



ST. EDMUND'S CHRONICLE

St. Edmund of Canterbury Catholic Church, 213 Nelson Road, Whitton, TW2 7BB

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Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan Stogdon (jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: Paul Hampartsoumian (paulh@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Safeguarding Representative: TBA Safeguarding Administrator: Christine Pharro

If you have any concerns about the safeguarding of children or vulnerable people in our parish, please call The Diocese of Westminster Safeguarding Team on: 020 7798 9096



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

21ST APRIL 2024 AD

Year B and Year 2

Divine Office : Week 4

Saturday - Vigil Mass of Sunday	17.30	Meg Allen (RIP)	<p>Please remember in your prayers: Fr Derek McGuire, Ted Walsh, Samuel Suri, Rosie Noon Child, Ann Jackson, Kieran Celaire, Mike Clarke, Annie Recuerda, Mrs Bryne, Terry Barij, Maureen Parsons, Simon Dolan, Cis Patterson, Colette Sheridan, Sarah Flemming, John Kennedy, Beryl Muga, Brennan family, Liz Earley, Valerie Brown, Mary Nice, Florenja Joy, Bridget Lonergan, Eileen Mascarenhas, Pauline Grogan, Leona Chris, Baltasar Domingues, Ann Doherty, Ann Singleton, Katherine Pereira, John Simpson, Peter & Anne Rutzler, Min Wilde, Jacqueline Turner, Michael Garvey, Pat Scammell, Bridget Martin, Justina Nathan, Kevin O'Neill, Jim Tobin, Ken Stalder, Steve Simpson, Veronica Lapworth, Neri Fernandes, Rose Fox, Patricia Corry, Molly Rumsey, Eileen Boylan, <i>all who are sick and those who care for them.</i></p>
SUNDAY 21st April	9.30	Marie Blake (Int)	
	11.30	Morrissey & Flynn Families (RIP)	
	18.00	Pro Populo (Int & RIP)	
Monday 22nd April EASTER (Votive Holy Angels)	-	No Mass	
Tuesday 23rd April EASTER ST GEORGE'S DAY	9.00 9.30	<i>Lauds / M. Prayer of St George</i> Fr John Warnaby (RIP)	
	12.30	<i>Funeral Liturgy of Michael Mason RIP at Graveside</i>	
	18.30 19.00	<i>Vespers II of St George</i> (Latin) Conversion of England	
Wednesday 24th April EASTER Votive of St George (Sts Erkenwald & Mellitus)	- 12.00 19.00 19.45	No Morning Mass Nanette Dyke (RIP) Funeral Armenian Victims (RIP / Int) PARTY in Hall	<p>Please pray for the repose of the Holy Souls of: Fr John Warnaby, Fr David Williamson, Michael Mason, Fr Michael Daley, Marcelle Hanoun, Nanette Dyke, Nancy O'Gorman, Nelly, Dave Young (anniv.), Chris Conway, Willie Dempsey, Margaret (Meg) Allen, Joseph Keyes, Drew Skinner-Shah, Andrew Jones, Michael Moloney, Michael Moloney, Patricia Hallac, Paul Rowland, Michael Solomon, John Gleeson, Bernard Daniel Lyons, Peter Espenhahn, Kathleen Armstrong, Christian Gibbins, Kay McCarthy, Bridie Donaghy, Michele Sasso, Virginie Samuel, Jean Cane, Kathleen Armstrong, Eileen de Jong, <i>all who have recently died, those whose anniversaries fall at this time, and those who mourn.</i></p>
Thursday 25th April EASTER St Mark Evangelist	- 18.00 19.00	- No morning mass - Teresa Widera (Int) <i>Confirmation Class</i>	
Friday 26th April EASTER (Feasting but <u>No</u> Meat) (Votive of St George)	9.30 15.00 18.00 19.00	Cn Philip Dyson (Int) <i>Burial of Ashes (RIP)</i> ABC Class (Latin) Persecuted Christians	
Saturday 27th April EASTER Votive of St George (Our Lady)	8.30 9.30 1.30	Pro-Lifers & all families. <i>FHC Classes</i> <i>Legion of Mary ACIES</i>	

ST GEORGE'S DAY !

St George is patron of many countries, including: Georgia ; Greece ; Palestine , Turkey, ...also of: Catalonia , soldiers, princesses, refugees, victims, prisoners, horses and animals, ending conflict ...and England !

Our novena concludes on Monday evening (22nd), then we begin his Octave. We are going to have 8 days of celebrating our National Saint. On

Wednesday 24th April, we shall have a special Mass in his honour and then party in the hall.

