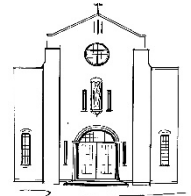
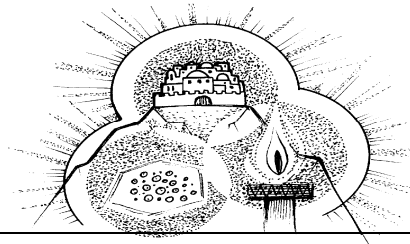


Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Sunday 5th February 2023

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



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

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S LITURGY

'You are the light of the world,' Jesus tells his disciples in today's Gospel, exhorting them to shine that light for everyone to see. Jesus himself is the light who shone through the darkness from the very moment he was born. Now he challenges his disciples to be that light, the light of Christ, for others. We are given that same challenge. May we be conscious of receiving the Lord today in the word and the Eucharist, so that we may go forth to shine the light of Christ, transforming the darkness around us. Today is Racial Justice Day which draws attention to a key part of our willingness to be open and welcoming.

Isaiah has some advice to help us disperse the darkness and live in the light. Hint: Light is meant to be shared. Paul is determined to bring the light of faith to the Corinthians by displaying the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus tells his disciples to let their light shine for all to see. May God's word inspire us to be like the just one in the responsorial psalm, lighting the way for others through the darkness.

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MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

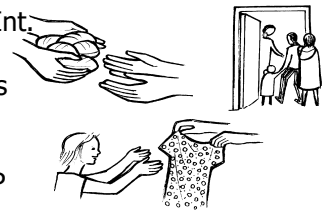
Saturday 4th February
Sunday 5th February

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday 6th February
Tuesday 7th February
Wednesday 8th February
Thursday 9th February
Friday 10th February
Saturday 11th February

Paul
Bakhita
Scholastica

6.30pm Anthony Burke RIP
8.30am People of the Parish
11.30am Ray McHugh RIP
6.30pm Nicholas Marchant RIP
10.00am Annie Conway - Int.
10.00am Pat Sharples RIP
10.00am Canossian Sisters
10.00am Tami Ige
10.00am Mary Forni RIP
6.30pm Derek Loftus RIP



TODAY'S READINGS:
Isaiah 58:7-10
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Matthew 5:13-16

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:
Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20
Psalm 118
1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Matthew 5:17-37

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 Ordinary Time, we are asked to pray for: Peace on earth; Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it; Racial Justice; The Unemployed.

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, David Willis, Gladys Asare, Natasha Papet,

For those who have died recently: Anthony Burke, Jack Flannery, Maureen Hollebrand, Derek Loftus, Vincent Nobrega,

And for those whose Anniversaries are at this time: Nicholas Marchant,

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Thank you for last week's Offertory collection, which came to **£826.83**; plus the January Standing Orders **£4,925.00**; Online Donations **£337.00**; Contactless **£584.00**.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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.**

200 CLUB WINNERS – JANUARY 2023

1st No. 17 Una Griffin;

2nd No. 100 Tony Cipullo;

3rd No. 104 Santina Taibi



AFTERNOON TEAS

The Afternoon Teas will be on Monday 6th February at 2.00pm in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

RCIA

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

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP

The Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday 8th February at 10.30am in the Church.

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.

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.

ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE

St Ignatius College, Enfield, is recruiting for: Exam Invigilator; Rate of pay: £12 per hour. Start date: February 2023. Please contact the College on 01992 717835 or email recruitment@st-ignatius.enfield.sch.uk for further details.

CARITAS - - LATEST UPDATES - GRANTS TO HELP PAY OFF ENERGY DEBTS

People who are in debt to their energy supplier might be able to get a grant from a charitable trust to help pay it off. More details on this link – plus links to several advice providers <https://fuelpovertyresource.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/>

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Joseph's School is looking for one of the more Senior Members of the Parish who would like to come and talk to the Reception Class children about their past experiences e.g. school life, growing up, work conditions, etc. If you are interested please contact the school on 01992 629503.

ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

The Royal Voluntary Service offers a number of services in Hertfordshire which can help you get out and about. Their Community Transport Scheme is run by local volunteers, and is there to help with getting to medical appointments, picking up shopping or visiting friends & family. They cover the areas of Broxbourne, Cheshunt, Wormley, Waltham Cross, Hoddesdon, Ware and Hertford.

Calling All Volunteers - becoming a Volunteer. Can you offer the gift of your time, your talents and life experience? In return you will experience the satisfaction of helping others, gaining confidence, and making new friendships. Please get in touch for an informal chat. All training and support will be provided

To use this service or to find out more please get in touch by calling them on 01992 534 269/552 069 or 07764 816 147, or email them on hertfordgn@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Visit our Lady of Lourdes with the Diocese of Westminster on 21st – 28th July 2023. Pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Contact Elizabeth Uwalaka for more information. 0207 798 9173; email lourdes@rcdow.org.uk; web rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/Lourdes.

CHOICE FOSTERING – THINKING OF FOSTERING

Making the decision to foster a child is a huge commitment, but one which can change a child's life for the better and be deeply rewarding. How to become a Foster Carer. Being a Foster Carer is one of the most rewarding jobs in the world; here's how to become one. Phone 0800 949 4262 for an informal chat or email foster@choicefostering.com or request a call back – visit: www.choicefostering.com.

FR JOHN

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Christians are supposed to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. And salt and light are social, public images. When Jesus uses them he is emphasising the missionary, evangelising role that we all have. For we don't hide lights away; we put them where everyone can see and benefit from them. And when we put salt in food it flavours the whole dish, not just the part of the pan that we dropped it into.

Being salt means not keeping things to ourselves. It's not about leaving a bitter taste in the mouth of those we meet, but adding a flavour to their day. And in the same way light is about being witnesses to the one true light which darkness can never blot out: Jesus Christ. To be the light of the world is to show the world that there is a way to live which can bring ultimate fulfilment. It's about pointing the way forward when all seems gloom and doom.

Our religion, then, is not hole-in-the-wall, private affair. It's a call to be the universal flavouring which entices the hungry and the global light which prevents the world from stumbling.