

PARISH NEWSLETTER
St Peter-in-Chains, Stroud Green

Parish Priest: Fr. David Barrow
In residence: Fr. Marcel Mititelu
Presbytery: 12 Womersley Road, London N8 9AE
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Sunday Masses
6:30pm (Sat)
9:45am Sung Mass
11:15am Family Mass
7pm

Weekday Masses
9am: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
9am: Thursday unless cancelled on Wednesday
Morning Prayer: 8:45am when there is a 9am Mass
Church is closed on Thursday

Confessions
Saturday 6-6:20pm
Eucharistic Adoration
9:30-10:30am
Wednesday & Friday

Rosary: The Rosary is normally prayed in church after 9am Mass on Tuesday and Friday

15th November 2026 – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – World Day of the Poor

First Holy Communion: At the 11:15 Mass today we welcome the children and their families who will receive Holy Communion for the first time next year as they are officially enrolled or Inscribed on the programme. Please keep the children, families and catechists in your prayers.

World Day of the Poor: Pope Leo in his message for this Day of the Poor invites the Church to an examination of conscience: "Are we a sign of a God who is a refuge for the poor?" How much more are we called to do – in our communities, in our nations – "on behalf of the poor and for their liberation." Echoing the words of his predecessor, Pope Francis, he reminds us that "we are the Lord's Church, a Church of the poor." When we look at the Church in England and Wales, is this the Church we see, a Church of the poor? He quotes from his first exhortation, Dilexi te, with an even more direct challenge: "God shows a preference for the poor: the Lord's words of hope and liberation are addressed first of all to them. Therefore, even in their poverty or weakness, no one should feel abandoned. And the Church, if she wants to be Christ's Church, must be a Church of the Beatitudes, one that makes room for the little ones and walks poor with the poor, a place where the poor have a privileged place" (#21).

Sick and Retired Priests Collection: This weekend is the annual collection for sick and retired priests in the Diocese of Westminster. The number of our priests over the age of 75 is steadily increasing, and caring for our brother priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is a fundamental part of the mission of our diocese. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. You will find a donation envelope at the back of the church today. You can also donate online at https://rcdow.org.uk/SRP Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill. Thank you.

COP31: Bishop John Arnold, Bishop of Salford and Lead Bishop for the Environment for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has issued the following statement as COP31 gets underway in Antalya, Türkiye, from 9 to 20 November 2026. "We must applaud the effective action that is being taken in many parts of the world to reduce emissions. But action should be accelerated, and richer countries should provide support for poorer nations who suffer most from climate change but contributed least to historical emissions. (Laudato si', 51-52) I call upon the UK government to show real leadership at COP31, so that, in these challenging times, everything possible will be done to unite countries behind effective action to address climate change. I also ask Catholics in England and Wales to pray for the success of COP31 – to pray that action will be taken both to reduce carbon emissions and to ensure that the burden of reducing emissions is borne in a just way."

COMING UP: Teas and Coffees: Catch-up with friends and fellow-parishioners after the Sunday morning Masses.
Life Ascending Group: meets on Tuesday 17 November at 10am in the Parish Rooms
Holy Trinity Church, Granville Road - Charity concert of Bach Cello Suites 2 & 3, 6pm this Sunday 15 Nov given by Penny Driver and students. Tickets by cash donation on door (£20 suggested), children free.
First Holy Communion: after todays Mass of Inscription, the next meeting is on Saturday 5 December at 11am.
Thursdays Together: Thursday lunchtimes 11:30am–1:30pm in the Groves Room, Holy Trinity Church Granville Road N4 4EL. Meet your neighbours and chat over light refreshments.
Welfare Advice service – 9:30am-12:30pm Mondays and **Active Ageing Club** – 12-3pm Fridays with 'lunch club' – both run by Brent Irish Advisory Service at Hornsey Vale Community Centre.

Couples of St Peters: Young, Married and Catholic? looking for some support and companionship in your marriage; wanting to meet other young couples; Couples of St Peter's is a new parish group which meet once per month, socially, for a drink, food and just companionship. Interested see Fr David for details.

