



Diocese of Westminster

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles

Served by the Society of the Divine Vocations - Vocationists

15 The Green, Heston,

Hounslow TW5 0RL

020 8570 1818 - heston@rcdow.org.uk

www.parish.rcdow.org.uk/heston



Parish Priest: Fr Luigi Morrone, SDV

Assistant: Fr Ritche Podador, SDV

Parish Secretary: Sandra Duarte

Brother Edmar Lopus, SDV

The Office is open to the public on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9 AM to 1 PM

In Residence: Fr Paul Rout OFM (*Away until May 2022*)

12th December 2021 – 3rd Sunday of Advent



The third Sunday of Advent is called “Gaudete Sunday.” “Gaudete” means “Rejoice!” This is the theme expressed by St. Paul in his Letter to the Philippians: “Rejoice in the Lord always!” The word “rejoice” is composed of two words: “re” (again) and “joy”. So St. Paul repeated his exhortation: “I shall say it again: rejoice!” Why does St. Paul insist that we rejoice? We must remember that he wrote this Letter to the Philippians while he was in a dark Roman prison and without any certainty that he can still come out alive. Definitely, there was nothing to rejoice about in that situation. But joy is a virtue and a gift of the Holy Spirit. It is not dependent on any external condition. Rather, it all depends on one’s intimate relationship with God. Rightly, then, that St. Paul

said: “Rejoice in the Lord always. Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near” (4:4-5). A person who knows the Lord is with him at all times, that the Lord is near, always has the reason to rejoice, that is, to be filled with joy. And that spirit leads him to be more kind and understanding towards others. Rejoicing in the Lord is not just a matter of thanking and praising God. Rather, it means two things. First, it is an attitude of trust in the midst of life’s difficulties and troubles. Worries and anxieties have no part in the life of a Christian. Instead, St. Paul said: “Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God” (Phil 4:6). Secondly, rejoicing should manifest itself in acts of kindness. Again, St. Paul said: “Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near.” St. John the Baptist, therefore, calls us to action. When asked by his listeners what they ought to do, John the Baptist mentioned examples of acts of kindness: giving clothes to those who have none, avoiding extortion and cheating and being of better service to others. Christmas is always the busiest season of the year. While others are stressed and anxious about so many things, we are reminded to focus our attention on Jesus, the centre of this joyous season, the cause of our rejoicing. There is no reason for worries and anxieties. Whatever problems and difficulties we may encounter, we take them all up to the Lord in prayer. Turn worries into prayers. “Then,” St. Paul said, “the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” (Phil 4:7).

<https://www.catholicforlife.com/year-c-homily-for-the-3rd-sunday-of-advent-3/>

***** PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU TAKE THE NEWSLETTER WITH YOU*****

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE NHS GUIDELINES

IN PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS.

IF YOU SHOW ANY OF THE SYMPTOMS PLEASE DO NOT COME TO CHURCH

Diocese of Westminster Reg. Charity No 233699

Vocationists Reg. Charity No 1135796

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Our Lady Queen of Apostles Heston



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NOTICES

COLLECTION: Last weekend's Collection was £1144.98 (Loose Plate £449.48 – Envelopes £695.50).

May God bless you and reward your generosity!

COVID-19 PANDEMIC: As we have seen on the news, the Government has now moved onto "Plan B" but as of Friday (10/12) we still have received no information if this affects Public Worship in any way, we will use our social media to convey information on this regard so please make sure you check them so you are up to date. The only information that we have received is that the science says that infection is mainly through breath and nasal aerosol, therefore, **it is of vital importance that masks are worn while in Church**, to be affective these need to be worn in the correct way and that is covering nose and mouth. In case of symptoms, please, **DO NOT COME TO CHURCH**, get tested and make sure you are negative to Covid before returning to Mass. The only way to come out of this is to use all means we have at our disposal, if you are offered a Booster Jab make sure you book it asap and also, if you are not vaccinated, make sure you get yourselves vaccinated as soon as possible.

