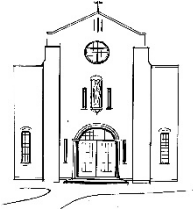
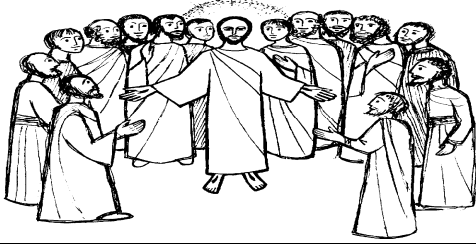


Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Sunday 14th April 2024



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

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

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

During the Easter season, we hear how the disciples encounter the Risen Christ at different times and in different ways, all the while trying to understand the meaning of the Resurrection. We too contemplate the implications of the Resurrection and consider how we see the Risen Lord in our lives. It helps us to gather at Church, where we can seek the presence of Christ as we worship: in the assembly, in its ministers, in the Word of God, in the Holy Sacrifice, and in the Eucharist. Let us pray that we may better discern the Lord in our midst.

"We are witnesses," Peter says to the crowds, referring to the Risen Lord. We heard him preach repentance for the forgiveness of sins. We know he died for us on the cross. We have seen him glorified by our God. We give witness by keeping his commandments. Luke narrates one of the Risen Lord's appearances to the disciples, in which he calls them witnesses to his resurrection. Assured of his continuing presence, we too are able to sing, "Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord".

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 13th April

Sunday 14th April

The Third Sunday Of Easter

Monday 15th April

Tuesday 16th April

Wednesday 17th April

Thursday 18th April

Friday 19th April

Saturday 20th April

TODAY'S READINGS:

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19

Psalms 4:2, 4, 7, 9

1 John 2:1-5

Luke 24:35-48

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Acts 4:8-12

Psalms 117

1 John 3:1-2

John 10:11-18

Alphege

6.30pm Owen & Margaret Watters RIP

8.30am Rose Slattery RIP

11.30am Joe Farry RIP

6.30pm People of the Parish

10.00am Sauveur Debono RIP

10.00am Noreen Reilly RIP

10.00am Amanda Farry Int.

10.00am Patsy Mannion RIP

10.00am Angela Cunningham RIP

6.30pm James & Cecilia Hourihane 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 Easter we are asked to pray for: Europe; New Members of the Church; Vocations; The Right Use of the Media; The Church; Human Work.

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, Mary Fitzgerald, Betty Bambury, Jean Pearce, Tom Barrett, Angelo Amorelli, Bertilla Cunningham,

For those who have died recently: Paolino Tona, Giovanni Di Martino, Tarcisio Speroni,

And for those whose Anniversaries are at this time: Angela Cunningham, Noreen Reilly, Owen & Margaret Watters,

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 £718.03; plus the Regular Standing Orders.

PRIEST TRAINING COLLECTION

Good Shepherd Sunday, is on Sunday, 20th April, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place next weekend. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 49 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 13 of whom are from our own Diocese. We also have one seminarian in Valladolid and one at the Beda, presently on pastoral placement in Ruislip. There are also two on a propaedeutic year at Redemptoris Mater. Last year 3 deacons were ordained for Westminster Diocese. The Priest Training Fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation envelopes are available in the back of the church. Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

RCIA

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

AFTERNOON TEA

The Monday Afternoon Tea will meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 2.00pm – 3.30pm.

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.

200 CLUB WINNERS

1st No. 73 – Hugh Gralton; 2nd No. 142 – Robin Holmes; 3rd No. 45 – Blake Smith; 4th No. 21 – Eileen Fleming

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

There will be a meeting for the First Communion Parents on Thursday 18th April at 8.00pm in the Church. The First Communion children will meet on Saturday 20th April at 10.00am in the Parish Centre.

APF RED BOX HOLDERS

"In 2023 the people of the parish raised more than £2700 through their Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Our community is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries overseas through prayer and financial assistance. Your support of Missionary Priests, like Fr Ignatius MHM who works with a rural community in Uganda, enables people to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to work together to improve the lives of the whole community. Visit Missio.org.uk to find out more."

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).

FREE LEGAL ADVICE

Darren Sylvester, a Solicitor from DJS Law, will be offering free legal advice surgery. The surgery sessions are in the Parish Office, just ring the doorbell at the Presbytery. If you would like free, independent, impartial and confidential advice, (for example) debt, employment, housing, consumer rights, wills & probate, lasting powers of attorney (the list is not exhaustive) then come along on the last Wednesday of every month between 7.30pm – 9.00pm. The next session is Wednesday, 24th April 2024.

THE SANTA MARTA GROUP

The Santa Marta Group was established in 2014 by Pope Francis to combat human trafficking and modern slavery. SMG is now delivering 'Awareness and Guidance for Communities' to encourage local action and to prevent human trafficking and modern slavery taking place in our midst. On Thursday 2nd May 2024, the Santa Marta Group will hold a meeting at the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and St Joseph 1, King Edward's Road, Ware, SG12 7EJ from 6.45pm – 9.30pm. Kevin Hyland, the UK's first Independent anti-slavery Commissioner and currently chief advisor to the Santa Marta Group will lead the meeting. All are welcome to come to learn more about the prevalence of human trafficking and modern slavery in our communities and the steps we can take to prevent it.

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.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

All are invited to join the Diocese of Westminster's annual Lourdes Pilgrimage from 19th- 26th July 2024 – Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve.

All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30th April.

The effects of our communion in the body and blood of Christ is that we are transformed into what we consume, and that he in whom we have died and in whom we have risen from the dead lives and is manifested in every movement of our body and spirit.
(Pope Leo I)

When the priest says to us "The Body of Christ", our "Amen" means not only "Yes, I believe" but "Yes, I will be". For by receiving communion we pledge ourselves to full participation as members of the Church which, of course, is the Body of Christ. And by eating and drinking his body and blood we both meet the risen Lord and make him present in our world today.
(Elspeth Welch)