



Diocese of Westminster


**Our Lady, Queen of Apostles**

Served by the Society of the Divine Vocations - Vocationists

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**Parish Priest:** Fr Luigi Morrone, SDV

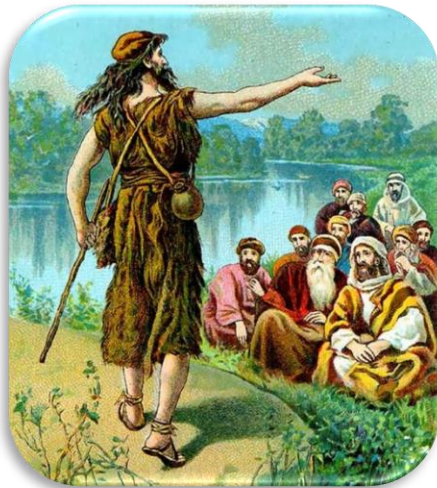
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Rionelle Hinampas, SDV

**Parish Secretary:** Bejoy Ignatious (Mon), Gill Satchell (Tue & Thur) **Bookkeeper:** Bejoy Ignatious

**Parish Safeguarding Representative:** Salette Coutinho and Melanie Keshwala

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday & Thursday – 9.30 am – 1.00 pm

**10<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**The First Reading is from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11.** To help us prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas, the Church recalls the prophecies of the great Isaiah on each of the four Sundays of Advent. The prophet's words of comfort and consolation, addressed to his fellow exiles in Babylon, apply to Christian with infinitely greater force and meaning. The exiles were told that their liberation from enemy captivity was at hand. God would bring them back to Judea, to end their earthly days in freedom, but not without much struggle and strife. These same words have their real fulfillment in Christ. For us they have a meaning which goes beyond the confines of this world and of this limited life. The liberation from Babylon was but a shadow of the messianic redemption brought to all men by the incarnation, death

and resurrection of Christ.

**The Second Reading is from the Second Letter of St. Peter 3:8-14.** "We wait for new heavens and a new earth." That is the principal reason for our existence on this earth. We have a number of secondary purposes to fulfill, but each must contribute toward our attaining the primary and principal purpose: our eternal existence in heaven. We are intended by God to be citizens of the "new universe." He has given us our citizenship papers. He has most carefully mapped the road we should travel. He has given us all the material and spiritual helps we need on the journey but, God though he be, he cannot bring us to heaven unless we cooperate with him.

**The Gospel is from the Gospel of Mark 1:1-8** "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." In twelve words St. Mark sums up the initiation of the greatest event that ever occurred in our human history, an event whose culmination would be not on earth but in heaven. God fulfilled the plan he had for us when creation began. He raised us up to the dignity of divine sonship by the Incarnation. The eternal Son of God "humbled himself" and joined our human nature to his divinity, thus making us his brothers and capable of sharing with him the eternal kingdom of his Father. Mark's story was, in fact, the greatest "good news" that man had ever received on earth. It is still the greatest, most astounding and, at the same time, most consoling new for us today. Let each one of us ask himself today: am I for Christ or against him? Am I on the road to heaven or am I facing in the opposite direction? —Excerpted from The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2023-12-10>

**"The Penny Catechism" - Part 5. THE SACRAMENTS**

**51. What does Extreme Unction do for us?** Extreme Unction helps us to die as Christians.

**52. What does Holy Orders do for us?** Holy Orders gives us priests and Bishops.

**53. What does Matrimony do for us?** Matrimony unites a Christian man and woman in lawful marriage.

**\*\*\* NOTICES \*\*\***

**POLITE NOTICE** – If your child becomes noisy and disruptive can you please take them to the room at the back of the church for the duration of the mass. Also, accompany the kneelers when you are using them and do not drop them so to avoid loud noise especially at Consecration time.

**LITTERING:** We have noticed that some people have a habit of leaving behind used tissues, please dispose of them on your way out or put them in your pocket and dispose of them when home. It is a matter of respect, hygiene and common sense, do not leave your rubbish for other to clean.

**SWITCH OFF YOUR PHONE:** When you enter the Church, it may be possible that you hear “the call of God”. However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. It may be a good exercise to switch it off or at least put it on silent before you enter the Church. If you want to talk to God, find a quiet place, pray and talk to Him.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** For the next three Sundays, until 17 December, we will have a second collection towards the Christmas Flowers.

