. Today, more than 3,000 Spiritans from all continents bring this mission to life in over 60 countries, serving where the need is greatest—hospitals, parishes, prisons, schools, and refugee communities. We also support integral development for young people and work for justice globally. As Pope Francis reminded us in May 2023, we serve "in simplicity of life, respecting peoples and cultures," embracing the most abandoned with fraternity and prayer.
Your support and prayers keep our mission alive. Together, we carry the Spiritan light to the world's darkest corners. They will do the mission appeal at St Bernard's Church on next Sunday 13th September 2026.

ST GABRIEL'S MONDAY CLUB: We are having our St Gabriel's Monday club on coming Monday 7th September 2026 at St Gabriel's Church hall from 1pm to 3pm for the elderly of the parish. **This Monday we will have yoga session which will be conducted by a yoga specialist**. Come and join us in friendship.

PARISH LUNCH. MARK THE DATE: Here's the new plan to find a way to do a Parish bring-and-share lunch: Mark the date: **Sunday October 11th 2026**. We will gather this Sunday to celebrate St Gabriel's feast and Our Lady at Walsingham. BUT - this depends on all of us. Can you help organize and make it happen? Please contact the Parish Office now to register your interest in helping. THANK YOU.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: The annual diocesan pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham will take place this year on **Saturday, 19 September 2026.** There will be a bus going from our Church. Few seats are available! Those who are interested to go for pilgrimage, please call parish office for booking and further information.

QUEEN OF PEACE PRAYER GROUP: The Queen of Peace prayer group has started their prayers on Mondays at St Bernard's Church at 5.30pm every week. Those who are interested to join them and pray for world's peace, you are most welcome.

CATECHESIS: Information and news

BAPTISM of INFANTS: Expectant parents, or parents of new-born children are asked to register your name by calling parish office for baptism class. After attending the baptism class, you can contact Fr Raja after the Sunday Mass or send an email in order to know next steps to arrange Baptism.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027: For Children who will be in Year 3 in September 2026, application for the Holy Communion programme is now open and application forms can be collected at the parish office. Acceptance into the programme depends on already established habitual practice of the faith in the parish.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2027: For children in Year 9 or above in September 2026, Registration for the programme is now open, and forms can be collected in the parish office. Please call the parish office to find more details.

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER:

For Care of water - Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Of your charity, pray for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at this time, among them:

Mary Vaughan; Doris Sharp; Jeremiah O'Sullivan; Zbigniew Gill; Madeline Ryan; John Watson; Rene Lally; William Lynch; William McCullough; O.C. Pinto.

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD

VERA MURPHY (RIP): Vera Murphy was one of our faithful parishioners who died on Saturday 22nd August 2026. The funeral mass will be on Wednesday 23rd September at St Gabriel's Church at 11am. Please include her in your prayers.

VILMA FERNADEZ (RIP): Vilma Fernandez was one of our parishioners who died on 21st August. The funeral mass will be on Tuesday 29th September at St Gabriel's Church at 11.30am. Please include her in your prayers.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS & CHURCH OPENING TIMES:

Parish office hours: only on Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9am to 2pm.
Church opening hours: *The church will be opened for prayers, during the Parish office hours and on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10am to 3pm*.

SVP CONTACT NUMBER: The Parish SVP (St Vincent de Paul) Group, in communion with the Parish Team, continues to coordinate the response to the vulnerable in the Parish. Those needing help with practical assistance or just feeling isolated can contact our SVP members on **+447596462206**.

GABRIEL'S TABLE TENNIS CLUB: The sessions are normally on **Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7 to 9pm** at **St Gabriel's Church Hall.** We have started table tennis for youth and children on **Saturdays 1pm to 3pm.** During funerals and hall hired by parishioners, we will not have table tennis games. Come and enjoy the game!



CALLING ALL SINGERS/MUSICIANS! MUSIC FOR SUNDAY MASS:
The one who sings with love prays twice. A GREAT WAY TO OFFER A MINISTRY TO YOUR PARISH IS TO COME AND JOIN THE SINGERS TO LEAD MUSIC AT THESE MASSES. Speak with the clergy if you can offer your talent in this way…and don't be shy!



