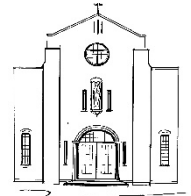
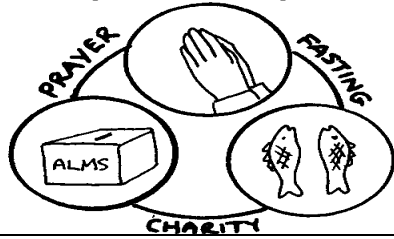


Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Sunday 26th February 2023



204, High Street
Waltham Cross
Herts EN8 7DP
01992 623156

<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/walthamcross>
walthamcross@rcdow.org.uk

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

THIS WEEKEND'S LITURGY

We undergo many trials in our lives. A loved one undergoes surgery, we are laid off from work, a friend invites us to participate in something we know is unethical. All difficult situations, all occasions we feel we cannot face alone. We hope to turn to God, trusting that the Lord will accompany us during our moment of need. Our faith in God enables us to face these times of stress, to look to the Lord for strength to handle trauma, resist temptation, and hope in eternal life. Joined with family, friends, and neighbours, let us turn to the Lord with confidence and trust as we celebrate this liturgy.

From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2022 World Library Publications

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 25th February

Sunday 26th February

**The First Sunday of
Lent**

Monday 27th February

Tuesday 28th February

Wednesday 1st March

Thursday 2nd March

Friday 3rd March

Saturday 4th March

Gregory

David

6.30pm Rosa Da Silva RIP

8.30am Shirley Spence RIP

11.30am People of the Parish

6.30pm Charlie McGlynn RIP

10.00am Joe Dain-Williams RIP

10.00am Derek Cole RIP

10.00am People of the Parish

10.00am Maureen Hollebrand RIP

10.00am Cindy Pereira RIP

6.30pm Christina Bowland RIP

TODAY'S READINGS:

Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7

Psalms 50

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Genesis 12:1-4

Psalms 32

2 Timothy 1:8-10

Matthew 17:1-9

LIVE STREAMING FROM THE CHURCH

The live stream runs twenty-four hours a day, so you can 'visit' the Church whenever you wish. There is a link on the Parish Website and it is also accessible at <http://www.churchservices.tv/walthamcross>.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

During Lent, we are asked to pray for: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

For those who are ill: Nicola Harker, Ann Shipwright, Laurel Reeve, Julia Barrett, John Fleming, Annie Lutwack, Richard O'Reilly, Rosalie Olayokun, Barbara Alexander, Emily West, Linda Tank, Lily Barber, Michelle Herity, Gladys Asare, Natasha Papet, Mimmo Santagata,

For those who have died recently: Maureen Hollebrand, Barbra Meredith,

And for those whose Anniversaries are at this time: Anthonia Archibong,

LENTEN PRAYER AND PRACTISES

There will be Stations of the Cross in the Church each Friday morning at 10.35am, after the morning Mass, and at 7.00pm in the evening.

This Year, the Diocesan Faith Sharing Resource for Lent is called Enlarging the Space of Our Tent. It is an invitation to reflect with fellow Christians on issues which are at the heart of the kingdom in 2023: Poverty, the impact of the cost of living, homelessness, racial justice, the care of creation, the welcome we extend to migrants and refugees, and peace-making. It is suitable for use by individuals or by Groups. There are two Faith Sharing Groups, one will continue on Tuesday 28th February at 9.00pm on Zoom, the second Group will begin on Thursday 2nd March, at 10.30am in the Sacristy. For the morning meeting, just turn up. For the Zoom meeting, please contact Eucharica on 07984 153877.

LENTEN ALMS

The Collection Box near the Statue of St Anthony will be used for the collection of your Lenten Alms Donations. You can also make donations on line, just put Lenten Alms as the reference. We will be using the donations to support the Broxbourne Food Bank.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023 Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. The effects of the pandemic, followed by the cost of living crisis, are still making daily life harder for all. Price rises last year meant many families faced an impossible choice: HEAT or EAT? And this crisis is far from over. The Church continues to respond, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. And for those who can't give financially, your time is a priceless commodity – please see the posters on how you can volunteer in the diocese and help those in need. Please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Thank you for last week's Offertory collection, which came to £1,186.68, plus the Regular Standing Orders.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

On Saturdays from 10.30 – 11.00am and from 5.45pm – 6.15pm.

FUNERAL THIS WEEK

The Funeral Mass for the late Maureen Hollebrand will be celebrated on Wednesday 1st March at 11.30am.

BAPTISM THIS WEEK

Sunday 5th March at 1.00pm – Jayden Aponsah

WARM SPACES PROJECT 2023

We are providing a warm space here in the Meeting Room in the Parish Centre each Monday. It's open from 10.00am – 3.30pm. We are offering hot drinks as well as a soup and sandwich lunch.

200 CLUB 2023

It's not too late to join - the Application Forms for 2023 are available as you exit the Church, they are also available on our Website. The more people who join, the more is given in prizes. **Your New Numbers are on the Noticeboards and also on the Parish Website.**



RCIA

The RCIA meets on Monday evenings at 7.00pm in the Presbytery.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Confirmation Preparation will continue on Thursday 2nd March at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

The next Baptism Preparation Course will take place on Saturday 11th March 2023 at 3.00pm in the Parish Centre. If you have an infant to be baptised please see Fr John.

HAVE YOU SIGNED A GIFT AID FORM?

We will soon be putting in a Gift Aid claim asking the Inland Revenue to give us the Tax that you have paid on your donations. If you have stopped paying tax please would you contact the Parish Office on 01992 623156 so that we don't ask for the tax if you haven't paid it.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

We are preparing to issue the new sets of Offertory Envelopes. If you no longer use your Offertory Envelopes or wish to move from Envelopes to a Standing Order, can you please let the Parish Office know. Thank you.

3rd WALTHAM CROSS BEAVERS AND CUBS - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help needed to assist Beaver and Cub Leader (Volunteer), Monday 6:15-7:45 Term time; 3rd Waltham Cross Beavers and Cubs numbers are rising and we need help. Training given, and plenty up support available. If you have a few hours available on a Monday night please contact Sabina on 07867 487 341.

AA MEETINGS

The AA Meetings have restarted in the Parish Centre in the Meeting Room on Sunday evenings at 8.00pm. Please feel free to come along.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

CAFOD SYRIA-TURKEY EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 13th May 2023 at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND

21st to 23rd April 2023: Sion Community, Brentwood, A healing ministry for those who have suffered from divorce, separation or loss of a spouse Contact Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE

Ireland from London Heathrow, 15th May 2023. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

FR JOHN

Fr John is on Holiday until Monday 27th February. Fr Tom Forde will be looking after the Parish while Fr John is away.