SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

Entrance Antiphon: ***Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5***
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

Collect
God of might, giver of every good gift,
put into our hearts the love of your name,
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,
you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care,
keep safe what you have nurtured.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

O LORD, you have deceived me,
and I was deceived;
you are stronger than I,and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughing-stock all the day;
everyone mocks me.
For whenever I speak, I cry out,
I shout, 'Violence and destruction!'
For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
If I say, 'I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name',
there is in my heart as it were a burning fire
shut up in my bones,
and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 63:2-6. 8-9.
For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.
For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water.

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.
Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise.

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you.

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings fast to you;
your right hand upholds me.

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

Second reading: ***Romans 12:1-2***

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Gospel Acclamation: ***Cf. Ephesians 1:17-18***
Alleluia, alleluia.
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
so that we may know the hope to which he has called us.
Alleluia.

Gospel: ***Matthew 16:21-27***

At that time: Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.'

Prayer over the Offerings
May this sacred offering, O Lord,
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,
that what it celebrates in mystery
it may accomplish in power.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: ***Ps 30: 20***
How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

Prayer after Communion
Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

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ST. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUDBURY

Sunday 30th August 2026

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Welcome to all at Mass today and especially anyone who is new. Please take this Newsletter home with you. You may wish to share it with family and friends. This Newsletter can also be found via our website. We ask God's blessing on you and your loved ones this week and know that we pray for you all each day.

Sunday Cycle
Readings Year A
Weekday Mass Readings
Ordinary TimeWeek 22
Divine Office *Week 2*

For children,
download a weekly sheet:
http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/

Masses and Intentions THIS WEEK

Sun 30 Aug	**22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	Nora Mulrooney RIP
8.30am	Varunkulasingham Family Intentions
9.45am	Martin & Rita Hession RIP
11.15am	Mary Loughlin RIP
5:30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH & Maximus Perera RIP
Mon 31 Aug	**Feria**
9:30am	John Scullion RIP
Tues 1 Sept	**Feria**
9.30am	Curie Pereira Thanksgiving
Weds 2 Sept	**Feria**
9.30am	Vaz Family Intentions
Thurs 3 Sept	**S. Gregory the Great**
9.30am	Fr Simpiicio Pereira RIP
Fri 4 Sept	**S. Cuthbert**
9:30am	Mary White RIP
Sat 5 Sept	**Of Our Lady**
9:30am	Nimal Perera RIP
Sun 6 Sept	**23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
6.15pm *Sat Vigil*	John Brady RIP
8.30am	Michael Foley RIP
9.45am	Emma Fernandes RIP
11.15am	Eva Russo Birthday Intentions
5:30pm	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

TODAY'S MASS



Peter could not yet understand what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah. It is unlikely that the other disciples understood any better. The common view was that the Messiah would be a political figure, a king that would free Israel from Roman rule. This is perhaps what Peter envisioned when he was led to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, however, Jesus is beginning to teach his disciples that he would be the Messiah in a different way. Jesus would be more like the suffering servant described by the prophet Isaiah than the political liberator. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service.

First Reading: ***Jeremiah 20:7-9***
Jeremiah laments but cannot fail to speak in God's name.

Second Reading: ***Romans 12:1-2***
Paul encourages the Romans to stay faithful to God.

Gospel Reading: ***Matthew 16:21-27***
Jesus speaks of his Passion and rebukes Peter for his objection.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The principal act of courage is to endure and withstand dangers persistently rather than to attack them"
St Thomas Aquinas

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest: Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
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Address: The Presbytery, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2QE
Telephone: 020 8904 2552. Phone Options: 1. Mass Times; 2. Parish Office/ SVP Information 3. Mgr Jeremy; 4. Fr Jude; 5. Catechetical Coordinator.
Charity No: 233699
Email: sudbury@rcdow.org.uk Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/sudbury

GOSPEL REFLECTION

DAILY MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm.
WEEKDAY MASS: Monday – Saturday 9.30am.
HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION: 9.30am, 8.00pm.
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday 9.00-9.30am, Saturday 5.15-6.00pm.
CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.15pm -6.00pm. *and any time by appointment.*
DIVINE MERCY: Tuesday 10.30am.
ROSARY: Daily after Mass.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: *Marie Rego, Eileen Kidd, Dee Auriol, Christopher Browne, John, Aaran Thayaparan, Shaun Scoon and Helen Jordan, Sean Marren, George Beel, Marian Lynch, Shane & Paul, Patrick, Gerry & Corrine Gilbert, Martha Conway, Edward Granger, Ciara I, Mary O'Connell, Paul Pereira, Nora Hunt, Mario, Maureen Chick, Ramzan, Larry Sicat, Andras Nagy, Tony Eivers, Margaret O'Leary*

RECENTLY BAPTISED: *Lana Roche*

RECENTLY DEPARTED: *Pamela Nziko, Daniel Harrington*

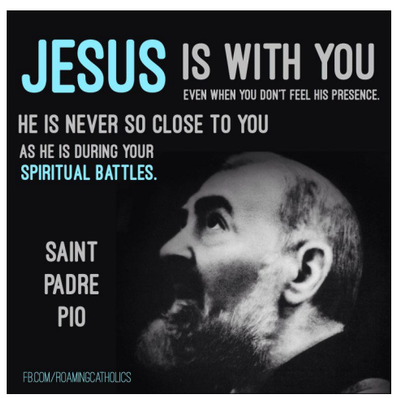
ALL RECENTLY CONFIRMED:

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: -*Maximus Perera*

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
In Memory of Mrs Mariyampillai

LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
In Memory of Mrs Mariyampillai

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS for September
For the care of water
Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.



