



# SS MICHAEL AND MARTIN

Roman Catholic Parish of Hounslow  
Archdiocese of Westminster

*This Parish is served by the Spiritans*

PARISH NEWSLETTER

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## 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### PASTORAL LETTER ON ASSISTED SUICIDE

### 12/13 OCTOBER 2024

My brothers and sisters,

This Wednesday, 16 October 2024, a bill will be introduced to Parliament proposing a change in the law to permit assisted suicide. The debate will continue for a number of months, in society and in Parliament, before a definitive vote is held there. This puts in the spotlight crucial questions about the dignity of human life and the care and protection afforded by our society to every human being.

As this debate unfolds there are three points I would like to put before you. I hope that you will take part in the debate, whenever and wherever you can, and that you will write to your Member of Parliament.

The first point is this: Be careful what you wish for.

No doubt the bill put before Parliament will be carefully framed, providing clear and very limited circumstances in which it would become lawful to assist, directly and deliberately, in the ending of a person's life. But please remember, the evidence from every single country in which such a law has been passed is clear: that the circumstances in which the taking of a life is permitted are widened and widened, making assisted suicide and medical killing, or euthanasia, more and more available and accepted. In this country, assurances will be given that the proposed safeguards are firm and reliable. Rarely has this been the case. This proposed change in the law may be a source of relief to some. But it will bring great fear and trepidation to many, especially those who have vulnerabilities and those living with disabilities. What is now proposed will not be the end of the story. It is a story better not begun.

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#### SUNDAY MASSES

Sat Vigil 6.15pm  
7:30am, 9am,  
10.30am,  
12noon  
6pm

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon – Sat 9am  
Mon -- Thu 6pm  
Fri 7pm

#### CONFESSIONS

Friday 6pm –  
6:30pm  
Saturday 9:30am  
– 10:15am &  
4:30pm – 5:15pm

#### PARISH ROSARY

Mon – Sat at  
8:15am

#### HOLY HOUR & BENEDICTION

Saturday 4.30-  
5.30pm

#### THE ANGELUS

Before every  
evening Mass

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – THURSDAY 9:30AM – 1PM (FRIDAY THE OFFICE IS CLOSED)**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Damian-Mary Moneke, CSSp.  
[damianmoneke@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:damianmoneke@rcdow.org.uk) (Day off: Mon)

**1st Assistant Priest:** Fr Ignatius Nguyen Quy Quan,  
CSSp  
[guyquannguyen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:guyquannguyen@rcdow.org.uk) (Day off: Wed)

**2nd Assistant Priest & Chaplain at Heathrow**

**Airport:** Fr Jude Kurumeh, CSSp.

**PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL THE PRIEST  
DIRECTLY FOR AN APPOINTMENT**

**Parish Administrator: Priya Joseph**  
[priyajoseph@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:priyajoseph@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Catechist:** Lionel Pereira  
[hounslowcat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hounslowcat@rcdow.org.uk)

**Youth Worker:** Ivan Čižmárik  
[ivancizmarik@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ivancizmarik@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Centre Manager:** Señorita Evans  
[senoritaevans@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:senoritaevans@rcdow.org.uk) – (07542 531 956)  
(BOOKINGS TAKEN BY PHONE MON, THURS,  
FRI 7.00-8.30AM TUES/WED 4.00-5.00PM, OR BY EMAIL)

**Parish Safeguarding Representatives:**  
[hounslowsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hounslowsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) (Lorna – Admin)  
[hounslowsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hounslowsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) (Chinyere)

The second point is this: a right to die can become a duty to die.

A law which prohibits an action is a clear deterrent. A law which permits an action changes attitudes: that which is permitted is often and easily encouraged. Once assisted suicide is approved by the law, a key protection of human life falls away. Pressure mounts on those who are nearing death, from others or even from themselves, to end their life in order to take away a perceived burden of care from their family, for the avoidance of pain, or for the sake of an inheritance.

I know that, for many people, there is profound fear at the prospect of prolonged suffering and loss of dignity. Yet such suffering itself can be eased. Part of this debate, then, must be the need and duty to enhance palliative care and hospice provision, so that there can genuinely be, for all of us, the prospect of living our last days in the company of loved ones and caring medical professionals. This is truly dying with dignity. Indeed, the radical change in the law now being proposed risks bringing about for all medical professionals a slow change from a duty to care to a duty to kill.

