

Our Lady Help of Christians

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The parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (WRCDT)



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **26TH JULY 2026**

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest
Fr Allan Alvarado Gil
allanalvarado@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary
Liliana Bragadin
kentishtown@rcdow.org.uk
Parish office open:
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 10:00am - 12:00md

Safeguarding Officer
Claire Betts
kentishtownsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Masses Times:

Tuesdays to Fridays: 10:00 am
Saturday: 6:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am (Sung Mass)
11:00 am (Family Mass with Children's Liturgy)

Masses during the week are celebrated in the daily Chapel

Church opening hours:

Tuesdays to Fridays
9:30 am to 4.00 pm

LAST WEEK COLLECTION
£ 262.41
STANDING ORDERS JUNE
£ 4,836.00
CONTACTLESS INCOME JUNE
£ 500.00
Thank you!

'He sells all that he has and buys that field.'
(Mt 13:44-52)

Meditation: What do you treasure the most and how do you keep it from being lost or stolen? In a peasant community the best safe was often the earth. The man in the parable (Mt 13:44) "went in his joy" to sell everything. Why? Because he found a treasure worth possessing above all else, he had. He did not, however, have enough to buy the treasure. Fortunately, he only needed enough to buy the field. In a similar fashion, God offers his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy (Rm 14:17) as incomparable treasure at a price we can afford! We can't pay the full price for the life which God gives us; but when we exchange our life for the life which God offers, we receive a treasure beyond compare.

Obtaining the greatest possible treasure

The pearl of great price also tells us a similar lesson. Pearls in the ancient world came to represent the supremely valuable. Jesus remarked that one should not cast pearls before swine (Mt 7:6). Why would a merchant sell everything for a peerless pearl? No doubt because he was attracted to what he thought was the greatest treasure he could possess. Discovering God's kingdom is like stumbling across hidden treasure or finding the one pearl of great price. When we discover the kingdom of God we receive the greatest possible treasure - the Lord himself. Selling all that we have to obtain this incomparable treasure could mean many things - our friends, job, our "style of life", what we do with our free time. Treasure has a special connection to the heart, the place of desire and longing, the place of will and focus. The thing we most set our heart on is our highest treasure. In this parable what does the treasure of the kingdom refer to? It certainly refers to the kingdom of God in all its aspects. But in a special way, the Lord himself is the treasure we seek for. *If the Almighty is your gold and your precious silver, then you will delight yourself in the Almighty* (Job 22:22- 23). Is the Lord the treasure and delight of your heart?

God draws us into his kingdom

What can a story of a dragnet and a great catch of fish tell us about God's kingdom? The two most common ways of fishing in Jesus' time was with a casting-net (or hand-net) which was thrown from the shore and the drag-net or trawl which was let down or cast into the waters from a boat. As the boat moved through the waters the drag-net was drawn into the shape of a great cone which indiscriminately took in all kinds of fish and flotsam and jetsam swept in its path. It usually took several men to haul such a net to shore.

What is Jesus' point here? Just as a drag-net catches every kind of fish in the sea, so the church acts as God's instrument for gathering in all who will come. Just as the drag-net does not or cannot discriminate, so the church does not discriminate between the good and the bad, the useless and the useful. God's kingdom is open to all who will accept and believe. But there will come a time of separation, at the *close of the age*, when the angels will send the good and the bad to their respective destinations. Our task is to gather in all who will come. God, in the end, will give the good (those who accept and follow Christ) and the bad (those who refuse Christ) the reward they deserve. God offers the treasure of his kingdom to all who believe in Christ. Do you hunger for God and for his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy?

Fr Allan

PARISH ACTIVITIES

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TEAS after masses in the Don Bosco Hall:
After 9am Mass every Sunday.
After 11am Mass once a fortnight.

ALTAR SERVERS

If you have received First Holy Communion you are welcome to join our team of Servers at any of our weekend Masses. While we encourage young children to serve after their first holy communion, adults are welcome too. To make contact please come to the Day Chapel behind the Sanctuary and speak to Jackie, Akua, Tom, Joel or Fr Allan.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

This takes place during the Liturgy of the Word at the 11am Mass.

CHRISTIANS MEDITATIONS SESSION

Every Thursday at 4pm in the Day Chapel
(Session lasts about 30 minutes).

OVER 60's BINGO CLUB

The over 60's Bingo Club is run by SanKTus every Tuesday morning in Our Lady's Hall. All parishioners and friends in our Local Community are most welcome to join in. The programme :
Refreshments 10.40am, BINGO 11.00 – 12.00 pm,
Two Course Meal -12noon –1pm.
There is a charge of £5 to cover all activities.

FREE HOT LUNCH SERVICE

SanKTus also offers a free hot lunch service to all-comers on Sunday afternoon at 2pm and a sandwich service on Wednesdays.
Prospective volunteers to help with any part of this activity are invited to get in touch with Richard Mallon, our Welfare Officer, at sanktus.welfare@gmail.com

CONTACTLESS



Our Machine is not working, please donate by scanning the QR code with your phone.

Thank you.

WORLD WIDE ROSARY

Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden

Wednesday 26th August at 3:00pm

Radio Maria UK is hosting a World Wide Rosary on Wednesday, 26th August at 3:00pm at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden. The Rosary will be broadcast live across our network of Radio Maria stations worldwide, with almost a billion people praying together. We warmly invite pilgrims to join us at the Shrine and bring their voices to this extraordinary moment of global prayer.

Further information is available at www.RadioMaria.uk.

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Time	Intention
Sat 25th	6:00 pm	
Sun 26th	9:00 am	Dominic McEnhill (P.I.)
	11:00 am	For the People of the Parish
Tues 28th	10:00 am	
Wed 29th	10:00 am	
Thu 30th	10:00 am	
Fri 31st	10:00 am	
Sat 1st	6:00 pm	

SUNDAY MASS READINGS

Scan the QR code with your Phone

CONFIRMATION CLASSES 2026-2027 ST DOMINIC'S

The Confirmation session for 2026-27 will take a different approach. The course will still take place at St Dominic's but will start in September 2026. It will last 30 minutes per session and will run from September 2026 to May 2027. Each session will be on Sundays between 10am and 12 noon Masses (the precise starting time will be communicated later).

The decision was made as the catechists have noticed that the catechism sessions are longer than lessons would be in school and that a longer course with shorter sessions might help keep children's attention better, encourage them to get to know others in the group more, and be less of a problem with absences unlike on a shorter course. The confirmation Mass will be Pentecost next year.

Anyone who wants to register please talk to Fr Allan or get in touch with the office. Thank you.

PARISH REGISTRATION 2026

We are updating our parish records to get an accurate sense of how many parishioners are currently in the community and who has recently relocated.

To help us maintain precise records and offer better support, we kindly ask everyone to update their details.

Who Needs to Fill Out the Form?

Everyone: Even if you have been in the parish for decades (including those who have been here since the parish moved from Falkland Road) or have just arrived
Families with children: This is especially important so we don't miss you during the key steps of the Christian life.

Please, when submitting your details, use **capital letters** when filling out the form and ensure all contact details (email, phone number, address) are double-checked . Thank you.