We start our life of faith with an image of the future that is idealized, as things often are in a child's eyes. If we are good and follow Jesus then the years and decades of life would be challenging but promising as we negotiate our trials with confidence, knowing that the grace of God will carry us forward. While this outlook sustains some throughout life, eventually many people encounter moments in life that are much more than challenging—they can cause us to question the very truth of all that we have held dear.

Family tragedies, abuse by others, hypocritical people, and opposition from colleagues and friends can all lead to a deep sense of cynicism about religion in general and about faith in the Lord. The prophet Jeremiah faces just such a moment in today's first reading, as he shows through his angry words: *"O Lord You have deceived me"* (*Jer* 20:7). Jeremiah was angered over the pain of having to deliver bad news to the people of Israel, announcing the downfall of Jerusalem and the end of the Kingdom of Judah. Such "defeatist" predictions, while they turned out to be true, led many to oppose him forcefully and even violently.

While the prophet Jeremiah remained faithful to the Lord even in the midst of his anger, when we suffer deep discouragement in life we easily fall prey to cynicism and a jaundiced view of life. The scandals in the Church in recent decades, the betrayal of a spouse or friend, can lead us to a spirit of sarcasm and suspicion and along the way we lose the hope-filled images we cherished as children.

In today's second reading Saint Paul recognizes this possibility among Christians and he prescribes a remedy for it. In his letter to the Romans, having concluded a reflection on mercy, Paul says: *"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind"* (*Rom* 12:2).

St. Paul understood that the human spirit can be overtaken by cynicism, luring even Christian believers into thinking that real conversion and renewal is not possible. He also saw that *"the world;"* that is, our secular age, draws us into this way of thinking and makes us reason that if we are not to be seen as naïve then we must take a hardened bigoted outlook on others and on life itself. Such a perspective is foreign to believers in Jesus.

The gospel brings this message home when our Lord teaches his disciples that they will encounter great suffering in the course of their journey of faith and thus cannot be naïve about life. However, Jesus himself will suffer before them in order to redeem them and give them the possibility of living no longer according to the thinking of *"the world"—"thinking not as God does, but as human beings do"* (*Matt* 16:23)—but rather being transformed into the image of him whose mercy triumphs over evil, and whose wisdom commends us to approach him not with a spirit hardened by the travails of life, but with the confidence of a child who cries out "Abba, Father!"

Let us learn from Jesus and let mercy triumph over the evils committed against us, never falling into the trap of cynicism.

NEWS UPDATE

WELCOME to all at Mass today and a big welcome to anyone who is new or a visitor.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? It always helps us to get to know you and also your family if you register with us. We can then send you information about the parish and opportunities. Registration forms can be found at the back of Church underneath the photo of Pope Leo.

THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS will now be Monday—Friday 10.00am-2.00pm. Outside these hours, **urgent** matters can be directed to the Presbytery. **Please note the Parish Office will be closed for the summer from Monday 20th July to Thursday 3rd September 2026.**

CONGATULATIONS to all our young people who recently received exam results—GCSE, A Levels and degrees and to all of you who have done so well. We also remember our young people going to school for the first time, those changing schools, going to university or starting in the field of work. We wish you all well and don't forget God in all these changes!!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENT 2026-27 - Children beginning **Year 3 in September**, who are **registered and regularly attend Mass at this Parish**, are welcome to join our FHC Preparation Programme. **Enrolment Packs** are available to collect from the back of church. **Parents/Carers** should bring their completed **Enrolment Form**, **photocopy of Baptism Certificate** & **£30 Contribution** to the **FHC Enrolment Evening** on **Tuesday 8th September at 7pm**. Please note that the **FHC Enrolment Evening** is for **Parents/Carers only.** Thank you for making **childcare arrangements well in advance** so you are able to successfully enrol your child. If you require further information relating to First Holy Communion preparation, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING - Children who have made their First Holy Communion and would like to serve, along with those wishing to refresh or refine their skills, are welcome to join us for this year's introduction to Altar Serving taking place at the Parish on **Saturday 12th September at 2pm**.