The third point is this: being forgetful of God belittles our humanity.

The questions raised by this bill go to the very heart of how we understand ourselves, our lives, our humanity. For people of faith in God - the vast majority of the population of the world - the first truth is that life, ultimately, is a gift of the Creator. Our life flows from God and will find its fulfilment in God. 'The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.' (Job 1:21) To ignore or deny this truth is to separate our humanity from its origins and purpose. We are left, floating free, detached, in a sphere that lacks firm anchors or destiny, thinking that we can create these for ourselves according to the mood of the age, or even of the day.

The clearest expression of this faith is that every human being is made in the image and likeness of God. That is the source of our dignity and it is unique to the human person. The suffering of a human being is not meaningless. It does not destroy that dignity. It is an intrinsic part of our human journey, a journey embraced by the Eternal Word of God, Christ Jesus

himself. He brings our humanity to its full glory precisely through the gateway of suffering and death.

We know, only too well, that suffering can bring people to a most dreadful state of mind, even driving them to take their own lives, in circumstances most often when they lack true freedom of mind and will, and so bear no culpability. But this proposed legislation is quite different. It seeks to give a person of sound will and mind the right to act in a way that is clearly contrary to a fundamental truth: our life is not our own possession, to dispose of as we feel fit. This is not a freedom of choice we can take for ourselves without undermining the foundations of trust and shared dignity on which a stable society rests.

As this debate unfolds, then, I ask you to play your part in it. Write to your MP. Have discussions with family, friends and colleagues. And pray. Please remember: be careful what you wish for; the right to die can become a duty to die; being forgetful of God belittles our humanity.

May God bless us all at this critical time.

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Cardinal Vincent Nichols

ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER

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## ***PARISH NOTICES***

### **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED**

#### **SACRAMENT**

From the month of November there will be Eucharistic adoration, teaching on the Eucharist, Prayer, Praise and Worship every 2nd Thursday of the month and every last Friday of the month after evening Masses.

### **WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY AND MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS COFFEE MORNING**

**On October 13th**, please do join us to Enjoy a relaxing tea/coffee break with mental health-focused games and talks after Sunday's the **9am and 10:30am masses**. World Mental Health Day

2024 (10th October 2024):- The theme of World Mental Health Day in 2024 “Workplace Mental Health”.

## **ANNUAL MASS HEADCOUNT**

The yearly Mass Headcount continues to take place in the Church during all the weekend Masses from until the 13<sup>th</sup> October, as directed by the Diocese. We thank the ushers in advance for helping us in this task.

## **MEETING WITH ALL PARISH GROUP LEADERS**

Fr Damian will meet with all parish group leaders on Thursday 17th October at 7pm in the Parish Centre.

## **OCTOBER MONTH OF THE ROSARY**

Monday – Saturday 8:15am and 30 minutes before evening Mass.

## **NOVEMBER MASS**

**Friday 1st November - All Saints’ Day** - Masses at 7:30am, 9am, 12noon and 7pm

**Saturday 2nd November All Souls’ Day** - Masses at 7.30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12noon & 6:15pm

## **CATHOLIC PRACTICE CERTIFICATE (CCP) SIGNING**

Parents are advised to come to the Parish office, between 10am-12noon, either on **Tuesdays** or **Thursdays** for signing of the CCP. Please ensure you have your Mass attendance card from the previous year. If you are new to the parish, bring a letter from your PREVIOUS parish confirming your attendance. No appointments required!

## **NOTICE FOR LECTORS IN THE PARISH**

1. Lectors training & meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> October at 10am in the Parish Centre
2. The Commissioning of Lectors will take place during the weekend Masses of 2nd/3rd November.
3. Advent retreat – 14<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm in the Parish Centre.

## **CATECHETICAL PROGRAMMES**

**WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION ON PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES:**

Type [parish.rcdow.org/Hounslow](http://parish.rcdow.org/Hounslow) in your browser. Then navigate to PARISH WEBSITE → PARISH LIFE → SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION; it has general information on the various programmes. The next place to check is the Parish Newsletter. If the information you seek is not found on either of these then email the Parish Catechist Lionel Pereira on [hounslowcat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hounslowcat@rcdow.org.uk).