Holy Souls lists and envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please hand your list, with your donation in the envelope, to Fr David or parish office. The lists will be displayed before the Altar during November with Masses offered for the souls of your deceased family members and friends.

Please pray for Pope Leo as he continues his pastoral visit to South America in Peru – that God keep him safe, that he continues to recover from his recent cancer surgery, that his visit will bring blessings on the places and people he visits and that his words will be heard by people and politicians.

Father's David's 25th Celebration: we are delighted to announce that Fr David will be celebrating 25 years of his ministry as a priest. He was ordained on 8th December 2001. In recognition of this anniversary, there will be a Mass at 7pm on Friday, 11th December, followed by a finger food reception in the church porch. Please put this date in your diary and let us know if you plan to attend by replying to Kit Greveson at kit.greveson@gmail.com or messaging Kit on 07507138582. There is also a list on the Newsletter table.

Missio Red Boxes: If you left your Red Box to be emptied, it can now be collected from the Sacristy. Thank you.

2026-2027 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:
Confirmation: Fr David will be in contact with the young people who have given him their names.
Adult Faith Formation: Coming to Mass but not a Catholic? Thinking of becoming a Catholic? Catholic but not made your confirmation? Looking to know more about your faith? Please see Fr David after mass, or email him at the parish email, to learn about the upcoming program of faith formation for this year.

Soup Run: As we serve even more guests on a Saturday evening so donations of tuna fish, sweetcorn, mayonnaise, tea bags, instant coffee and sugar are always welcome. Please leave in box in inner porch. Thank you, Kit.

The Pope's November Prayer Intention: Pope Leo has released his prayer intention for the month of November, and invites Catholics to pray "for the proper use of wealth," so that we may recognize that true wealth lies not in accumulating or possessing, but in giving with love. Join in prayer with Pope Leo at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiBoCMYGe-4&t=1s

Draft Conversion Practices Bill: The Most Reverend John Sherrington, Archbishop of Liverpool and chair of the Department for Social Justice for the Bishops' Conference, has issued a statement on the Draft Conversion Practices Bill. The Archbishop expresses serious concerns about provisions in the draft Bill saying "This Bill proposes to extend the legal definition of abusive practices in ways that threaten a person's fundamental rights, including freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression. The legislation will also create uncertainty around lawful pastoral care by the Church, family life and open conversations that can take place in a range of social settings." He ends "We call on politicians to abandon this Bill and focus instead on enforcement of existing protections and accessible support for anyone facing abuse or coercion." You read the full statement on the Bishops' Conference website: https://www.cbcew.org.uk/archbishops-statement-on-the-draft-conversion-practices-bill/

Diocesan Job Vacancies: - for details of current vacancies within the Diocese of Westminster either centrally or within parishes visit https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/.

Please pray for those who are ill: Christian Overal, Antonio Neto, Zintra Sansom, Brenda Buzec, Amy Gordon, Annette Donivar, Caroline Hilton, Karin Summers, Joan Summers, Helen Kozlowski, Don Brewis, Roman Cholij, Mary Wale, Margaret Whelan, Brendan Whelan, Claire Marchand, Mike Coombes, Gemma Francis, Richard Simon, Noah Purcell–Chandler, Nathalie Renford, Jackie Loivette, Michael Reid, Wendy Fairhurst, Ann Elizabeth Bennett, Joseph Lunn, Michael Hurley, Emilie Alcaraz, Ann Kozlowski-Hunt, Gabriel Brimacombe-Rand, Frank Farrell, Peter Leung, Anthony Mark Selvarajah, Elaine Benjamin, Emma Gordon, Elena Rabhani, Paul Renford, Jim O'Donoghue.

Rest in Peace: Graham Summers. Graham's funeral will take place on Monday 23 November at 11am.

Safeguarding: Our parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance & the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Frances Booker:** stroudgreen@rcdow.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Team: They can be contacted if you have any concerns on 0207 798 9352 or safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk