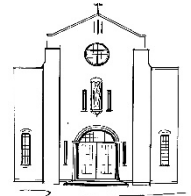
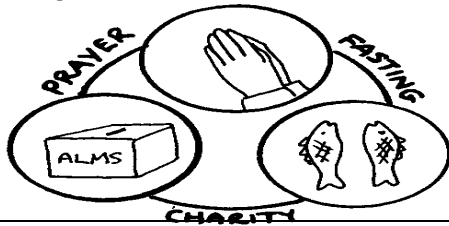


Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Sunday 17th March 2024

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



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

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

As we draw close to Holy Week, we hear Jesus talk about his approaching death. Yet his message to his disciples is not so much about his death as it is about eternal life. As Christians, we know that as difficult as death is, our true focus, our true hope is in eternal life, trusting that our Lord is our source of eternal salvation. During this final week before Holy Week, let us keep in mind that just as our Lenten journey will not end with Good Friday, but with Easter, so too does our own life's journey end not in death but in new life.

Jeremiah looked forward to the day when God's covenant with humanity would be internalized in us, when it would be imprinted on our hearts. To prepare our hearts for keeping the covenant, we pray that God will create clean hearts in us. Especially during Lent, our longing for reconciliation and forgiveness can help to prepare our hearts. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks from the heart, questioning why he would ask God to save him from suffering and death when that was the purpose in the first place. May we let God's word penetrate our hearts as well.

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 16th March

Sunday 17th March

**The Fifth Sunday
Of Lent**

Monday 18th March

Tuesday 19th March

Wednesday 20th March

Thursday 21st March

Friday 22nd March

Saturday 23rd March

Cyril

Joseph

TODAY'S READINGS:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 50

Hebrews 5:7-9

John 12:20-30

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalms 21

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1-15:47

6.30pm Cleophas Tsaurai Chiremba RIP

8.30am Rose Slattery RIP

11.30am Mary & Family - Thanksgiving

6.30pm People of the Parish

10.00am Pat Deaney RIP

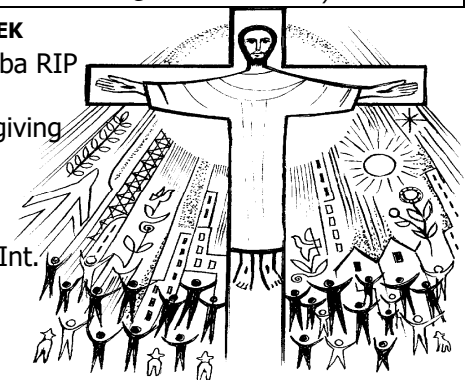
10.00am Salvatore Infantino RIP

10.00am Tanya & Aidan Leung - Int.

10.00am Barbara - RIP

10.00am Holy Souls

6.30pm Pasquale Neglia RIP



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: Europe; Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

For those who are ill: Nicola Harker, Lily Barber, Rodney Imbert, Lisa Thorogood, Tina Figueria, Iris Waters, Vera Argue, Lesley Cartwright, Patsy Joseph, Val McGuinness, Michael Verbruggen, Mary Fitzgerald, Betty Bambury, Jean Pearce,

For those who have died recently: Petrunella Pankiw, Krystyna Mikolajczyk, Helena Weres, Diego Di Stefano, Michael Burke, Margaret Walsh, Norah McGuinness, Olga Mackin, Hila Anandappa

And for those whose Anniversaries are at this time: Stephen Jones,

LENTEN PRAYER AND PRACTISES

There will be Stations of the Cross in the Church each Friday morning at 10.30am, after the morning Mass, and at 7.00pm in the evening. There will also be Faith Sharing Groups meeting during Lent. They will be used on the Resource ***We Dare to Say***, a series of reflections based on five lines from the Lord's Prayer. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. It is suitable for individual use as well as for groups. The booklets are available from the Parish Office, priced at £4 each. The Faith Sharing Group will meet on Thursday mornings at 11.00am in the Church.

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 2024 –All Funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of its services, such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for and with some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. So, please take a donation envelope, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. There are also copies of the Lent 2024 edition of ***"Mosaic"***, the Diocese' publication which reports on the work of Caritas in the Diocese. Thank you for your generosity.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for your last week's Offertory Collection which came to £1,054.85; plus the Regular Standing Orders.

FUNERALS THIS WEEK

The Funeral Mass for the late Krystyna Mikolajczyk will be celebrated on Thursday 21st March at 12 noon.

The Funeral Mass for the late Petrunella Pankiw will be celebrated on Friday 22nd March at 12.30.

COME TO TEA!

The Parish Centre is open every Monday afternoon for Afternoon Tea and Biscuits and a chat from 2.00pm to 3.30pm. Everyone is welcome. We even have Orange Squash for those who are too young for tea or coffee!

It is also open on a Wednesday from 1.30pm -3.00pm for Soup and Toast as well as tea, coffee or orange squash. Again, everyone is welcome. There is no need to book, just turn up and enjoy the company.

RCIA

The RCIA Group meets on Monday evenings at 8.00pm in the Presbytery.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Confirmation Preparation will continue on Thursday 21st March at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre.

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

Please collect your new sets of Offertory Envelopes after Mass at the weekend. 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.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE (PSR) VACANCY

We are looking to appoint an additional PSR to join the current PSR, Carmelina Tona. They will work together with Father John and the Parish to promote good practices and to implement statutory policies and procedures in all safeguarding activities, involving children and vulnerable adults within the Parish. The role also encompasses the safe recruitment of anyone who wishes to work/volunteer in the Parish with groups of children and/or adults at risk, including the initial processing of DBS checks. This is a volunteer role with no formal working hours or days, with flexible working hours based around Parish activities and needs, equating to no more than an average of 3 hours a week. No formal qualifications are needed, full training and induction will be provided by the Diocese. If you have excellent interpersonal skills, are organised, self-motivated and able to work with discretion and confidentiality, we welcome your application. If you are interested, please speak to Father John.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 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 2024. 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).

HEAD TEACHER REQUIRED AT OUR LADY OF MUSWELL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL – SEPTEMBER 2024

Our Lady of Muswell Catholic Primary School, Muswell Hill, London is seeking to appoint a Head Teacher from September 2024. Full details of this job vacancy can be found at <https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/head-teacher-haringey-2020444>. If you are interested or require further information, please contact the School Business Manager - Katherine Johnston via email sbm@ourladymuswell.haringey.sch.uk. Application Deadline is Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 10am.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Catholic Women's Association continues to meet every Wednesday evening at 7pm for prayers and doctrinal information, and every second Sunday of the month here in the Parish. A process which enables us to deepen our faith as lay evangelists. Our blessed lady being our leader and intercessor.

The members live by the motto: "To serve and not to be served and strive to be agents of transformation within the family, church and community". The CWA was founded in 1964 and has a membership of 7.5 thousand women all over the world. It is a member of the World Union of Catholic Women Organisation. (WUCWO).

Women aged 18 and over are welcome to join on their way through Mary to Jesus. They pray that the Lord, who calls and sends on mission bless their endeavours.

Please contact Mrs Adeline Mua on 07552312532 or Mrs Florence Ekiko, on 07542122713. for more information.

SUPPORT THE JRS UK LENT APPEAL

As we fast this Lent, we remember all those who can struggle all year round to access food and warmth. Through your support, JRS UK can provide food, hardship grants and legal advice – and help restore dignity for refugee friends within a warm, loving community. Donate to the JRS UK Lent Appeal: <https://www.jrsuk.net/lent-appeal-2024/>

PRAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

JRS UK has prepared its own Way of the Cross, inviting you to reflect on the experiences of refugees and forcibly displaced people in the world today, in light of the suffering that Jesus endured. Join us on Zoom as we pray Stations of the Cross this Lent on Thursday 21st March 2024. Find out more: www.jrsuk.net/praying-with-refugees

Happy St Patrick's Day