

Church of St John the Evangelist, Islington

39 Duncan Terrace, N1 8AL, 0207 226 3277

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

Parish Office: islington@rcdow.org.uk, **Safeguarding Rep:** Frances Rooney (islingtonsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

25th Sunday (Year B – 22nd September 2024)

This Week		
Weekday Masses	Sunday Masses	Confessions
Mon-Fri 10am Mass followed by Adoration until 11am	Saturday Vigil 6pm Sunday 10am, 12 noon, 6.30pm	Saturday 5:30 - 5:50pm (and anytime, as possible, on request)

Jesus' disciples have barely recovered from the shock announcement of their beloved Master's death before he throws on them another one. He is to die at the hands of evil men, who will humiliate him, torture and finally kill him. This announcement makes no sense. Clearly, God is with Jesus. Shouldn't God win? How can he allow this evil, senseless act to happen? And why? Our lives, too often, can be shaken unexpectedly by bad news. Everything could be wonderful one moment, just as it was for the disciples, before we are left bewildered by some suffering which has suddenly touched our lives. But before the disciples and us, Jesus places a little child. Children experience deep fear, as they do love and joy. They cannot reason in the face of danger, but when they are in the arms of their father, they are happy and peaceful even in danger. We spend a lot of time and energy looking for reasons – but the Father wants to carry us in our suffering. Here we can see his face, know his love, be at peace.

News & Events

New Mass times have started! We hope this gives some of you more opportunity to celebrate Mass with an extra Mass. In summary:

St John's church – 6pm Saturday Vigil Mass, 10am (Family), 12pm (Sung), 6.30pm

Blessed Sacrament Church at N1 0SR – 9am, 11am

Mass intentions and the new Mass times If you've already booked a Mass intention with the old Mass times, please note that for a 9.30am Mass, your intention will be prayed for at the 10am Mass and if you booked an intention for the 11am Mass, this will be prayed for at the 12pm Mass. If this doesn't suit you then please let us know. Intentions for the Saturday vigil, i.e., 6 PM mass remain the same.

Wonder why you're really Christian or whether Christianity is relevant in today's world or just not sure what to believe? Then **the Alpha Course** starting at Blessed Sacrament Church will be a great experience. **Alpha starts on Wednesday 16th October** and runs weekly until December 4th (but not 30th October). There's great food, followed by a video and discussion in small, friendly groups. Everyone is welcome – all faiths and none. **Bring your friends!** It's a great way to meet new people in a friendly space at 157 Copenhagen Street, N1 0SR. For more info on what Alpha's about, <https://alpha.org.about>

Thinking of becoming Catholic? The **RCIA course** is for adults that are interested in becoming Catholics. Through a process of teaching, journeying with others and prayer, you'll be prepared for the Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation; it is **also for Catholics who have been baptised but not Confirmed. We start 1st October.** Email us and arrange to chat with one of the priests and complete a form which you can find on the website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/islington/sacramental-prep/rcia/> or in the church porch.

First Holy Communion If you have a child that is in year 3 or above then register for First Holy Communion by completing a form here <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/islington/sacramental-prep/communion/> All forms can also be found in the porch. There will be a parent's meeting mid-October, so please register by the first week. More information (course length, timings, where, price), can be found at the web address above.

Are you able to give some time for Children's liturgy? We would love to have a children's liturgy for the **10am Mass** but require the help of parents and others who can help animate this and help children connect to the gospel in a way suitable for them. If you're good working with children, and this is of interest, please let us know. Volunteers working with children are required by law to be DBS checked and sometimes this process can take a bit of time, so please let us know your interest, and we can do the required admin process.

Thank you from Little Sisters of the Poor. Their collection at this parish in August raised £3,465.77. This support is very gratefully received and will go towards providing residential care for low-income elderly of all faiths and nationalities at their care homes in London and across England. For more information <https://www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/>

Isabelle Demers, a world class organist is performing at St John's on Saturday **28th September** at 7.30pm. She is Professor of Organ at Montreal University, who has played recitals worldwide and of course at St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey. Admission is free with a retiring collection.

Altar cloths Would you like to help us maintain our liturgical cloths? Could you help clean the altar cloths? All that's required is washing in a washing machine, then dry and iron. That's it! We could also use the help of those who can sew – please let us know! Thank you for any forthcoming offers.

Choral Eucharistic Healing Service at St Dominic's Priory in Haverstock Hill, NW5 4LB. This is an opportunity to find healing and also an encouragement to seek out the Sacrament of Reconciliation, therapy and counselling where appropriate. It takes place on Saturday **18th October** at 7pm. Please see the noticeboard flyers in the church vestibule for details. **There 's also a fun choral workshop of beautiful music organised at St Dominic's.** Being able to read music is great but not necessary. It would be of particular interest to anyone involved in parish choirs. This is on Saturday **26th October**. Please see our noticeboard.

Secondary School Open Days All Saints Catholic High School near Ladbroke Grove are holding open mornings every Wednesday and Friday until the end of half term. More info here www.allsaintschs.co.uk and there are flyers in the church porch. **St Aloysius' College** invite you to their open evening on Tuesday 1st October or open mornings or their open Saturday on 5th October. For details <https://www.sta.islington.sch.uk/>

St Francis of Assis Catholic Ramblers Club is for those who like good walks in the countryside and has been leading weekly walks for like minded people since 1930. Walks take place in the South East of England and are accessible by public transport. Membership is open to all walkers who are happy to respect the Catholic ethos. For further details please visit www.stfrancisramblers.ukwalkers.com or email stfrancisramblers@gmail.com

Catholic Listeners is a confidential telephone helpline service. A Diocese of Westminster initiative, it has been set up for those who are returning to the faith. The helpline is all about listening to others, listening to those who might have become isolated due to the pandemic, maybe have been hurt by the Church or just need a listening ear. It is not a counselling service but is staffed by a professional team of volunteers who are trained to signpost callers to other services and agencies. Sometimes just talking about a problem can ease a burden. Operating three days a week from 4pm-7pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays calls are free on 0800 448 0704 For further information please email us at Catholiclisteners@gmail.com or visit our website at www.CatholicListeners.com. Catholic Listeners are there to listen.