## **REGISTRATION FOR 2024-25 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMMES**

We still have some places available on the Walk With Me programme. If your child is in Year 2 in a non-Catholic school this year and will be 7 years old this academic year, they may be registered for this pre-Communion catechesis programme. Kindly email the parish catechist before the end of this month.

## **BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE**

Parents of infants and those seeking Baptism may register for the course using the online form available on the Baptism page of the Parish website.

### **Leave a legacy**

Please consider including our parish in your will or leaving a legacy for the parish. For further details please email us on [hounslow@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hounslow@rcdow.org.uk)

### **Online Giving/ Standing Order**

To make your donation online, please visit: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hounslow/donate/other-ways-to-give/>

### **Bank Transfer**

To make a one-off donation please use the parish bank account details:

Account Name: **WRC DT Hounslow**

Sort Code: **40-05-20**

Account Number: **11095463**

Reference: **Surname and First Initial**

### **QR Code**

Scan on the QR code below to donate

*If you are a UK taxpayer, please Gift Aid your donation. The government will top up your gift by 25 percent, meaning a £20 offering becomes £25, at **NO** cost to you.*



## TEXTS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

### **28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Wisdom 7:7-11** – I esteemed Wisdom more than sceptres or thrones

**Psalm Response** – *Fill us with your love so that we may rejoice*

**Hebrews 4:12-13** – The word of God cuts more finely than a double-edged sword

**Mark 10:17-27** - Give everything you own to the poor, and follow me

## NEXT SUNDAY'S MASS

### **29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Isaiah 53:10-11** – If he offers his life in atonement, what the Lord wishes will be done

**Psalm Response** – *May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you*

**Hebrews 4:14-16** – Our high priest is one who has been tempted in every way that we are

**Mark 10:42-45** – The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for many

## PARISH GROUP MEETINGS

### SINHALESE CHAPLAINCY MASS

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm

### GOAN CHAPLAINCY MASS

Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm

### SYRO-MALABAR CHAPLAINCY MASS

Sunday 03rd November at 3pm

### ST ANTHONY NOVENAS

Tuesday 7pm in the Church, followed by Rosary during the month of October.

### NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Wednesday at 5pm

### CHURCH CLEANING

Thursdays after 9am Mass. Thank you

### DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS & IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Thursday at 5pm

### DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

First Friday of each month at 3pm

## WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

**05<sup>th</sup>/06<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024**

Loose: £4,388.25

Envelopes: £1,521.51

**TOTAL: £5,909.76**

**Thank you very much for your generosity. May God continue to bless you as you support our parish**

## IN YOUR PRAYERS – REMEMBER

**OUR SICK:** Sybil Knox, Joaquim De Souza, Fr Derek McGuire, Jennita Aluan, Nizelle Soares, Peter Newton, Hubert Teles, Andrew Logadasan, Steve, Sandra, Carson Javier Dabasia, Amy & Denzil Burns, Terry Lynch, Igor Sitarska and Don Lynch.

**DECEASED:** Clara Nazareth, Rosita Teresa De Silva, Baby Angel Cardozo, Baby Perpetual Cardozo, Manuel Cardozo, Goldwyn Dias, Sean Feeney, Rosaria Castro, Remy Vaz, Marie Lynch, Baby Nyssa, Roque Antonio Wellington Vaz, Emmanuel Dankyi, Maria Viegas, Gina Coreixas (Mazzaschi).

## FIRST FRIDAYS EXPOSITION

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on every first Friday of the month for adoration and silent prayers after the morning Mass and end at 5pm.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP) MEETINGS

Weekend: 2nd Saturday after the Foodbank at 12pm in the Parish Centre.

## LIVING WORD CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

Invites parishioners to our weekly prayer meeting/fellowship every Friday evening in the Parish Centre. Time: 7pm - 9pm. All are welcome. Email us at livingwordccr@gmail.com; contact Sam (447450355567), Graham (+447908287917) for other enquiries.

## PRAYER FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son in the Eucharist. We now place before you all the sick and housebound of our parish. As they share in this Eucharist with us, we pray that they may come to know the depth of your love for them and, the joy, the peace and healing of your presence. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.