

NEWSLETTER

22 OCTOBER
202329 SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY
TIME

Message for World Mission Day

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth (Ac 1:8). This is the central point, the heart of Jesus' teaching to the disciples, in view of their being sent forth into the world. The disciples are to be witnesses of Jesus, thanks to the grace of the Holy Spirit they will receive. Every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ. And the Church, the community of Christ's disciples, has no other mission than that of bringing the Gospel to the entire world by bearing witness to Christ. To evangelise is the very identity of the Church.

A deeper look at the words, *you will be my witnesses*, can clarify a few ever-timely aspects of the mission Christ entrusted to the disciples. The plural form of the verb emphasises the communitarian and ecclesial nature of the disciples' missionary vocation. Each baptised person is called to mission in the Church and by the mandate of the Church: consequently, mission is carried out together, not individually, in communion with the ecclesial community and not on one's own initiative. As St Paul VI taught: 'Evangelisation is for no one an individual and isolated act, it is one that is deeply ecclesial. When the most obscure preacher, catechist, or pastor in the most distant land preaches the Gospel, gathers his little community together, or administers a sacrament, even alone, he is carrying out an ecclesial act...'+

In addition, the disciples are urged to live their personal lives in a missionary key: they are sent by Jesus to the world not only to carry out, but also and above all to live the mission entrusted to them; not only to bear witness, but also and above all to be witnesses of Christ. In the moving words of St Paul, *always, wherever we may be we carry with us in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus, too, may always be seen in our body (2Co 4:10).* The essence of the mission is to bear witness to Christ, that is, to his life, Passion, death and Resurrection for the love of the Father and of humanity. Christ-indeed Christ risen from the dead-is the One to whom we must testify and whose life we must share. Missionaries of Christ are not sent to communicate themselves, to exhibit their persuasive qualities and abilities or their managerial skills. Instead, theirs is the supreme honour of presenting Christ in words and deeds, proclaiming to everyone the Good News of his salvation as the first apostles did, with joy and boldness.

In the final analysis, then, the true witness, is the martyr, the one who gives his or her life for Christ, reciprocating the gift that he has made to us of himself. The primary reason for evangelising is the love of Jesus which we have received, the experience of salvation which urges us to ever greater love of him.

Just as *no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit (1 Co12:3)*, so no Christian is able to bear full and genuine witness to Christ the Lord without the Spirit's inspiration and assistance. All Christ's missionary disciples are called to recognise the essential importance of the Spirit's work, to dwell in his presence daily, and to receive his unflinching strength and guidance. Indeed it is precisely when we feel tired, unmotivated, or confused that we should remember to have recourse to the Holy Spirit in prayer. Let me emphasise once again that prayer plays a fundamental role in the missionary life, for it allows us to be refreshed and strengthened by the Spirit as the inexhaustible divine source of renewed energy and joy in sharing Christ's life with others.

Pope Francis

MASS INTENTIONS**October 21st, 2023**

6pm - Pro Populo

October 22nd, 20239am— Ints of Sick and
Housebound in our Parish

11 am - Ints of Fr Christopher

For weekday mass intentions please, see the notice board on the left hand side of the main door of the church.

Confession on Saturday between
5.15-5.45 pm
or by appointment.

**Weekday morning
mass next week -
Friday, 27 October -
9.15am**

**Readings for this
& next Sunday**

1st Reading— Isaiah

45: 1,4-6

Psalm 95; 1, 3-5, 7-10

Response v 7

2nd Reading - Thessalonians

1;1-5

Gospel – Matthew 22; 15-21

1st Reading— Malachi 1;

14-2: 8-10

Psalm 130

2nd Reading -

1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13

Gospel – Matthew 23; 1-12

World Mission Sunday on 22 October 2023

The Holy Father has tasked Missio to coordinate the celebration of the World Mission Sunday which will take place on the same day all over the world. All the faithful are called to take part in whatever way they can. Their prayers and donations will help to transform communities in faith, and enable the Church to reach out to those most in need through the world.

Therefore **Second Collection this weekend** - for Missio

Donation envelopes are already on the table and you can take them and post to Missio directly or place them in collection basket next Sunday or any Sunday after.

Pope Francis: "I invite you to pray for peace in the Holy Land"

"I continue to follow with great sorrow what is happening in Israel and Palestine," Pope Francis said on Sunday at the end of his weekly Angelus prayer.

"Brothers and sisters, already many have died," the Pope said. "Please, let no more innocent blood be shed, neither in the Holy Land nor in Ukraine, nor in any other place! Enough! Wars are always a defeat, always!"

"Prayer is the meek and holy force to oppose the diabolical force of hatred, terrorism, and war," the Holy Father told the thousands gathered. "I invite all believers to join with the Church in the Holy Land and to dedicate next Tuesday, 17 October, to prayer and fasting. And now let us pray to Our Lady."

