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Tues 9:30am - 12:30pm
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Mass this Sunday: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 26th July 2026

Today's Readings

1 Kings 3:5-6a. 7-12 King Solomon has his priorities right: instead of power and self-interest, his focus is on living and acting wisely.

Romans 8:28-30 All things work together for good for those who love God, for those who are called according to God's plan.

Matthew 13:44-52 The kingdom of heaven is hidden treasure, the pearl of great price. We are called to be whole-hearted and joyful in our commitment to it.

Mass This Week			**Intention**
Saturday 25th	6:30pm		For Our Parishoiners
Sunday 26th	9:00am		For Visitors
	10:30am		For a Special Intention (MC)
Tuesday 28th	6:00pm	Weekday	Dcn Sydney Adams (RIP)
Wednesday 29th	9:15am	Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus	Siblings
Thursday 30th	9:15am	Weekday	Those On Holiday
Friday 31st	9:15am	St Ignatius of Loyola	*The Society of Jesus*

The Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of Franco & Fina Tamburello (RIP)
The Sacrament of Reconciliation may usually be celebrated during exposition (5: 30pm Saturday) or by appointment

Please note we intend to livestream the 9am Mass this Sunday.

Mass Offering
This QR code will take you to our parish online donation page.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation 2027
The forms for sacramental programmes are now available in the Sacristy (Yellow for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, Mauve for Confirmation, White for RCIA (Adults)). Please ensure that these are returned by September 20th to give us time to order the necessary resources to begin the programmes in the Autumn.

Westminster Diocese Pilgrimage to Walsingham
Saturday 19th September The cost will be £30 per adult and £12 per child (5 years and over). At present, only a small number of people have booked to join the coach to Walsingham from our parish. Unfortunately, unless a few more pilgrims come forward, it will not be practical for the coach to make a stop here, and we may have to cancel the local pickup point. If you have been meaning to book, please do get in touch as soon as possible. It would be wonderful if we could keep the coach stop in our parish. Payment is required at the time of booking, please. If you would like to join us please contact Anita on 07882 173865. Thank you for your understanding, and please keep the pilgrimage in your prayers.

Summer Holiday Newsletters Please note that this weekend will be the last 'normal' parish newsletter. In August we will have a summer newsletter with the same information each week. Any notices for that must be in to the Parish Office by Tuesday 28th July.

Fire Wardens etc Thank you for your forebearance and good nature with our Fire Drill last Sunday. Our hope and expectation is that we will not ever have to evacuate the Church for real – but you know what to do if an emergency hits us. There were a few people who volunteered to be Fire Wardens. Please can you speak to Fr Philip to arrange a short training on what we do here.

The Saint John Henry Newman School warmly invites parents of year 6 pupils to an Open Evening on Thursday 24th September from 5:30pm to 8pm. Prospectuses and application forms will be available on the evening. The last tour will be at 7pm and the school will close to visitors once the final Headteacher's address starts at 7:30pm. There will be opportunities to view the school the following week.

Adoremus 2026 Adoremus 2026 will take place on **Saturday 10th October** A poster, with details of the events of the day, is on the notice board.

Adoremus Art Competition Young people are invited to reflect on themes such as the Blessed Sacrament, the presence of Jesus, and the beauty of our cathedrals. Entries will be judged by a professional panel of art experts, with categories for ages 6–8, 9–12, 13–15, and 16–18. A winner will be selected in each category, along with one overall winner. The winning entry will feature on prayer cards given to all the event. Entries to be submitted by simply sending a photo of the artwork to artcompetition@christian.art Deadline for entries: **15th September 2026**. A poster is again on the notice board.

We Dare to Love, the Autumn Faith Sharing Resource from the Diocesan Agency for Evangelisation, explores the essential truth of God's love and its part in our lives. As God's first gift, and the motivation of Jesus' ministry, in this resource we help the reader reflect on how God's perfect love can impact our lives in significant ways. Please sign up under the poster in the Sacristy if you would like a copy ordered for you.

Holy Fathers Prayer Intentions for July
For Respect For Human Life Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

The Feast Day of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus.

In February 2021, Pope Francis declared a combined Feast Day of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus to be celebrated each year on July 29th. It is stated in Pope Francis' decree that, "In the household of Bethany, the Lord Jesus experienced the family spirit and friendship of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, and for this reason the Gospel of John states that he loved them. Martha generously offered him hospitality, Mary listened attentively to his words and Lazarus promptly emerged from the tomb at the command of the one who humiliated death."
These three are the patron saints of siblings. They teach us an incredibly powerful reminder of faith in times of hardship. Their moving story is all about trusting God even when things seem impossible.
Martha, Mary and Lazarus are three siblings who were close friends to Jesus. During Lazarus' death, we learn just how faithful Martha and Mary were to Jesus and how meaningful their friendship was. Saint Martha is most well-known for her strong faith in Jesus after her brother's death. Jesus told her "'I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world'" (John 11:25-27).
Saint Martha loved to host Jesus and prepare meals for him, whereas Saint Mary loved to listen to his words. In addition, in John 12:1-8, it describes Mary's anointing of Jesus' feet at Bethany, one act that he praised highly.
Saint Lazarus was the one of whom the Jews said about Jesus, "See how much he loved him." Upon his death, Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.