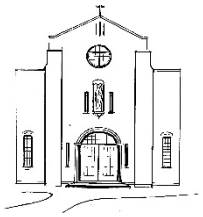
Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Sunday 28th June 2026



204, High Street

Waltham Cross
Herts EN8 7DP
01992 623156

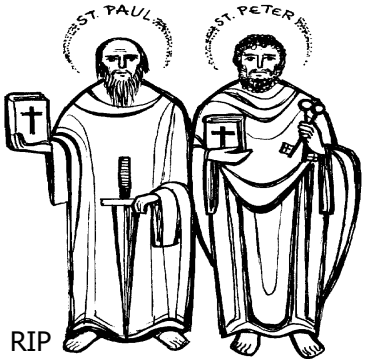
http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/walthamcross
walthamcross@rcdow.org.uk

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

Peter's confession in today's Gospel Reading, while a testament to his own faith, is only secondarily about Peter – it is first about the identity of Christ and his desired relationship with each of us. Jesus' twofold question invites Peter beyond the guesses of others and into his own heart, where God is at work. This confession marks a pivotal point in Matthew's Gospel from this moment on, Jesus's ministry points towards Jerusalem as he predicts his own passion and resurrection. The authority of binding and loosing will only make sense in light of this future reality – through the death and resurrection of Jesus, the church will exercise the ministry of forgiveness.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 27th June		6.30pm Mary & Tim O'Connor RIP
Sunday 28th June	**Saints Peter & Paul**	8.30am 100th Legal Advice Surgery
		11.30am Mario & Vincenza Taibi RIP
		6.30pm People of the Parish
Monday 29th June		10.00am
Tuesday 30th June		10.00am Vera Roberts RIP
Wednesday 1st July		10.00am John Sirti RIP
Thursday 2nd July		10.00am
Friday 3rd July	Thomas	10.00am Cindy Pereira RIP
Saturday 4th July		6.30pm F & O O'Malley & M Staunton RIP



TODAY'S READINGS:	NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:
Acts 12:1-11	Ezekiel 2:2-5
Psalm 34	Psalm 123
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18	2 Corinthians 12:7
Matthew 16:13-19	Mark 6:1-6
CBC Missal: Page 899	CBC Missal: Page 307
CTS Missal: Page 1155	CTS Missal: Page 879

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 our-lady-of-the-immaculate-conception-and-st-joseph-waltham-cross - MCN

CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION

Bishop Paul will be here today Sunday, 28th June, at 2.00pm to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with our young people. Please pray for our young people and their families and their Catechists.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

During Ordinary Time: We are asked to pray: A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Human Life; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Seafarers

For those who are ill: Agnes Curtis, Shirley Willis, Anthony & Robert Newman, Gerard O'Malley, Mary Holmes, Tara Clarke, Gerry Robinson, Hedley Imbert, Isaac Abraham, Derek Carter, Ermelina De Freitas, Sue Edmunds, Peter Jones, Medha Samabji, Geraldine Cleveland, Janina Prusiene, Maria Dos Santos, Marco Cafferelli, Lily Harker, Baby Martin McDonagh, Ignatius Fessal, Brian McDonagh, Marco Avanzato, Meghan Bennett Kelly, Sue and Ian Wallace
For those who have died recently: Madeleine Maher, Blanche Lobo, Pino Castiglione, Miecyslawa Jakubowska,
And for those whose Anniversaries are at this time: Vera Roberts,

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you for your last week's Offertory collection which came to £808.33 plus, the Regular Standing Orders

The Parish BBQ raised £610.20. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and to everyone who attended. The food was donated so we had no expenses for the event.

FUNERAL THIS WEEK

The Funeral Mass for the late Pino Castiglione will be celebrated on Monday 29th June at 11.30am.

AFTERNOON TEA

On the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month from 2.00pm – 3.30pm, Afternoon Tea is available in the Parish Centre. All are welcome.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION 2026-2027

Children who are in Year Two or above in School and have not yet celebrated their First Communion need to give the matter some thought with their parents. If you attend Mass at St. Joseph's Church, please see Fr. John after Mass at the weekend to talk about registering for the next preparation. Please note that preparation for First Communion will involve attendance at Mass **in the Church** on a regular basis.

RCIA

If you are not already a Catholic, or have been away from the Church for some time, or just did not get around to celebrating one of the Sacraments at the 'right age', or would like to discover more about the Catholic Church, then this is the Group for you! For further details, please see Fr John. The Meetings will start in September.

