NEWS

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 13 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: ££1265.84

Thank you for your generosity and commitment.

SPIRITAN FATHERS' MISSION APPEAL- at ST BERNARD'S THIS SUNDAY: Spiritans mission is the evangelisation of the "poor" (Lk 4:18). Therefore we, Spiritans, go especially: to peoples, groups and individuals who have not yet heard the message of the Gospel or who have scarcely heard it. to those whose needs are the greatest, and to the oppressed. They willingly accept tasks for which the Church has difficulty in finding workers. The Spiritans fathers will come to our church for appeal on this Sunday 13th September 2026 at St Bernard's Church. Your generosity will help them to do God's Mission. Thank you for your generosity.

ST GABRIEL'S MONDAY CLUB: We are having our St Gabriel's Monday club on coming Monday 14th September 2026 at St Gabriel's Church hall from 1pm to 3pm for the elderly of the parish. They gather together every Monday afternoon share some time together with some tea and coffee. Come and join us in friendship.

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.** Please call the parish office to find out more information.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY: *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday takes place on **Sunday, September 20, 2026**. A special day to celebrate the joy of the Gospel and pray for the

work of evangelisation across England and Wales. A second collection (next weekend 19/20) will be held after Mass to support the work of the Catholic Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate, which aids local church mission and outreach.

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 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.

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: We will begin our Holy Confirmation programme on Wednesday October 14th at St Gabriel's Church Hall at 7pm. Please call the parish office to register your interest.

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.

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 soul in your prayers.

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

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

Betty Gallagher; Manuel De Souza; Theresa O'Reilly; Ann Casey; Thomas Pidgeon; Venus Augustin; Martin Papa; Kathleen Murphy; Alan Murphy; Betty Gallagher; Archbishop Augustine Akubeze;

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!



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.

THIS SUNDAY Reflection: GOD'S FORGIVENESS

"How shall I get the grace of never judging my neighbour?"
"Through prayer."
"Then why have I not found it yet?"
"Because you haven't prayed in the right place."
"Where is that?"
"In the heart of God."
"And how do I get there?"
"Understand that anyone who sins does not know what he is doing and deserves to be forgiven." *One Minute Wisdom—Tony de Mello*

First reading (Sirach 27:30-28:7): In our first reading, the wise author of Sirach reminds us that wrath and anger are hateful, yet foolish people hug them tight as if they were treasures. The wisdom author highlights a logical contradiction: how can we pray for healing when we nurse anger against someone else? Refusing to forgive means we are trying to claim a mercy from God that we refuse to give to others. What we give out is what we receive back.

Second reading (Romans 14:7-9): Paul provides the theological foundation for this difficult work of forgiveness. He reminds us that none of us lives or dies to themselves. Whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Because we are Christ's, our interactions with one another must reflect His selfless way of living.

Gospel (Matthew 18:21-35): Peter asks if forgiving seven times is enough, but Jesus replies with seventy-seven times—meaning forgiveness has no limit. In the Gospel parable, a master forgives a massive, unpayable debt. Yet that same servant chokes a fellow worker over a tiny sum. God cancels our enormous debt of sin. Refusing to pardon our neighbour closes our own hearts to the very grace we have received.
Today's Scripture readings challenge us to measure our mercy by the boundless mercy God has shown us, urging us to let go of anger, belong fully to the Lord, and forgive from the heart.

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 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.

St Joan of Arc Catholic School - Open Events for prospective students and parents who are looking for Year 7 places in September 2027.

Open Evening - Thursday 1st October 2026 - 5.00pm until 8.00pm
Open Morning - Friday 2nd October 2026 - 9.30am until 11.30am

The online application form link for Year 7 is available on the school website www.cvms.co.uk/admissions:

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/

GOOD COUNCIL NETWORK Good Counsel Network is a life-affirming women's organisation which offers moral support, support to find medical help, legal advice and practical help to women seeking abortion. https://www.goodcounselnetwork.com/

LIFE - Life is a UK-based pregnancy support charity that provides emotional help, housing, and practical aid to people facing unexpected pregnancies or pregnancy loss.
https://lifecharity.org.uk/

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.