

# Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church

Egerton Gardens, NW4 4BA

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# St Patrick's Catholic Church

West Hendon Broadway, NW9 7EB

Rev Fr Tim Edgar (Rector & Parish Priest)

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In residence at St Patrick's Presbytery: Fr Bartosz Rajewski

Registered Charity Number: 233699

## 29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<b>S</b> 19	6.00pm		the people of the Parish & their needs
<b>Su</b> 20	9.30am ( <i>St P</i> )		<i>Tony Sordillo (rip)</i>
	10.00am		Fr Derek Gibbs (anniv)
	12noon		Ellen, James & Anne O'Riordan & Sean McKeown
	6.00pm ( <i>St P</i> )		<i>intentions of Ifeanyi Chinweze</i>
M 21	10.00am	feria	private intentions
	7.00pm ( <i>St P</i> )		<i>Sr Imelda (rec dec)</i>
T 22	10.00am	St John Paul II	John Cheong Loong Wah (rip)
W 23	10.00am ( <i>St P</i> )	<i>St John of Capistrano</i>	<i>intentions of Jarmila Nitran</i>
T 24 <b>NB</b>	11.00am	REQUIEM MASS & FUNERAL OF SISTER IMELDA	
F 25	10.00am	feria	Margery Brooks (rip)
S 26	9.00am	of BVM	Elizabeth Awoyesuku (rip)

## 30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<b>S</b> 26	6.00pm		Margaret Wright (rip)
<b>Su</b> 27	9.30am ( <i>St P</i> )		<i>intentions of John Corrigan</i>
	10.00am		Bunny France (rec dec)
	12noon		the people of the Parish & their needs
	6.00pm ( <i>St P</i> )		<i>the people of the Parish &amp; their needs</i>

Mass times and intentions are subject to change if there is a funeral.

*(Italics indicates Mass at St Patrick's)*

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: at Our Lady's after Mass on Saturday morning and on First Friday: after Mass until midday

Holy Rosary: at *St Patrick's Friday 6.30pm* and at Our Lady's Saturday 5pm

Confessions: at Our Lady's Saturday 9.30-10am; 5.15-5.45pm and at call

Holy Matrimony: in accordance with the norms of Canon Law, SIX months' notice must be given, whether the marriage is here or abroad, to enable the required spiritual preparation to take place and for the paperwork to be gathered and, if necessary, submitted to the Chancellor of the Diocese. Please make an appointment to see the Parish Priest.

Our Lady's Parish Centre Bookings: call the Parish Office.

The Parish Secretary at Our Lady's - Sheila Barr; at *St Patricks - Regina Ng*

## THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

"To me nothing is so consoling, so piercing, so thrilling, so overcoming, as the Mass, said as it is among us. I could attend Masses for ever, and not be tired. It is not a mere form of words - it is a great action, the greatest action that can be on earth."

St John Henry Newman

## HOLY ROSARY

"Mary is our Mother: this consoling truth, offered to us ever more clearly and profoundly by the love and faith of the Church, has sustained and sustains the spiritual life of us all, and encourages us, even in suffering, to have faith and hope." Pope St John Paul II

At the heart of the Eucharist we participate in the same sacrifice which Christ offers once and for ever. The Eucharistic sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the Eucharistic oblation of ourselves to the Father through the Son, in the Spirit, is a sacrifice we can only offer because it is conjoined to the one, true, pure and immortal and ever-prevailing sacrifice of Christ. At every Eucharist there is one sacrifice - Christ's and ours - and within that conjoined sacrifice is mingled the sacrifice of the one who knew - at Calvary - that her sacrifice was

finished and accomplished as far as in her lay - as it is finished and accomplished by Christ as far as in him lay - and as it is finished and accomplished by us in this place on this day at this hour.

**Saint John Paul II (1920-2005).** Karol Józef Wojtyła was born in 1920 in Wadowice, Poland. After his ordination to the priesthood and theological studies in Rome, he returned to his homeland and resumed various pastoral and academic tasks. He became first auxiliary bishop and, in 1964, Archbishop of Kraków. On 16 October 1978 he was elected Pope and took the name John Paul II. Among the many fruits which he has left as a heritage to the Church are above all his rich Magisterium and the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church as well as the Code of Canon Law for the Latin Church and for the Eastern Churches. In Rome on 2 April 2005, the eve of the Second Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy), he departed peacefully in the Lord. He was canonized by Pope Francis on 27 April, the Second Sunday of Easter 2014.

**St John (of Capistrano)** was born in 1386. He studied law at Perugia and for some time held the office of a judge. He joined the Friars Minor and was ordained. He

travelled throughout Germany, Poland, Transylvania, Moldavia, and Russia, leading an apostolic life, strengthening Christian morals and combating heresy.

