



# SS MICHAEL AND MARTIN

Roman Catholic Parish of Hounslow  
Archdiocese of Westminster

*This Parish is served by the Spiritans*

PARISH NEWSLETTER

94 Bath Road, Hounslow TW3 3EH

Tel: (020) 8570 1693

Email: [hounslow@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hounslow@rcdow.org.uk)

Web: [parish.rcdow.org.uk/hounslow](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hounslow)  
[www.ssmmhounslow.org.uk](http://www.ssmmhounslow.org.uk) @ssmmhounslow

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

06<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Pastoral Letter on the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill

5/6 April 2025

#### Fifth Sunday of Lent

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I wish to speak with you today about the process in which our Parliament is currently considering legalising assisted suicide through the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill. As I have made clear earlier in this debate, as Catholics we have maintained a principled objection to this change in law recognising that every human life is sacred, coming as a gift of God and bearing a God-given dignity. We are, therefore, clearly opposed to this Bill in principle, elevating, as it does, the autonomy of the individual above all other considerations.

The passage of the Bill through Parliament will lead to a vote in late April on whether it progresses further. This will be a crucial moment and I, together with all the Bishops of England and Wales, am writing to ask your support in urging your MP to vote against this Bill at that time.

There are serious reasons for doing so. At this point, we wish not simply to restate our objections in principle, but to emphasise the deeply flawed process undergone in Parliament thus far. We wish to remind you that it is a fundamental duty of every MP to ensure that legislation is not imposed on our society which has not been properly scrutinised and which will bring about damaging consequences.

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill will fundamentally change many of the key relationships in our way of life: within the family, between doctor and patient, within the health service. Yet there has been no Royal Commission or independent inquiry ahead of its presentation. It is a Private Member's Bill. The Bill itself is long and complex and was published just days before MPs voted on it, giving them inadequate time to consult or reflect upon it.

*Continued on page 2.....*

#### 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

#### 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)

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

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

**Airport:** Fr Jude Kurumeh, CSSp.  
[judekurumeh@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:judekurumeh@rcdow.org.uk) (Day off: Thurs)

**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 time for debate was minimal. The Committee examining the Bill took only three days of evidence: not all voices were heard, and it comprises an undue number of supporters of the Bill. In short, this is no way to legislate on such an important and morally complex issue.

One consequence of this flawed process is that many vital questions remain unanswered. Can MPs guarantee that the scope of the Bill will not be extended? In almost every country where assisted suicide has been introduced the current scope is wider than was originally intended. What role, if any, will the judiciary have in the process? We were told that judicial oversight was a necessary and vital part of the process; now we are told it isn't needed at all. What will protect the vulnerable from coercion, or from feeling a burden on the family? Can the National Health Service cope with assisted suicide or will it, as the Health Secretary has warned, cause cuts elsewhere in the NHS? Can MPs guarantee that no medical practitioner or care worker would be compelled to take part in assisted suicide? Would this mean the establishment of a 'national death service'?

In contrast to the provisions of this Bill, what is needed is first-class, compassionate palliative care at the end of our lives. This is already provided to many in our society but, tragically, is in short supply and underfunded. No one should be dispatched as a burden to others. Instead, a good society would prioritise care for the elderly, the vulnerable, and the weak. The lives of our families are richer for cherishing their presence.

It is a sad reflection on Parliament's priorities that the House of Commons spent far more time debating the ban on fox hunting than it is spending on debating bringing in assisted suicide.

I am sure that you will share these concerns. It is now clear that this measure is being rushed without proper scrutiny and without fundamental questions surrounding safeguards being answered. This is a deeply flawed Bill with untold unintended consequences.

Every MP, and Government, has a solemn duty to prevent such legislation from reaching the statute book. This, tragically, is what may happen. So I appeal to you: even if you have written before,

please make contact now with your MP and ask them to vote against this Bill not only on grounds of principle but because of the failure of Parliament to approach this issue in an adequate and responsible manner.

In his Letter to the Philippians, which we heard in the Second Reading, St Paul reflects on the difficulties and responsibilities of life. He speaks of 'pressing on' and 'striving' for the fullness of life promised in Christ Jesus. Yet he is totally confident in his struggles because, as he says, 'Christ Jesus has made me his own'.

We too have many struggles. We too know that Christ Jesus has made us his own. So we too press on with this struggle, so important in our times.

May God bless you all.

Yours devotedly,



✠ Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Archbishop of Westminster

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

**Building a united and peaceful family of Jesus Christ's disciples, where everyone is welcome, respected, have a sense of belonging, grow spiritually, feel free to participate and feel the need to contribute.**

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## **PARISH NOTICES**

### **PALM SUNDAY – BLESSING OF THE PALMS**

Please note the blessing of the Palms for all Masses will take place 10 minutes before Mass, in the Church and **NOT** the car park.