THIS SUNDAY Reflection: COURAGOUS LOVE & ACCOUNTABILITY

A dervish was asked why he worshipped God through dance. "Because." he replied, "to worship God means to die to self; dancing kills the self. When the self dies all problems die with it. Where the self is not. Love is. God is. "

The Prayer of the Frog—Tony de Mello

First reading (Ezekiel 33:7-9): In our first reading, God uses a stark, military metaphor to define our relationship with one another: the prophet is appointed as a sentinel, or watchman, for the community. A sentry's job is simple but life-or-death: look out for danger and blow the trumpet to warn the city. In our modern culture, we mistakenly view any form of correction as judgmental or intolerant. However, Ezekiel reminds us that silence in the face of destructive behaviour is not love—it is negligence.

Second reading (Romans 13:8-10): Saint Paul reframes our entire motivation as he writes: "Owe no one anything, except to love one another." Paul explains that every single commandment—do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal—is summed up in one rule: "Love your neighbour as yourself." Fraternal correction is a debt of love. If we correct someone out of anger, annoyance, or a desire to be right, we fail. True correction is painful to give. It requires us to risk a relationship because we value that person's soul and well-being more than our own comfort.

Gospel (Matthew 18:15-20): In the gospel today, Jesus outlines a pathway designed entirely for reconciliation and preserving human dignity, not public humiliation: 1) Speak to the person one-on-one. Do not gossip, post about it online, or vent to others. Keep the circle of vulnerability as small as possible. 2)Bring Witnesses: If they do not listen, take one or two others along. This is not a gang-up; it ensures accountability, objectivity, and clear communication. 3)Involve the Community: Only when private steps fail do you bring it to the wider church community. 4) Treat them as a Gentile or Tax Collector: If they completely refuse to listen, you must draw a boundary and love them more.

Jesus concludes the Gospel with a beautiful promise: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" - a place of reconciliation.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT: As we are required to provide safe environment for all to worship in our parish. Please parents do not let your children (below 18 years) to use the toilet facilities unattended.

BE AWARE OF EMAIL FRAUDSTERS: There is a rise in scam emails targeting our parishioners. These emails impersonate the parish priest, often using a similar email name and masking the real email address. They typically request the recipient to purchase Amazon or other gift cards as gifts for the priest.
Never to purchase gift cards as gifts for the parish priest, based on an email request, unless they have verified the request directly in person or through a trusted means. Please double-check any suspicious email by directly contacting the parish office. Please avoid sharing personal or financial information in response to unsolicited emails.

DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY: On the 13th May 1917, Our Lady first mentioned devotion to her Immaculate Heart to the children of Fatima saying "You have seen hell, where souls of poor sinners go. To save them God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace." On the 10th December 1925, Our Lady appeared to Lucia detailing how devotion to her Immaculate Heart was to be practiced. Confession, Rosary, Mass and Meditation are the 4 requirements to fulfil the devotion.



Four Practices to fulfil the Five First Saturday's Devotion:
1) **Confession:** Make a good confession. the Sacrament of Penance helps us to prepare us to receive fruitfully a Communion of reparation, removing those obstacles to our love for Jesus and Mary".
2. **Communion**. You should attend Holy Mass and receive Holy Communion with the intention of offering reparation for the offences against Our Lady's Immaculate Heart.
3. **Devote recitation and meditation on the Mysteries of the Rosary**: in Our Lady's company: "You can do this any time on the First Saturday. If possible, a special time to do this is after Mass and receiving Holy Communion.
4. **Reparation:** All of the conditions mentioned above – in numbers 1 to 3 – should be fulfilled with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. These minimum requirements for fulfilling the conditions of Our Lady's promise to obtain for us "at the hour of death the graces necessary for salvation." We have first Saturdays' devotion to the Immaculate Mary **at St Bernard's Church at 10am.**

OTHER NEWS

SACRED HEART LANGUAGE COLLEGE - Open Evening / Open Morning at The Sacred Heart Language College (Wealdstone): Those wishing to apply for a place in Year 7 for September 2027 are invited to visit the college during one of our Open Sessions on the following dates:
Open Evening: Tuesday 8th September 2026, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Open Morning: Thursday 17th September 2026, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School September 2027 Year 7 Admissions
Our Year 7 open evenings will be held on Thursday 17 September 2026 and Tuesday 22 September 2026, for boys who will be eligible for Year 7 entry in September 2027. The Headmaster will address parents and pupils at 4.30pm and again at 6.00pm. Following each speech, parents will be taken on a tour of the school. We therefore recommend you arrive in good time for either 4.30pm or 6.00pm.

