

# Church of St John the Evangelist, Islington

39 Duncan Terrace, N1 8AL

**Parish priest:** Fr Rajiv Michael, **Asst Priest:** Fr Jakub Jozsko, **Administrator (Mon/Thu/Fri):** Grace Wu

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6th Sunday, Ordinary Time (Year B – 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024)

This Week		
<b>Weekday masses (this week)</b>	<b>Sunday masses</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
Mon-Tues: 6 PM	Saturday Vigil at 6 PM	Saturday: 5:30 – 5:50 PM
Wed-Thurs: 10 AM	Sunday at 9:30 & 11 AM	(and anytime, as possible, on request)
Fri: <b>Funeral Mass 11:30 AM</b>	<b>Stations:</b> Every Thurs, 10 AM ( <i>Fri 7 PM at Bl. Sacrament Church</i> )	
	<b>Bible Study</b> Mons 6:30 PM ( <i>Weds Bl. Sacrament</i> )	
	<b>Adoration:</b> Tuesdays 6:30 PM	

Immediately after his baptism, the Holy Spirit leads Jesus into the desert in order for him to be tempted for forty days, to fight against the devil. What does this mean for us today? Through your baptism you have received the life of the Risen Lord in you. It is Christ- the Lord who has dominion over everything that exists is the one alive in you. Hence, the same Holy Spirit will, perhaps especially during this time of Lent, lead you into the desert- maybe just your daily life in order for you to fight the devil who accuses you, who tells you God does not care, who tells you to give up or to give in to the temptations in front of you. Enter the battle. Cry out to God for strength and look how he fights with and for you. Experience your weakness and therefore, even more, his providence, so that Easter may be a day of resurrection and victory over sin and everything else that might be enslaving you today!

Fr Rajiv's homily will be updated on <https://castingfire.wordpress.com>

## News & Events

**Please note the change in the Friday Mass time:** The 10 AM Mass is replaced by the funeral Mass of Francisca Ndoh at 11:30 AM.

**Lent:** Our **weekday masses on Monday and Tuesday will be in the evening at 6 PM for Lent.**

Following Mass on Mondays we will also have a short DVD **Bible study on the Passion** and Tuesdays we will have a **half hour of Adoration** immediately after Mass. The Passion is the core of the gospel stories. We might have heard it several times, from our childhood, but you will be surprised at the incredible depths of insight and new food for love you will find when digging into the Scriptural background to this. It promises to change your living of Lent and your experience of Christ's love for you, so do take advantage of this! Monday sessions will be no longer than an hour; we hope to see many of you there!

**Are there any musicians** to help with singing and worship during the Adoration? There are some young people who would like to make this a more intimate and beautiful experience. Do mail us if you would like to help!

**Marriage Course starting next week** at Sts. Peter & Paul, Clerkenwell at Amwell Street, EC1R 1UL. It's a 5-week course on Fridays: 23rd Feb, 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd March from 8.15-9.15pm & Saturday 23rd March in the afternoon. Speak directly with Fr Ivano([clerkenwell@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:clerkenwell@rcdow.org.uk) / 020 7837 2094) for the enrolment form.

**Fun Evening!** We have an exciting event, a lively Ceilidh 🎵🍷 coming up on the 20th of March, 7:15 PM. It will be in the luxurious St Columba's hall, Chelsea. This traditional Scottish dance event promises to be an evening of fun, laughter, and a great chance to come together as a parish. But that's not all – this ceilidh is usually run as a fundraiser for charities and this time, **it's being donated towards the needs of our own parish**, to support the restoration of our church buildings, which are in desperate need of repair. You'll not only be enjoying a fantastic night out but also helping St John's! **Tickets for the ceilidh are available starting from £16**, and profits will go directly towards the restoration efforts. If it goes well Carver Ceilidhs have said we may be able to do it every year as a fund raiser for the church! Do join in! Details in the QR. Thanks to Fiona Hicks for coordinating this.



**Food Bank:** Thanks to all those who have already started donating food items. Those not aware, we've set up a collection for (not immediately perishable) food stuffs which people might wish to donate towards our Food Bank at Bl.Sacrament Church. You can drop this off in the basket in the foyer on Sundays or at the Presbytery weekdays, **before Thursday**. Thanks to Patrick Carroll for volunteering with doing a food run – if others could give him a hand that would be very appreciated!

**Resonate** is Westminster Youth Ministry's official Catholic intellectual formation series for young adults aged 18-35 within the Diocese of Westminster. **Fr Ivano is giving a series of talks** on the Our Father, starting Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, in preparation for the Jubilee Year of 2025. Pls see the poster for details.

**Big thanks to Terrie Hedderson** for the very generous donation of a wonderful Smart TV for our catechesis room! We just need to fix it now to the wall!

**Please consider supporting an amendment** to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. **There are postcards on the desk at the back of the Church. Please collect one** today from the back of the church and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!

**Tea & Coffee after Mass:** We would like to start having a monthly tea and coffee after Mass. It would go a long way towards us knowing each other better and becoming a more lively community. If you're able to help as part of a team to coordinate this, do give us a shout!

**Children's Liturgy:** This has been raised before and we would like to start this sooner rather than later. The processes for DBS take time and we will make sure you have the help you need with training and facilitating the liturgy. Do give us a shout if you're interested and able to help!