Pope Francis' request echoes the one issued by Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem, who has urged Catholics to organize times of prayer with Eucharistic adoration and recitation of the rosary TODAY, asking for peace and reconciliation in the Holy Land, delivering "to God the Father our thirst for peace, justice, and reconciliation."

"In this time of sorrow and dismay, we do not want to remain helpless. We cannot let death and its sting (1 Cor 15:55) be the only word we hear," Cardinal Pizzaballa said in a statement issued on October 11

"That is why we feel the need to pray, to turn our hearts to God the Father. Only in this way we can draw the strength and serenity needed to endure these hard times, by turning to him, in prayer and intercession, to implore and cry out to God amidst this anguish."

Israel Needs Prayer

Praying for the world tonight.

Times are bad and getting worse.

The disease of hatred in people's hearts needs to come to an end.

My voice is small, yet I'm hopeful to be heard.

Lord, hear my prayer, give Your peace, healing, mercy, and protect the children, their families and homes.

We lift and hold all people in sincere prayer.

Amen.

The Catechetical Program 2023

Confirmation:

Application forms are on the table. If you are in year 9, and wish to make your Confirmation, the course will start on 4th November at 4pm- every Saturday. **Deadline for applications - Wednesday 1 November.**

First Holy Communions:

Application forms are now available, should you wish to have your child make their First Holy Communion, on the table in the lobby of the Church. Please take form, fill it in and hand one part into the parish office. The part with information for parents should be cut off by you and read properly as contain important information about the course. The course will commence on the 10th December 2023. Please, scroll down to see all dates.

1. 10. December
2. 17. December
3. 14. January
4. 21. Jan
5. 28. Jan
6. 4. February
7. 25. February

First Reconciliation: Saturday 2. March 2024.

1. 3. March
2. 10. March
3. 17. March
4. 24. March
5. 21. April
6. 28. April
7. 12. May

First Holy Communion: Saturday 18. May 2024.

Deadline for applications - Wednesday 1. November 2023.

Compulsory Parents meeting - Wednesday 22. November 2023.

The Universe Catholic Weekly Online and PRINT EDITION Newspaper

Is true to its mission of being "a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it" Keeping Catholics informed about their faith and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription. We have an excellent website full of trustworthy articles and an online shop with all subscribers receiving a 10% discount.

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Prices for PRINT EDITION:- 3 months PRINT Subscription:- £42.00- or 12-months PRINT Subscriptions:- £140.00

Below is the link to the latest edition of the Universe Catholic Weekly:

<https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/universe-weekly-newsletters/september-2023/UNIVERSE-22-SEPTEMBER%20v3.pdf>

“There is always a need for us Catholics to be able to know what is going on, especially in that key relationship between our faith and our world.”
Quote by Archbishop Vincent Nichols

**Diocese of Westminster
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Fr Christopher Silva

Parish Priest,

Mrs Katherine Woznicka

Parish Administrator

The office may be contacted by phone:

Monday to Friday 9am-2pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

Mrs Diane Winship - Safeguarding Representative

Mr John Chesson - Data Protection Parish Officer

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £260.00 envelopes: £164.00 contactless collection last weekend: £127.00 total: **£551.00**

Standing orders in **February - £5706; , in March - £3820, in April £4002, in May - £2533, in June - 3545, in July - 2758, in August - 5713, in September- 2832,**

As a charity we rely on your donations only. As you have not been allowed to come to the church , we only were receiving donations set up as standing orders. We will be grateful for your financial support when you are back.

Your new sets of gift aided envelopes are available for collection before/after any mass or from the office.

Alternatively you could sent your donation by bank. Parish account is on Parish Web.

Thank you for your Generosity

WRCDT Charity No: 233699

RICHARD HOUSE - London's first children's hospice

Richard House is a children's hospice based in the heart of Newham that has been providing specialised free care services to seriously ill children and their families across East London communities for over 22 years. We are now supporting over 300 families and are asking you to consider supporting Richard House.

Many parents of seriously ill children are unable to work due to complex medical conditions of their children, requiring 24/7 care, We offer free specialised care to these families and hope you can help us to continue to fulfil our mission. We get limited support from local authorities, with three quarters' of the money we need is coming from fundraising alone.

More information you can find on our website at www.richardhouse.org.uk

We hope you will consider supporting Richard House at this time!

Your sincerely, *Charlie Grey*, Community Fundraiser, charlieg@richardhouse.org.uk

School applications.

Fr Chris will be singing school application on Tuesday, 24 October between 10.30am and 2pm.

If you cannot make it during this time, please, contact the office to book an individual appointment.