The online application form link for Year 7 is available on the school website www.cvms.co.uk/admissions or please follow this QR code:

Young Adults Mass and Resonate Panel Talk
Join Westminster Youth Ministry for **Resonate**, which is the Diocesan monthly Young Adults Mass and Talk. The Mass is held in the historic Westminster Cathedral Crypt, followed by a live panel Q+A! The panel will bring together three different vocations in the Church: priesthood, religious life, and marriage. This evening is an opportunity to hear honest, real, faith orientated reflections from people who are living out their vocation in very different ways. Whether you are discerning your future, wondering what God is calling you to, trying to understand vocation more deeply, or simply curious and have general questions to ask then this panel is for you! **8 September 2026**, **Mass – 19:00, Resonate Talk – 19:45** at Vaughan House 46 Francis Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 1QN.

The Upper Room Leadership Programme
Are you the current or next Youth Ministry Leader? **Upper Room Leadership Programme** equips Catholics to lead and inspire the next generation through faith, formation, practical training and ministry experience. The programme ends with a youth ministry qualification and pilgrimage to Lourdes with expectation for you to serve and lead in your parish! To sign up by **16 September 2026** and learn more please visit https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/

Retrouvaille: Designed specifically for severely troubled marriages, couples on the brink of separation, or those already divorced who want to try again.

When Love needs First Aid - couples in crisis

When we experience marital stress, we need help to move from isolation toward renewed communication, consolation, and hope. https://rcdow.org.uk/news/when-love-needs-first-aid/

OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE - UNITE IN PRAYER AND COMPASSIONATE ACTION

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is back in the House of Commons and seeks to legalise assisted suicide. This would undermine the sanctity and dignity of human life. We are against this Bill in principle and it remains deeply flawed and dangerous in practice. There will be a vote on Friday, 11 September 2026 – please contact your MP asap.

Further details, can also be found at: https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/

Faith Sharing Group Leaders' Gathering
Saturday 12th September
2:00-5:00pm
St Monica's, Palmers Green

This day is particularly aimed at current or aspiring Faith Sharing Group Leaders, as we will have a first look at autumn's Faith Sharing Resource and hear about how Faith Sharing Groups work in different parishes. During the day there will also be the opportunity to tell us about the support your parish would need to establish or develop Faith Sharing Groups.
For more information and to book please scan:

Called to Serve Day
Saturday 4th October,
10:00am-4:00pm, SPEC Youth Ministry Retreat Centre, Pinner

This day, led by the Agency for Evangelisation, Caritas Westminster and Westminster Youth Ministry is for all currently or wishing to be involved in catechesis, youth work or social action. To book, please scan the QR code or email catadmin@rcdow.org.uk
£10 suggested donation.

VACANCIES: WESTMINSTER DIOCESE HUMAN RESOURCES:

For further details, please visit https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/

Job Title	Department	Closing Date
Cleaning & Facilities Assistant	Seeds Hub	18/09/2026

SOME FINANCE MATTERS:

1) DONATE BY STANDING ORDER: Would you consider donating your offering by Standing Order instead of cash? If so, there's a form in the foyer or just ask for advice from the office or the clergy. Standing Orders make it easier to keep track of your outgoings, easier for the parish to plan what our income is, and easier and more secure as we handle less cash.

2)CONTACTLESS MACHINES:
We would like to invite parishioners to use our contactless (DONA) machine for your contributions. You can contribute your offertory now with Dona app. ***Thank you to everyone for your commitment and generosity.***

DONATION TO THE 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.