**CHRISTMAS NOVENA:** From Saturday 16, we begin praying the Christmas Novena in preparation to Christmas. We will pray it every weekday after Mass.

**CARITAS ADVENT CALENDAR:** Caritas Westminster has prepared a different Advent Calendar that should help us think of those who are less fortunate or may be struggling at this moment. The calendar gives a suggestion for items to be donated to foodbanks for each day leading to Christmas. You can find it at <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/food-security-918.php#AGC> During advent we will have a trolley at the back of the Church for those of you who wish to give any donation.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** We are now booking mass intentions for 2024 up until June.

**FIRE WARDENS:** As part of our H&S requirements, we need to have Fire Wardens to help in case of evacuation. We need some people to help at any of the Masses. If you are willing to help please contact the Parish Office. Training will be offered to those who will be helping.

**PARKING:** We are lucky to have a rather large car park, something that not all Churches can afford. When you come to Church, please use the Car Park entrance on Eton Avenue rather than parking outside the Church. Often, there are too many cars with some blocking the fire exit at the front making it difficult to have any activity outside the Church.

**CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL TREE:** We are going to have once again this year our memorial tree outside the Church. If you wish to donate a bauble in memory of someone, please contact the secretary. The cost of the baubles is £5, if you wish to buy one, please contact the Parish Office. All proceeds will go towards the building fund.

**PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI:** We are looking into the possibility of arranging a Pilgrimage to Assisi, the town of St Francis and St Clare and where Blessed Carlo Acutis is buried, in April after the Easter holidays. The cost should be between £500 and £600, depending on accommodation and the programme we will follow. If you are interested, you can speak to the Parish Office or Gabriel Fernandes. Please note that the pilgrimage is not suitable for those who need assistance to walk, cannot walk long distances, uneven surfaces and steep streets as Assisi is a medieval town and roads can be very steep and not smooth.

**VOTIVE CANDLES:** Each stand has a lighter with it so please use it to light your candles and not use candles to light other candles, please also **refrain from taking candles around the Church**, especially lit candles as it poses a risk for yourself and others around you.

**A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION IN WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL:** Tickets are now on sale for our annual Christmas concerts which celebrate the mystery of Christ’s Incarnation in carols and readings performed by the world-famous Westminster Cathedral Choir, orchestra, and celebrity readers, on 19 and 20 December at 7.30pm. We encourage everybody to purchase tickets quickly before these popular events are sold out. Tickets can be purchased from the Cathedral Gift Shop or directly from Ticketmaster; go to [www.ticketmaster.co.uk](http://www.ticketmaster.co.uk) and type in Westminster Cathedral when prompted.

**The SVP** are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237. Thank you so much for your support."

**THE ROSARY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL** is seeking new Foundation Governors to serve on our Governing Body. Like all school governors, Foundation Governors work to support the Leadership team and staff but also have a special responsibility to support the Christian ethos of the school. This is an important voluntary role, offering the opportunity to make a positive difference, working with the team to promote the school's success. If you would be interested in receiving more information about the role and an application form, please email Mrs Dulko at [admin@rosary.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:admin@rosary.hounslow.sch.uk)

**WINTERSHALL NATIVITY STORY** Experience the Christmas story 14th -18th December Discover the true meaning of Christmas with an unforgettable event for all the family. It's a Nativity like no other, placing you in the middle of an immersive theatre experience. Stand with the shepherds, walk with Mary, Joseph and the donkey, journey with Roman soldiers and enter the stable to watch the miracle unfold. To book tickets go to: <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/nativity-journey-0>

**SECRETS OF PAUL (ONLINE WEEKLY) FROM JANUARY 2024:** An opportunity to reflect on the life of St. Paul, as a model missionary disciple via a 10-WEEK Zoom course run by Mission Northampton from Wednesday 10th January 2024 to Wednesday 20th March 2024 (7.30-9pm) <https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/secrets-of-paul-online/>

### **\*\*\*SACRAMENTS\*\*\***

**BAPTISMS:** Please use the form on the Parish Website to enquire about the Baptism for your child. We celebrate Baptisms on a Saturday only; we ask that you give us minimum 6 weeks' notice.