CHURCH VENTILATION: With the increase of numbers in the Church, keeping the place ventilated is very important and in winter time it means that the Church can get very cold despite the heating system being on. When you are coming to Church please bear this in mind and do the best you can to layer up.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: During the Advent Season we will have a voluntary second collection towards the Christmas Flowers. A combination of factors has seen a spike in the cost of flowers and we are trying our best to make sure our Church will look beautiful during Christmastime, we do appreciate your sacrifice and generosity. Also, if you have a garden and have holly and ivy you could donate some of their branches to us closer to Christmas so our flower arrangers could make good use of it. If you wish to donate some and cannot bring it to Church, please contact the secretary so we can arrange someone to come and collect it from you.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE: On Thursday 16 December we will have a penitential Service at 6 pm in preparation for Christmas. If you want to approach the sacrament of Confession before the festivities, please take advantage of this as the closer we get to Christmas the more difficult it become to have your confession heard.

CHRISTMAS NOVENA: From Thursday 16 December after the Morning Mass we will pray the Novena in preparation to the celebration of Christmas.

END OF TERM MASS: On Friday 17 December we will welcome the Children and Staff from The Rosary Catholic Primary School who will be celebrating their end of term Mass, please do not attend that Mass as only children and staff will be allowed inside the Church. If you wish to attend Mass on that day please come at 7 pm.

CHRISTMAS DRAW: The Raffle will be drawn on 19 December after the 11 am Mass, make sure stubs and money is returned to the Parish Office by Thursday 16 December.

HESTON CATHOLIC CLUB KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY: The Club has organised a Kid's Christmas Party on Sunday 19 December 3 pm to 6 pm, £5 per child (pay at the door). There will be games, music, competition, prizes and a visit from Santa. Food will also be available for purchase.

DONATION ENVELOPES: We are at that time of the year when we need to put an order for Gift-Aid and Planned Giving envelopes and we want to make sure that we order the right number of boxes and do not have the Parish pay for boxes which then will sit in the Office waiting to be collected. If you give your donations by Standing Order then we will not be ordering you a donation box, if you still wish to have a box of envelopes please let the Parish Secretary know so we can make sure we have our details up to date.

GIFT-AID DONATIONS: If you are a UK taxpayer you can gift-aid your donation which means that for each £1 you give the Parish can claim an extra 25p which it come to no extra cost to the donor. If you can gif-aid your donations forms are available on the website or from the Parish Office. Also, if your circumstances have changed please let us know so we do not claim on your behalf.

VIRGIN MONEY GIVING: Over the past year we have been able to collect donations online through the Virgin Money Giving page which over the months had become another source of income for our Parish, however, shortly we will no longer be able to collect donations through it as after the London Marathon Virgin has decided to stop the programme in support of all charitable associations. The Diocesan Finance Office is looking into an alternative provider. If you wish to give your donation directly to the Parish via online donation you can do so through the Parish Website, alternatively, you may consider donating by Standing Order or by BACS, bank details can be found on the next page.

A MESSAGE FROM FR PAUL: At long last I am able to travel to my homeland, Australia and so next Friday, I shall be leaving from Heston to make my way Down Under. While in Australia, I shall be having a break with my family and then working in giving some retreats and also giving courses in Franciscan spirituality to staff in Schools that belong to the Australian Association of Franciscan Schools. I shall be returning to Heston in early May. I ask your prayers for a safe journey and be assured that I shall be keeping you all in my prayers. May I wish you all, your families and loved ones, a happy and holy Christmas. God bless.

WESTMINSTER SYNODAL PATHWAY As part of the Westminster Synodal Pathway we are invited to join **Cardinal Vincent Nichols** at an Area Listening Event on Thursday 2nd December, 7.00pm – 9.00pm at Ealing

Abbey, Charlbury Grove, London W5 2DY. Pope Francis has invited the worldwide Church to a time of listening – of listening deeply to each other as we walk side by side, telling our stories of faith. Here in our local Church, our Diocese, this is just what we are doing. This Area Listening Event is an opportunity to listen, to share, and to dream about the Church we are called to be. All are welcome, and places can be booked by emailing catadmin@rcdow.org.uk

YOUNG ADULT ADVENT RETREAT The FCJ Sisters are holding an Advent Retreat for young adults (people aged 18-35) on Saturday 18 December from 10.30am to 2.30pm at the FCJ Spirituality Centre in Somers Town. The day will include some input, a time of prayer and reflection and sharing with others on the theme of Advent. To book your place, email: bookings.fcjcentre@fcjhouse-somerstown.co.uk

