

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

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27th Sunday (Year B – 6th October 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)
Mon 7th Oct: Second Mass, 6pm with Rosary and Adoration for Peace		

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chr 7:14

7th October will mark the one year anniversary of the massacre of more than 1,200 people in Israel, the taking of 250 hostages into Gaza, and the escalation of war in Palestine, killing upwards of 40,000 people, which is now also engulfing Lebanon. Pope Francis has asked that this Monday, 7th October be a day of fasting and prayer for peace in the world. As Christians there is something unique we have, a gift so great, yet we rarely think about it. We have access to the Creator of the world, because of our baptism. The God who created the world and saved it in Jesus Christ, also calls us his children and is longing to listen to us. When we pray, God has promised to answer us. We find ourselves so lost sometimes, helpless; yet, as the Scriptures say, God will heal our land in response to our prayers. Let us seek him then with all our hearts. Let us seek peace in our own hearts. Let us let go of all that keeps us from God, especially through Reconciliation. And earnestly ask him as our Father, to heal our land.

If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home and **marriage**. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nations. When there is order in the nations, there will be peace in the world. *(adapted from a saying of Confucius)*

News & Events

Day of prayer and fasting for Peace October 7th even as it marks this horrendous assault, is also the feast of the Rosary. **There will be a special additional mass in the evening at 6pm for peace in the world, followed by the recitation of the Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament.** Let us try to keep fast this day for this intention and come and join us in the evening to pray trusting that God will fulfil his promise to heal our world.

Our Blessed Mother Mary is our spiritual mum for all, and for all those that have less than ideal mothers, this can be very comforting! She comforts us through life's disasters and we can aspire to be like her, if only even a little. **The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary** and we celebrate the feast of the Rosary on October 7th. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church and to us individually in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. Pray the Rosary this month for world peace and for your own intentions. **Look out for the Marian events this month** in our newsletter!

Alpha is starting! Are you coming? Meet new people and explore the Christian faith together. Alpha is for anyone who's curious. No judgement, no pressure. Each session unpacks a big question of life, faith, and

purpose, and is designed to spark conversation. Come along, see what you think. It's free and there's complimentary food too! **Where?** Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 157 Copenhagen Street, N1 0SR
When? Starts Wednesday 16th October from 7pm to 8.30pm <https://alpha.org.about>

First Holy Communion Registration forms for parents are available in the church porch and on the website. Please return forms by Friday October 11th. There will be a first parent's meeting on the 17th October where the schedule and other items will be discussed. We will start with some sessions for the parents before we start classes for children. Parents are the first teachers of the children and this is to enable them to take their place as the children's catechists first and foremost. These are compulsory and for parents only as and in January, the course starts for children. Please see the website for more details
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/islington/sacramental-prep/communion/>

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.

"Priests are not the bosses of the laity but their pastors" Pope Francis clarifies this and stresses how Jesus calls upon us all to complement one another. With this spirit, the Holy Father calls on all baptised people in the Church at all levels to remember how the Church is their home, and therefore, reminding them of their responsibility to take care of it. Pope Francis invites us to join in his prayer intention for October, "... That the Church continues to support a synodal way of life, under the sign of co-responsibility, promoting participation, communion, and shared mission among priests, religious, and laypeople."

Do you have a spare USB plug adapter? Theft is one of the things we have to deal with, as we keep the church open - our USB plugs for the contactless machines seem particularly popular at the moment! We've already replaced four plug adapters - if you have a spare lying around, do consider dropping them at ours! Thank you!

Secondary Schools –

Signing of Forms. Please contact the parish office by email with the Masses you normally attend and the frequency per month. We will then email out the relevant forms on a case by case basis.

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. Due to demand, **St Thomas More Language College** near Sloane Square, are running an additional Open Evening on **Wednesday 9th October** from 4pm to 6pm.

Sixth form open evening for **Sacred Heart High School** in Hammersmith warmly invite girls in Year 11 and their families to learn more about their unique and high-achieving Sixth Form on **Wednesday 16th October**, from 4pm to 6pm. There will be a presentation at 5:20pm.

Inaugural Justice and Peace Lecture at Farm Street Church will be by Baroness Scotland, the Commonwealth Secretary General, on **Friday 1st November**, 7pm. See www.westminsterjusticeandpeace.org for more details.

Mary's Meals is a charity with a very simple idea; to provide children in developing countries with a school meal every day. On **10th October** Mary's Meals will be celebrating 'World Porridge Day'. In Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, Mary's Meals serves children steaming mugs of vitamin-enriched porridge, helping them to learn and grow. Help celebrate by sending Mary's Meals a donation. You can donate online at marysmeals.org.uk/donate