

**PARISH OF ST CHARLES BORROMEO  
8 OGLE STREET, LONDON W1W 6HS**



**P. Priest: Fr Oscar Ardila / Sister: Sr Pauline**  
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**Neocatechumenate: Michael Anderson 07956281186**  
**Confessions: Tues to Fri at noon before 12:30 Mass**  
**Masses: Tuesday to Friday 12:30pm**  
**Thursday 6pm**  
**Sat 8:15pm & Sunday 9am & 11am**

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2025



"The tax collector ... would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but beat his breast, saying, 'God be merciful to me, a sinner!'" Luke 18:13

Although we shall celebrate his Solemnity on 9th November the **Novena to St Charles Borromeo** starts on Monday 27th October to finish on his feast, 4th November. You can take a copy of this novena from the back of the church or find it on our website using the following link:

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/oglestreet/wp-content/uploads/sites/169/2025/10/Novena-to-St-Charles-Borromeo.pdf>

St Charles Borromeo, pray for us!

We are grateful for your contribution of £111 to **World Mission Sunday**. In different capacities we are all called to be missionaries of hope among the nations.

Sundays 2nd and 16th November Fr Aloyce will be supplying for our Masses because I am away on 2nd November accompanying the 7th Neocatechumenal community of our parish on a stage of formation and then on 16th November the group of people who completed the Catechesis for adults this year in our parish. I trust you will welcome Fr Aloyce and keep us in your prayers. Thank you! *Fr Oscar*

158 priests, trained at the Douai Seminary in France, were judicially murdered by the English Crown between 1577 and 1680.

*"Joy in the Lord because the victory won by Christ's Confessors predominates over earthly sorrow at the grievousness of their suffering."*

William Cardinal Allen, Founder of Douai College.

### Mass Schedule

Sat 25th October	8:15pm The Neocatechumenate
Sun 26th October	9am Pro Populo
Thirtieth Sunday of the Year C	11am Enrique & Jeanne Lanusse and children RIP
Mon 27th October	7am Ann Leegh RIP
Tue 28th October	12:30pm Anna Balata-wellbeing
Ss Simon & Jude	
Wed 29th October	12:30pm Deceased members of Ritchie family
Martyrs of Douai	
Thu 30th October	12:30pm Deceased members of Hampshire family
	6pm Karolina's Intentions
Fri 31st October	12:30pm Norman and Suzanne Rolle RIP

### CATECHESIS FOR ADULTS AND YOUTH Every Monday and Thursday at 8pm in the crypt. Everyone is welcome!

The **Solemnity of St Charles Borromeo** will be celebrated in our parish on Sunday 9th November. There will be a 'bring and share lunch' after the 11am Mass. You are all very welcome to join our celebration of the Titular Saint of our parish and to bring some food and drink to share. Make sure to save the date!

### Music in St Charles Borromeo

Join our WhatsApp group to find videos and music for the hymns to be sung the following Sunday.



# ... for a helmet: Hope



*Beloved,*

The Church has always echoed the Apostle's warning: "Be not conformed to this world" (Rom. 12:2). "Here by the world is meant that spirit of vanity and malice which transforms into an instrument of sin those human energies intended for the service of God and man" (Gaudium et Spes 37).

On account of sin, the world, though still essentially the good creation of God, has become a realm strongly influenced by unbelief and vainglory, a "state of affairs" hostile to God and to his people, an enemy of the soul.

The world seeks security in material goods which cannot last. It seeks the recognition that comes from creatures that cannot last. The sinful world rebels against God and its rebellion will not last.

"What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?" (Mark 8:36)

St John of the Cross (known as the Mystical doctor) teaches that the influence of the world of sin is the most difficult to conquer because it is all around us: advertising, in fashions and trends, in the media, in 'worldly' conversations with family and friends.

The Mystical Doctor also echoes the admonition of St Paul [who tells us to use "for a helmet the hope of salvation" (1 Thes 5:8)] and goes on to explain:

"St Paul speaks of hope as the helmet of salvation, that is, a piece of armour that protects the whole head and covers it so that there remains uncovered only a visor through which it may look. And hope has this property, that it covers all the senses of the head of the soul, so that there is nothing pertaining to the world in which they can be immersed nor is there an opening through which any arrow of the world can wound them. It has a visor, however, which the soul is permitted to use so that its eyes may look upward but nowhere else; for this is the function which hope habitually performs in the soul, namely, the directing of its eyes upwards to look at God alone ... [through hope the soul sets] its heart upon nothing that is in the world and [lives] clad only in the hope of eternal life. Wherefore, [the world can neither touch the heart nor lay hold of it].

Hope prepares us for heaven. "It voids and withdraws the memory from all possessions; for, as St Paul says, hope is for that which is not possessed; and thus it withdraws the memory from that which it is capable of possessing and sets it on that for which it hopes. And for this cause hope in God alone prepares the memory purely for union with God." ('The Dark Night of the Soul', by Saint John of the Cross - Book 2, Chapter 21)

God so loved the world that he offered it eternal life. Whenever the arrows of the world seek to distract us, entangle us or lure us away from this gift, we are to use for a helmet the hope of salvation.

*Fr Oscar*