December 2021	TIME	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 11th	7:00 pm Vigil Mass*	Don Carver RIP
Sunday 12th 3rd Sunday of Advent	9:00 am Mass 11:00 am Mass* 5:30 pm Mass	Nowell Anderson RIP Patrick Toolan RIP Caitano Rodrigues and Family RIP
Monday 13th <i>St Lucy</i>	9:30 am Mass 7:00 pm NO MASS	Ancelmo Paixao Pereira RIP and Anton Martin Rebelo RIP
Tuesday 14th <i>St John of the Cross</i>	9:30 am Mass 7:00 pm NO MASS	Private Intention & Souls of the Byrne family
Wednesday 15th	9:30 am Mass 7:00 pm Mass	All souls in Purgatory Patrick Toolan RIP
Thursday 16th <i>Christmas Novena Day 1</i>	9:30 am Mass 6:00 pm	Maglin Pereira, 2 nd Ann. and Mariana Furtado, 1 st Ann. PENITENTIAL SERVICE
Friday 17th <i>Christmas Novena Day 2</i>	9:30 am School Mass 7:00 pm Mass	The Rosary – End of Term Celebration Thanksgiving for Anaiah Pereira Birthday
Saturday 18th	7:00 pm Vigil Mass*	Lelis Fernandes RIP
Sunday 19th 4th Sunday of Advent	9:00 am Mass 11:00 am Mass* 5:30 pm Mass	Lelis Fernandes, 2 nd Anniversary Gurveen Kaur (Mona) Jacinto and Bertha Leitao RIP
<p>Please note that we are still taking bookings for weekend Masses. On Saturday and Sunday, the Church opens 30 minutes before Mass while on weekdays the Church remains open all day for private prayers. The Rosary will be prayed 20 minutes before the 9.30 am Mass (Monday to Friday)</p>		

CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM: Use the application online available through our website. Please give us two-month notice for your preferred date, the application will be added to a waiting list and the celebrations will follow the order in which these come in.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Please refer to the timetable you received at the parents meeting for lessons and upcoming activities.

CONFIRMATION: If you are a baptised Catholic 18+ and were never confirmed and wish to, please contact the Parish Office so you can be enrolled in the RCIA programme.

RCIA: If you have not been baptised or have been baptised in another Christian denomination and you are willing to become a Catholic or be received into the Catholic Church, please contact the Parish Office.

CONFESSIONS: Confession is available every morning before Mass or by appointment.

MARRIAGE: If you wish to get married in our Church we need between six and twelve-month notice for the date. If you need to do the paperwork this will be done six months before the wedding date. If your marriage is taking place abroad please enquire with the priest celebrating the marriage about documents needed and their validity, once we send the forms to the chancery we can no longer query them.

CHURCH DONATIONS AND COLLECTION

During these times, due to the current restrictions we are not able to pass around the Collection Bag around the Church therefore those who wish to give their donation envelopes at weekends you can do so on the way out of the Church. You can donate by bank transfer (single donations) or via Standing Order using the following details:

Account Name: WRCDT Heston

Sort Code: 40-05-20

Account Number: 11094912

Please add your Surname and First Name as a reference, to help our bookkeeper.

USEFUL PRAYERS

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER OF ST ALPHONSUS

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Divine Jesus, Son of the eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant many of the faithful true generosity in following your call and bestow on them the grace of your Holy Spirit to persevere in overcoming all obstacles to their vocations. Give the church in this Diocese and throughout the world many holy priests and fervent religious. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Justin, all the Angels and all Saints, we humbly ask you to hear our prayers and multiply the ministries by which we may serve one another in faith and love.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION OF BLESSED JUSTIN RUSSOLILLO

O my God and my all, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, may your will be done, your love reign, your glory shine always more in me and in everyone as in yourself, O my God and my all.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN FOR PROTECTION

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross, you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas — we who are put to the test — and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

INVOCATION OF OUR LADY

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you, I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me.

PRAYER FOR THE HOUSEHOLD

Hear us, Lord, and send your angel from heaven to visit and protect, to comfort and defend all who live in this house. Amen.

Let us pray for the sick people of our Parish: Janet Dee, Catherine Jennings, Joaquim Rodrigues, Peter Wade, Ann Duckmanton, Christopher Notter, Grace Gauci, Fr Simon Nguyen.

Let us pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time Terry Biggs, Christine Dash, Christine Kelt, Rose Philomena Borkowski, William Henry Gomes, Maisie Perera, Stefan Jasman.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them; may they rest in peace. Amen.