### **CROSS/STATUE VEILING**

The practice of veiling in purple or red cloth the cross, statues and images in the Church will be observed from this weekend. Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, statues and images until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

## 15th ANNUAL LIVE WAY OF THE CROSS

This Lent, come and experience the Live Way of The Cross (#LWOTC2025)- A moving, dramatic, and very vivid production of the betrayal, trial and crucifixion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It will be enacted in our Church on Palm Sunday, April 13th at 1:30pm, and Good Friday, April 18th at 7:00pm. This is a FREE event and all are welcome/encouraged to attend.

## MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS AND STICKERS

Please note stickers will **NOT** be issued during Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Masses. We will resume issuing the stickers from the 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> April weekend Masses.

## EASTER FLOWERS COLLECTION – THANK YOU

We have raised a total of £910.43, from the collection last weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The SVP Parish Foodbank is available on the following schedule:

**When: Every 2nd Saturday of the month**

**Time: 10:30am to 12pm**

**Location: Church Car Park / Parish Centre**

All safety guidelines are adhered to (Note: If you want to donate food then you can either do that during the above time slot or **before/after weekday/weekend masses in the Church**. Contact the number below for more information) SVP Contact: Jwela on 07824 067524 or email [SVPHounslow@gmail.com](mailto:SVPHounslow@gmail.com)

## UCM COFFEE MORNING & MEETING

**Coffee morning:** Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April after 9am & 10:30am Masses in the Parish Centre.

**Meeting:** Tuesday 8th April after 9am Mass in the Parish Centre. All are welcome.

## PARISH CHURCH REDECORATION AND CHANGE OF PARISH CHURCH SOUND SYSTEM

The total quote for the two projects is **£79,320.00 (including VAT)** from two contractors. We kindly appeal to parishioners and friends to collect the BLUE ENVELOPE as you leave the church, enclose your donation and return it to us. Alternatively, write a cheque to the parish, use QR code (Page 3) to donate online, make bank transfer or use contactless

machines in the church. Please tick the box for the CHURCH PROJECT. If you are a UK tax payer, kindly complete the **Gift Aid Declaration Section**. It will enable the parish to get additional money from His Majesty Revenue Office. We rely on the support of everyone for the completion of the Parish Church and change of the sound system. Thank you very much for your anticipated support. Since the announcement, we have received so far total donation of **£10,739.55**. Thank you for your generosity. We thank those who have donated so far. God bless you.

## GRATITUDE - UCM

We like to say a BIG THANK YOU to all our Parishioners for their donation at our Lenten Lunch. We had made the sum of £688.10 which we will be donating all of the money to Our Church SS Michael & Martin towards the church re-decoration.

## GRATITUDE

We thank a parishioner for donating £1,000 towards the redecoration of the Church. We are immensely grateful to those who have donated so far.

### 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: **WRCDT 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

### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Isaiah 43:16-21** – 'Behold, I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my chosen people'.

**Psalm Response** – *What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.*

**Philippians 3:8-14** – 'For the sake of Christ I have suffered the loss of all things, becoming like him in his death'.

**John 8:1-11** – 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her'.

## NEXT SUNDAY'S MASS

### **Palm Sunday**

**Isaiah 50:4-7** – 'I hid not my face from disgrace, and I know that I shall not be put to shame'.

**Psalm Response** – *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

**Philippians 2:6-11** – 'He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him.'

**Luke 23:1-49** – The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

## WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

**29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> Mar 2025**

Loose: £4,431.69

Envelopes: £1,535.52

**TOTAL: £5,967.21**

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

***NB: On average, it costs £50,000+ monthly to run our parish.***

## IN YOUR PRAYERS – REMEMBER

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

**DECEASED:** Fr Bernard Scholes, Sybil Knox, Carlos D'Silva, Mary Maher, Emma Noronha, Michael Duncan Duff, Denzil Burns, Clara Nazareth, Rosita Teresa De Silva, Baby Angel Cardozo, Baby Perpetual Cardozo, Manuel Cardozo, Goldwyn Dias.

## PARISH/PRAYER GROUP MEETINGS

### SYRO-MALABAR CHAPLAINCY MASS

Sunday 06<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm

### SINHALESE CHAPLAINCY MASS

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

### GOAN CHAPLAINCY MASS

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

### ST ANTHONY NOVENAS

Every Tuesday 7pm in the Church.

### NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

On Wednesday at 5pm in the Church

### CHURCH CLEANING

Thursdays after 9am Mass. Thank you

### DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS &

### IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Every Thursday 5pm in the Church

### DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

First Friday of each month at 3pm

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every 2nd Thursday of the month after evening Mass.

### 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.

### GHANAIAN COMMUNITY- MEETING DAY

1st Sunday of every month after the 12.00 noon Mass in the Parish Centre.

### UCM MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday of the month after 9am Mass and 4th Tuesday of the month after 6pm Mass 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.