

Church of St John the Evangelist, Islington

39 Duncan Terrace, N1 8AL, #020 7226 3277

Parish priest: Fr Rajiv Michael (rajivmichael@rcdow.org.uk), **Asst Priest:** Fr Jakub Jozsko (jakubjoszko@rcdow.org.uk),

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30th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year 1 (Weekdays)

This Week		
Weekday masses	Sunday masses	Confessions
Nov 1 st (All Saints): 10 AM & 7 PM	Saturday Vigil at 6 PM	Saturday: 5:30 – 5:50 PM
Nov 2 nd (All Souls): 7 PM only	Sunday at 9:30 & 11 AM	(and anytime, as possible, on request)
Nov 4 th (First Saturday): 10 AM		
Rest of the week: 10 AM	<i>Church remains open from 9 AM to 6 PM for private prayer.</i>	

Praised be Jesus!

Dear All, this is a first attempt at producing a newsletter which has been much requested by everyone. We will try to make this more useful and better as we go along. This is also a chance for people to know their priests and have our contact details (and me particularly, being new). The best way of contacting us is through email at the moment – we will respond to calls, of course, but this is slightly easier. Thank you for your welcome to me since I started, a little over a month now. I've had the chance to say hello to some of you. Others invited us over and it has been wonderful to visit and get to know you. Time is at a premium but if you invite us for a cup of tea, we would love to take up your invite as possible, and the chance to know you. We could also bless your home if you've not had it blessed. In Christ, Fr Rajiv

News & Events

Israel and Gaza: Thank you to those who took part in the public prayers in church. The Catholic charity 'Friends of the Holy Land' (www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk) who do a lot of good work in the Holy Land, would put to very good use any donations you might want to give at this time. You can contribute directly to their account: Account name: Friends of the Holy Land Sort code: 60-05-41 Account: 24591211

November & Masses for the Dead: *Masses on All Saints and All Souls as above.* I have kept the 7 PM mass following custom, but the time can be revised for the future. There will be a 10 AM mass at Bl.Sacrament for All Souls if people would like to go in the morning. We will have envelopes available for people to offer names of those who have died in their families for Masses through the month of November. Please take one and return it with the names of the dead you wish to be included and a suitable Mass offering.

Fr Rajiv's installation: Another date for the diary in November! Usually, a new parish priest will be 'installed' by the Bishop. The workload of bishops has meant that this does not always happen but Bishop Nicholas has kindly agreed to install Fr Rajiv on the **25th Nov, Saturday evening 6 PM.** There will be refreshments in the crypt afterwards (if you're able to help with this, please drop us a line!)

First Holy Communion Preparation: Forms for the FHC programme are available in the Church porch. Please take one and return it to us by Friday, Nov 3rd, at the latest. There will be a meeting for the parents on the **3rd Nov, at 7 PM**. The course will commence on the **12th Nov, after the 11 AM Mass**. Parents and children are expected to be present at the 11 AM Mass.

Consecration to the Immaculate Heart: It is our hope to consecrate the parishes of St John's and Bl.Sacrament to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the feast day of 8th December. This is a way of entrusting all our parishioners, our parish area, our needs and cares to Our Lady. We have to, of course, prepare ourselves for it. We are having First Saturday Masses at St John's at this time towards this intention. Thanks to all those who promised rosaries towards the needs of the parish. Let us pray for the Lord to open our hearts more deeply to his grace!

Communication: People have raised the issue of having better means of communication in the parish. We are working on a new website as we speak. Fr Rajiv started putting his homilies online over the pandemic and they are still updated weekly at <https://castingfire.wordpress.com>. In other news, we have managed to recruit a new Parish Administrator, which is a much needed addition to the team! She is waiting on her employment checks to be complete but will start once they are in place and we will introduce her to the parish. It will greatly ease our communication issues when she starts.

The Parish Meeting: We had a good meeting last Sunday, 22nd Oct. Thanks to all those who came, there were about fifty people present. We were delighted by your enthusiasm. As promised, we did our best to keep the meeting short. It was to get an initial sense of where we are and what we can do as a parish going forward. People raised a number of issues and had several ideas. We will try to put these into action as soon as possible. There is need for more Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Choir members, Offertory Collectors, Counters, Ushers, for Church Cleaning, Flower Arranging, those who can help with organising socials and events, those who can volunteer with the Sunday Club, among others (these were some of the ministries we spoke of). Maybe you have ideas of what we can do, especially as a Church located in Islington, or on how to nourish the faith of people. You might have other skills that you would like to share - those skilled in DIY and who would like to volunteer some time to help fix odd things in the Church and presbytery would be very valued at the moment! Do come and have a chat. We need the love and service of all our members to have a flourishing community. We hope to bring back the Sunday evening mass soon. The Mass times between the two Churches, however, will have to be reviewed at some point, as they are not practical to have the same times at both the Churches where we minister.

From the Presbytery: You will have noticed the scaffolding at the Presbytery (where we live when we're not praying!) next door to the Church. This is to do with works to fix the roof which has been leaking for the last few years and has been planned for some time now. Fr Jakub has been living with this for the last two years. There are other essential repairs that the presbytery building requires, being so old. As much as we would like to ignore it, it needs doing. We're assessing what needs to happen and how best to get them done. This is of course costing us huge amounts and your contributions are very much appreciated!