CONFIRMATION 2026-27 - Young people in **Year 10 & above**, who are **registered & regularly attend Mass at this Parish**. are welcome to join our **Confirmation Preparation Programme.** Young people wishing to be confirmed must attend the **Confirmation Information Evening** with a Parent/Carer on **Monday 14th December at 7.30pm**. For further information, please contact our Catechetical Coordinator, Peter, at peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk

BAPTISM PREPARATION - **Baptism Preparation** sessions at the Parish provide **essential** formation for Parents/Carers as they prepare for this important Sacrament. If you are expecting a baby, or would like your baby baptised, please **pick up a Baptism Pack** from the **Parish Office**. To attend our next **Baptism Preparation** you will need to **complete** the **Baptism Application Form** (in the Pack) & **return it to the Parish Office by Monday 21st September 2026.**

NEW PARISH SPECIAL NEEDS INITIATIVE - We are delighted that **Gail Williams** from **Caritas** will be coming to speak at all the Masses on **3rd/4th October** as we strive to create, in collaboration with Caritas, a new SEN initiative serving those with special needs at the Parish. Thank you for keeping this new initiative in prayer, that it may bear fruit for some of the more vulnerable at the Parish.

UPPER ROOM LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME - This Programme, facilitated by **Westminster Youth Ministry** is running from **October to July** for **young adults aged 17-30**, offering a journey of **practical and spiritual formation** giving young adult Catholics the tools to **lead young people in their Parishes**. The Programme concludes with a **Pilgrimage to Lourdes**. The commitment is one Saturday each month. **Applications close on September 16th 2026** so please complete your application as soon as possible. Details at https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/outreach/upper-room-leadership-programme/ or via the Notice in the Church Porch.

SERVING AS A PARISH CATECHIST - Opportunities are available to **help with Catechesis at the Parish,** serving alongside a team of experienced Catechists. For further information about **Baptism Preparation, First Holy Communion, Confirmation or RCIA Catechesis**, please contact our **Catechetical Coordinator**, Peter, at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk.**

A DAY FOR PARISH CATECHISTS - The **Diocese of Westminster** is offering a **Day for Parish Catechists** taking place at the **SPEC Retreat Centre (Pinner)** on **Saturday 3rd October from 10am-4pm.** For **further information** & to **buy tickets (£10)** please contact **catadmin@rcdow.org.uk.**

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS - To protect children & vulnerable adults at the Parish, the Diocese of Westminster requires all volunteers to complete **Safeguarding Training every 2 years**. The training can be accessed online at https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/. On registration, you will be directed to the correct pre-allocated course based on the role. Thank you for completing **"Level 3 Safeguarding training for Clergy, Staff and DBS Volunteers in the Diocese of Westminster"** as and when required.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CHRISTIAN OR JUST DISCOVERING MORE? If you are interested in becoming a Christian we would be delighted to accompany you on this journey. Please **speak to one of the clergy** or **email Peter, our Catechetical Coordinator**, at **peterkingsley@rcdow.org.uk**, so we can provide further information. If you were baptised but have not yet received the gifts of the Holy Spirit in confirmation we would also be happy to support you on this journey.

TEA/COFFEE in the Café Bar resumes after 9:30am Mass on Friday 5th September and 9:45am and 11:15am Masses on Sunday 6th September. All are welcome.

THE OVER 60's CLUB will resume on Tuesday 8th September at 1pm in the Café/Bar. All welcome.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY at 9.45am Mass. resumes next week. If you have young children, this is for them (it's not for the very young i.e. it's not a creche) but for children to be given an interest in the message of the gospel of a Sunday. If you come with children why not come to this Mass as it is especially tailored for you and your family?

JOIN WESTMINSTER YOUTH MINISTRY FOR RESONATE, which is the Diocesan monthly Young Adults Mass and Talk. The Mass is held in the historic Westminster Cathedral Crypt, followed by a live panel Q+A! The panel will bring together three different vocations in the Church: priesthood, religious life, and marriage. This evening is an opportunity to hear honest, real, faith orientated reflections from people who are living out their vocation in very different ways. Whether you are discerning your future, wondering what God is calling you to, trying to understand vocation more deeply, or simply curious and have general questions to ask then this panel is for you! **8 September 2026, Mass – 19:00, Resonate Talk – 19:45** at Vaughan House 46 Francis Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 1QN.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND AT ST. GEORGE'S ...26th–27th September. We warmly invite married couples to take part in a **Marriage Encounter Weekend** here at **St. George's** on **Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th September 2026.** This special weekend is a chance to reflect, reconnect and grow closer as a couple—no matter how long you have been married. It offers a unique opportunity to deepen your love and strengthen your married commitment. For more details and to book go to **http://www.wwme.org.uk**

SPONSORING THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP & THE LAMP AT OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM is a lovely thing to do for a departed loved one or a particular intention. There are some possibilities in the month of November. Please contact the Parish Office.

A MASS FOR YOUR INTENTIONS Requesting a Mass intention is a powerful way to place what matters most to us into God's loving care. It is also a wonderfully practical way of supporting the mission and ministry of the Church, enabling Priests to continue their pastoral work and the Gospel to be proclaimed. The Mass offering recommended by the Diocese is £10, or whatever you can afford. Every intention is welcomed with prayer and gratitude, just contact the Parish Office for available dates.

STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE BEING LEGALISED Assisted suicide campaigners have sadly brought back the Leadbeater Bill. This can be stopped if MPs vote down the Bill on 11th September. *Right To Life UK* has launched an *Easy Action* tool to help you email your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons. Your voice matters. Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide: **https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote**