### **SISTER IMELDA**

The Funeral Mass of Sister Imelda will be offered on Thursday of this week at 11am.

Into thy hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend thy servant Sister Imelda. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

Requiem aeternam dona ea, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat ea. Requiescat in pace. Amen

We are fast approaching the month of **NOVEMBER**, the month of Remembrance - of prayer for our departed loved ones and on Armistice Day, for all who have died in war. Envelopes and sheet for recording the names of those you would like to be remembered at November Masses are at the back of both Churches. Please return to either Presbytery along with your offering.

Although the Mass has an infinite value, our capacity to receive God's grace is limited. Therefore, it is proper for us to offer Masses for a deceased relative or friend. In the early third century, Tertullian spoke of the practice of "making oblations for the dead as birthday honours." (*De Corona* 3) He was referring to offering Mass on a person's anniversary. He similarly referred to a widow's "offering" on the anniversary of her husband's falling asleep". (*De Monogomia* 10) He even mentioned that although the practice was not in the scriptures, it had the authority of tradition and custom, so we may assume that it was being done some time before. In book 9 of the *Confessions*, St Augustine gives a moving account of the psalms and prayers, and the Mass that was offered for his mother who requested that she be remembered at the altar, which she had served without missing a single day.

A particular person for whom we offer Mass, may already be in heaven and our prayers may no longer needed for them. In such a case, those prayers would not be wasted, but would benefit other holy souls who have nobody to pray for them. At secular funerals, and even at many Christian funerals, there is little or no concern to pray for the repose of the deceased person but simply to remember a few anecdotes about them and "celebrate their life."

Of course, we have a problem now in that it is more difficult to presume even a minimal knowledge of God in our culture. The rituals which shape the year have now become eating and shopping binges at the end of December, something to do with rabbits and chocolates in the Spring, and more recently, a celebration of horror and pseudo-violence on the last day in October.

The real tradition of All Hallows' Eve (Hallow'een) is that before the great day of holiness, before All Saints Day, there is a crack in the fabric of the cosmos which allows evil spirits from the underworld to assault us: at that point in time, we are vulnerable, as traditionally we are vulnerable at the moment of death and need the name of Jesus to be spoken to us loudly because hearing is the last faculty to go and the devil needs to be outshouted in the name and power of Jesus. So, on All Hallows' Eve, people are meant to go out into the streets in scary costumes and make loud noises to frighten the devils away and to enact annually the victory of holiness over

evil. It is an extension of the themes of the Easter vigil, but who tells you that now? No one. "It's just a bit of harmless fun, Father!". It isn't actually. We do not believe in evil *per se* any more, only evil acts, which can be explained away by the psychiatry and psychology. We are told there is no evil and to believe in it is to fall prey to superstition, like checking beneath the bed at night or being afraid of the dark, - yet we know there are those for whom there are no easy answers, who do evil because that is their nature, because they are evil. Evil exists.

Pope Saint John Paul II, whose feast day is on Tuesday, used a threefold division when he wanted to describe the unfolding of God among us: he spoke first of the '*mystery of unity*': we are one in being created by God; and then this deepens as God intensifies his presence among us, and this is the '*mystery of redemption*'. This is where we are as we move towards the *mystery of completion*, when God will be all in all. The final stage in the process of human beings entering the mystery of completion is what we call the final purgation - the entering of purgatory ("*purgare*", to make clean, to purify). The doctrine encapsulated in this way is that ultimately, we are not only defined by the wrong that we do, by the frailty of purpose endemic in us, by the betrayals and lapses that we bring on ourselves and others. We're defined by the effect of God on us, by the amount we have allowed his will and purpose into our lives, our faithfulness to his call, our placing of him at the centre of our lives and all that might mean. Mere reason suggests there must be a Purgatory. So many people seem to be good, but not so greatly good that they should be fit for heaven at once. Again, not nearly all are so evil as to deserve hell. So, there should be a means of purification and paying the debt of temporal punishment. Their sins have been forgiven by God, but atonement for them still must be made, and these souls must be purged of any remaining attachments to sin or other such imperfections. Purgatory is God's way of loving us into his presence.

We are bound by charity to try to lessen the suffering of the Holy Souls through our prayers and deeds. While our first responsibility, of course, is to those people we have known, not everyone who ends up in Purgatory has someone to pray for him or her. Therefore, it is important to remember in our prayers those souls who are most forsaken.

*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

### **BINGO EVENING**

Tickets now on sale - Adults £10, children over 7 £5

### **Christmas Fayre**

There is a box at the back of Our Lady's church for donations and there is also a cake list.

**Raffle at St Patricks** - 27<sup>th</sup> October for Senior Parishioners Christmas Party.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

Classes start Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 9am in Our Lady's Hall. Please do not be late! Children **AND PARENTS** to attend