**MARRIAGE:** If you are planning to marry, we can only start the paperwork needed by the diocese 6 months prior your wedding day. Whether you are marrying in the UK or abroad we need minimum 6 months' notice, especially if we need to arrange a marriage course. Please do not leave it to the last minute!

### **\*\*\* 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, Saint 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 SAINT 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.

#### **INVOCATION OF OUR LADY – THE MEMORARE**

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 ASKING FAVOURS THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF ST JUSTIN RUSSOLILLO**

O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for the wellbeing of the Church you endowed with extraordinary gifts Saint Justin Maria Russolillo, and you made him a pious and zealous Priest, an apostle of "Divine Vocations" and a fervent promoter of your Glory, Love and Will for the Universal Sanctification and for the "Divine Union" of all souls, grant us the grace of experiencing the power of his intercession while imitating his devotion, humility, patience, zeal and kindness. May the Grace (...) that you will grant us through his intercession, be of spiritual advantage to us, for your own glory and for the growth of Your Kingdom on earth. (*Three "Glory Be" in honour of the Holy Trinity*)

DECEMBER 2023	TIME	MASS INTENTION
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm Vigil Mass	Erral Fernandes - RIP
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> 2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	8 am Mass 9:30 am Family Mass 11:30 am Mass 5:30 pm Mass	Nahshon D'Souza – Birthday Soul of Maryann Furtado Joseph Rozario – RIP Singlin Rodrigues
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9 am 9:30 am Mass 7 pm Mass*	<b>Prayer of the Rosary</b> Lucienne Ngounga Dencil Sister – Indrani & Chittrani
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9 am 9:30 am Mass 7 pm Mass*	<b>Prayer of the Rosary</b> Francis Fernandes & Marianinka Dias – RIP Diogo Fernandes & Rosa Braganza - RIP
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> <i>St Lucy</i>	9 am 9:30 am Mass 7 pm Mass (Novena)	<b>Prayer of the Rosary</b> Mervin D'Souza Mayelo
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> <i>St John of the Cross</i>	9 am 9:30 am 7 pm Mass	<b>NO MASS</b> Fr Luigi & John Isaac B'day Thanksgiving
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9 am 9:30 am Mass 7 pm Mass	<b>Prayer of the Rosary</b> Wellice Pereira – Birthday Flory De Souza - RIP
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> <i>Christmas Novena Day 1</i>	9:30 am Mass 10-10:45 am 7 pm Vigil Mass	Nicholas Coutinho Family – Souls <b>Adoration &amp; Confessions</b> James & Delia Lawless
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> 3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT <b>GAUDETE SUNDAY</b>	8 am Mass 9:30 am Family Mass 11:30 am Mass 5:30 pm Mass	Felicio Eleuterio Mendes – RIP Soul of Lelis Fernandes German Fernandes Raul Costabis - RIP
* The Mass is celebrated in the Martyrs' Chapel; please use the entrance from the Car Park. Doors open 30 minutes before Mass.		

**Let us pray for the sick people of our Parish**

Catherine Jennings, Peter Wade, Ann Duckmanton, and Grace Gauci.

**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, Mariana Jyothi Furtado, Stefan Jasman

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

**DATES OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**10 DECEMBER:** Confirmation Class 10.30am (Upstairs Hall)

**16 DECEMBER:** FHC Carol Service Rehearsals at 3:45 pm

**17 DECEMBER:** Confirmation Class 10.30am (Upstairs Hall)

**21 DECEMBER:** FHC Carol Service Rehearsals at 3:45 pm

**21 DECEMBER:** Advent Reconciliation Service 7pm

**22 DECEMBER:** Carol Service and Nativity 6pm

**23 DECEMBER:** Church Cleaning

**23 DECEMBER:** Altar Servers' Church Cleaning and Polishing

**FOR THE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS PLEASE REFER TO THE SEPARATE PROGRAMME**

**CHURCH DONATIONS AND COLLECTION**

Have you considered giving your donation to the Parish via bank transfer (single donations) or via Standing Order? If you wish to do so, you can use 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.**

If you wish to Gift-Aid your donation, forms are available at the back of the Church or on the website. Gift-aid is available to all UK taxpayer and comes at no extra cost to you.