SVP NEW MEMBERS APPEAL

The SVP are inviting members of the parish to consider joining them in their mission to support people experiencing poverty, loneliness, or isolation in our community. If you would like to know more, please email monikak@svp.org.uk.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

The next Baptism Preparation Course will take place on Saturday 11th July at 3.00pm in the Parish Centre. If you have an Infant to be baptised in the near future, please speak to Fr John.

APF SUMMER COLLECTION

We have started the collection for the APF. APF red box holders should find a brown envelope with their name in the box at the back of the church. Please take the envelope home, fill it with the contents of your APF box, and return it to the Parish Office next Sunday. The APF is the charity that helps Catholic missionaries to continue to work in countries across the world. We thank you for all the money you give to this important work. If you have any questions, please contact Terry O'Sullivan - thrums55@googlemail.com.

LIVING WELL CAFE 11.00am -1.00pm

The Living Well Café is open every Wednesday between 11.00-1.00pm. The Parish has now taken on the running of the café. The café supports a regular group of 25-30 people aged between 60-94yrs, many of whom have been bereaved and isolated, offering a safe space to connect, make friends, have simple refreshments and take part in seated exercise session. It is a lifeline for many of them. Everyone is welcome to come along.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE

Darren Sylvester, a Solicitor from DJS Law, will be offering a free legal advice surgery. 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, 29th July 2026.

BROXBOURNE FOODBANK NEED VOLUNTEERS

The Foodbank are looking for new drivers to collect the Foodbank van on Wednesdays to bring food here to St. Joseph's for distribution from the Parish Centre (Wednesdays about 12.30-3pm), and/or to do likewise for the distribution from St. Catherine and St. Paul's, Hoddesdon (Thursdays about 9-11am). The vans are insured for any driver. Volunteers are also needed to help pick parcels at the warehouse (mid-morning to mid-afternoon) on weekdays, or you may be interested in being part of the management team, coordinating the work at the warehouse, receiving referrals and liaising with agencies. Please email the Chair of the Foodbank Trustees, Ben Quant, at ben.quant@gmail.com.

ST JOSEPH'S NURSERY APPLICATIONS – SEPTEMBER 2026

Applications for Nursery places to start in September 2026 are still open, with some spaces still available. To apply, please contact the school office on 01992 629 503, for a Supplementary Application form.

Nursery applies to children born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023

Please Note: St Joseph's are a **30 hours** childcare provider, and welcome applications from children of all faiths to their Nursery.

MORE HUMAN

Pope Leo has just published a new encyclical ***Magnifica Humanitas***.

It speaks about what it means to be human in our time, especially with in the age of AI.

There will be three short workshops to introduce and explore aspects of this timely document with input, as well as reflection and prayer. They will take place in St Aloysius Parish Hall, Phoenix Rd, London NW1 1TA, Mondays 13th July, 21st September, 23rd November, 7.30-8.45pm. All Welcome! Register to attend on https://tinyurl.com/MoreHuman26

These workshops will also be online, email info@fcjecojustice.co.uk for more information

We use the word martyr in a different way from the way it was thought of in gospel times. For us, martyrdom means suffering. And when we hear of the death of various holy people we call it martyrdom. But in fact the word martyr doesn't necessarily involve suffering or dying.

The word martyr means a witness. If you are a martyr to the cause, then you are a good advert for the cause, a good example or a witness to what the cause is all about.

In fact, although Sts Peter and Paul were both killed for their faith, they are really martyrs because they both witnessed to it. In an obvious way we can say that dying in order to witness to your faith is the ultimate martyrdom.

Yet what's important about Peter and Paul isn't that they died but that they spent their lives passing on the message of Jesus Christ. The ancient Preface prayer for today's feast speaks of "Peter, our leader in the faith, and Paul, its fearless preacher."

If we want to emulate the two saints of today's feast then we don't have to seek out death before our time; we have to be martyrs by witnessing and passing on what we have been taught and believe. In fact that's how Christian faith survives. Faith, they say, is not taught but caught. We catch it at our mother's knee, at the feet of good teachers, from the lips of holy people we come to meet in life. It's easy to bypass our job of transmitting the faith by saying that this is the task of others, of clergy and catechists, of teachers and preachers. But the truth is that the only reason why we can celebrate today's feast is because of generations of mothers, fathers, grandparents, uncles and aunts who accepted the responsibility of handing on their faith to their own families and friends.

Peter and Paul would be happy to accept praise for their martyrdom, for the way they transmitted their faith, but they'd probably be even happier if they thought we were also joining the martyrs' queue ourselves.