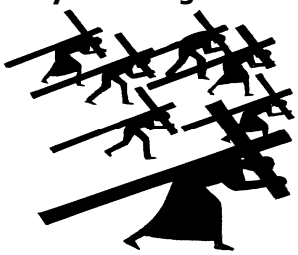
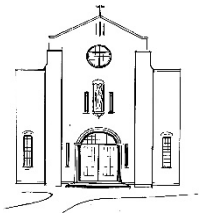
Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

Sunday 30th August 2026





204, High Street

Waltham Cross
Herts EN8 7DP
01992 623156

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

THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

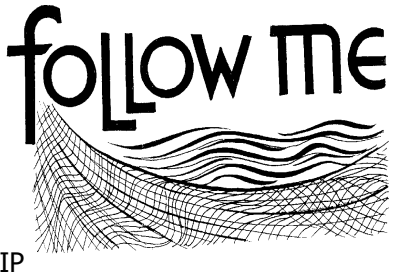
In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges us as his disciples to deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow him. None of these actions is easy. To put God's will before our own, to willingly accept what will make us suffer, and to follow someone who was put to death on the cross, is very difficult. But we will not be alone, for Jesus is with us as we follow him. Also, as he tells us in the Beatitudes, our reward will be great in heaven. Let us realize his real presence as we celebrate and receive the Eucharist.

From Jeremiah to Peter, we hear today from those who are willing to rebuke God. Jeremiah accuses the Lord of duping him, of making him as object of derision and mockery. Peter demanded that Jesus stop talking about being killed in Jerusalem. Each expected triumph without cost, accomplishment without the accompanying suffering. We may fall into the same way of thinking. Let us look to Paul, who prays that the Romans be able to discern the will of God. Let us pray that we honestly try to do the same.

From "Pastoral Patterns" © 2026 World Library Publications

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday 29th August		6.30pm Denilo Herrera – Thanksgiving
Sunday 30th August	**The Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time**	8.30am Margaret Gregory RIP 11.30am Calogera Vutera.Cuda 6.30pm People of the Parish
Monday 31st August	Aidan	10.00am
Tuesday 1st September		10.00am
Wednesday 2nd September		10.00am Julita Kirote RIP
Thursday 3rd September	Gregory the Great	10.00am Cindy Pereira RIP
Friday 4th September	Cuthbert	10.00am
Saturday 5th September		6.30pm Paddy-Joe Rochford RIP



TODAY'S READINGS:	**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:**
Jeremiah 20:7-9	Ezekiel 33:7-9
Psalm 63	Psalm 95
Romans 12:1-2	Romans 13:8-10
Matthew 16:21-27	Matthew 18:15-20
CBC Missal: Page 391	CBC Missal: Page 401
CTS Missal: Page 768	CTS Missal: Page 771

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

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, Janina Prusiene, Maria Dos Santos, Lily Harker, Ignatius Fessal, Marco Avanzato, Meghan & Conor Bennett Kelly, Bridie Burke, Jacub Joubert,

For those who have died recently: Giuseppe Cassenti, Sherine Ford,

And for those whose Anniversaries are at this time: Margaret Rhodes,

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 £865.37 plus, the Regular Standing Orders.

If you are using Offertory Envelope No. 422, can you please come and see us in the Parish Office. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2026-2027

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated here in May 2027. If you normally attend Mass here, and are in year Ten at secondary school, or older, you are eligible for Confirmation here at St Joseph's. If you wish to be prepared here, please come and speak to Fr John. The Preparation will start in September, so Applications need to be received very soon.

ALTAR SERVERS

If you have recently celebrated your First Holy Communion, or have recently moved into the parish, and would like to join the Altar Servers in the Parish, please speak to Father John.

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 in the Presbytery at 8.00pm on Monday 14th September.

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.

BINGO

Join us for a fun and lively Bingo Social! Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship, laughter, and friendly competition on Friday, 18 September, 2026 at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre. All ages are welcome—bring your friends and family to experience the joy of community. Cash prizes will be awarded, and refreshments will be served. You can also bring your own food and refreshments. There will also be a raffle. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to connect and have fun together. We look forward to seeing you there!

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SUMMER RAFFLE

Help the SVP alleviate poverty. Their members, volunteers and staff provide friendship, practical help and daily support to people in need in your community. Every ticket you buy makes a difference, supporting the SVP's work locally and nationwide. The SVP will be running a tea and coffee morning after the 8.30am & the 11.30am Masses on Sunday 27th September. The Raffle tickets are available from the Parish Office. Thank you.

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, 30th September 2026.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – YOUTH GROUP

In summer 2026, St Paul's Catholic Church will be launching a new Youth Group for young people aged 13–18. This group is a welcoming space for teenagers to relax, connect with others, and explore faith in a way that relates to everyday life. While rooted in Catholic teaching, sessions will focus on real-world topics such as identity, friendships, mental health, music and culture, social media, and the challenges young people face today. Each meeting will include games and activities, open discussions, and time for reflection and prayer. The aim is to help young people discover how God and faith connect with their lives in a meaningful and practical way. Whether you are already involved in parish life or simply curious, you are very welcome to come along.
Email: stpaulsyouthgroupcheshunt@gmail.com for more details.

ACT NOW – CONTACT YOUR MP

A Private Members' Bill on assisted suicide – so-called assisted dying – has been reintroduced to the House of Commons. The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill will have its Second Reading and vote on Friday, 11 September 2026.
Our clear principled objection to this Bill remains and we renew our call for Catholics and people of goodwill to unite in prayer and compassionate action. Archbishop Richard Moth, President of the Bishops' Conference, explains our strong opposition to this legislation:
"The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill which aims to legalise assisted suicide has returned to the House of Commons, and Members of Parliament will vote on its Second Reading on 11 September. This bill is wrong in principle. It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives.
"The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate.
"I urge you to write to your Members of Parliament to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading."

GET ACTIVE, YOUR WAY

Aged 40-64 and not currently active? Your County wants to hear from you. Join your local group: Waltham Cross, St Joseph's Parish Centre, 22nd September, 6-7pm. Please see noticeboards for more information.

ST IGNATIUS COLLEGE

St Ignatius College Admissions: Please join them for their Open Evening for prospective Year 7 pupils on Tuesday 15th September from 5:30pm to tour the school and hear from the Headteacher at 7.15pm. Please see noticeboards for more information.

RELIEF CLEANER/CARETAKER FOR ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE

We need a relief cleaner/caretaker to cover for our present caretaker when he is absent. The hours are 7.30am-9.30am, Monday to Friday. It will be a zero hour contract, and you could be called upon at short notice. If you are interested, please speak to Fr John.