(Please speak to Rosemary from the UCM or

Alex McGee from the KSC or email

whitton@rcdow.org.uk if you would like to help with this party). Children are welcome to dress as St George (Soldier, Martyr, man of prayer) or as the Princess he saved; or his heroic horse; St Joan of Arc is also welcome. (*Maybe not dragons*)

ICON OF ST RAPHAEL ARCHANGEL

The **Holy Book of Tobit** is only 14 short chapters. If you have never read it, perhaps read it one day this week.

We have a new picture inspired by the book of Tobit. Here we see how the **Archangel Raphael** guides Tobias on his way. Essentially, this scripture teaches us that bad things happen to good people, but God has a plan and He sends His holy angels to help us. We in turn are also called to help others (to pray and to give charity). In our new picture, we see the Archangel Raphael guiding Tobias as he journeys to 'Media' (today called Jordan / Saudi Arabia).

(Tobit 5:4) *'So Tobias went out to look for a man to go with him to Media [Jordan], someone who was acquainted with the way. He went out and found the angel Raphael standing in front of him; but he did not perceive that he was an angel of God.'*

We also see a dog in the painting (but not in the bible!) - a dog usually represents loyalty, courage and companionship, (and long walks!). The houses in the background are typical Arabian houses (with flat roofs to enjoy the evening sun). When we pray to the guardian angels and the great Archangels, perhaps, we might also pray for Christians in the Middle East, in Jordan and in the Holy Land, who are persecuted daily for the True Catholic Faith and the Holy Name of Jesus.

ICON OF THE ANNUNCIATION

In this painting, we see **Gabriel** the Angel of the Lord declares unto Mary that she is chosen to be the Mother of God. Our Lady totally agrees and says 'be it done unto me, according to your word!' And God the Father sends forth the Holy Spirit and she conceived Christ by the Holy Spirit. (*See Lk 1:26-1:38*)

In the background, we see Adam and Eve leaving the Garden of Eden, as a result of their unfaithfulness and unrepentance. *However*, we also see in this painting how God the Blessed Trinity already had a plan to welcome mankind back into paradise many generations later (*see Gen 3:1-24*). So in Our Lady, Virgin Most Humble and Most Faithful, at last God finds someone who always says "Yes!" to God's plan and is totally open to His Mercy and Love. Our Lady is now called the New Eve.

Our Lady is the perfect Christian who teaches us how to welcome the Holy Spirit.

REGINA CAELI

Throughout Eastertide, instead of the *Angelus*, we stand and pray to Our Lady, saying :

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia!

For He, whom you did merit to bear, alleluia!

Has risen as He said, alleluia!

Pray for us to God, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

O God, Who gave joy to the world through the Resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We sing this same prayer in Latin after each Holy Mass:

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia!

Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia!

Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia!

Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia!

ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Holy Michael the Archangel, defend us in this Day of battle. Be our safe-guard against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, and by the power of God, thrust down into hell Satan and all evil spirits who prowl through this world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us.

Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.

St Edmund, pray for us.

PRO-LIFE VIGIL

AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Candlelight vigil on **Sat 27th April 7.30pm**, to remember those affected by the Abortion Act implemented on this date in 1968. Please join March for Life UK at **Westminster Cathedral Plaza** where there will be speeches from various Christian leaders, hymns and prayer. Candles/posters will be supplied. For more info contact **info@marchforlife.co.uk**

The Church of God is always compassionate & Pro-Woman ; Pro-Baby ; Pro-Life.

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK PRAYERS

On Saturday 27th April, which is the 56th anniversary of abortion becoming legal in Britain, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this country. Normally we would ask you to fast from all food except bread and water for the day, but as it is still the Easter Season, you might choose instead to fast from a particular food or luxury, e.g. chocolate, alcohol, cigarettes, TV. Through God's Grace we have seen thousands of mothers in our Counselling Centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support.

www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

FR JOHN WARNEBY (RIP)

Very sadly, Fr John Warneby, Parish Priest of St Joseph's, Oxhey, died on Sunday (14/04/24).

He died at the age of 64

(Priest usually retire from full-time duties at 75 years old). *May he rest in peace. Amen.*

I believe in the Resurrection of the Body and the Life of the world to come. Amen. Alleluia

HISTORY BOARDS

The history boards have been temporarily taken down while they are being updated.

More information to follow.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Today is 'Good Shepherd Sunday' – Christ is our Good Shepherd who gives priests a shepherd's heart to lay down their lives for the sheep whom they serve. We pray for all priests, especially those who helped us in our own lives. *May Christ raise up more Vocations to the Sacred Priesthood*

THANK YOU TO OUR VISITING PRIESTS

We thank Fr Joseph Thangaraj MHM & Mgr Vlad Felzmann for celebrating the Holy Mass for us last week. We pray for Vocations to the Mill Hill Missionaries and the Diocesan Priesthood.

millhillmissionaries.com

www.ukpriest.org/the-life-of-a-priest

rcdow.org.uk/vocations

PARENT TODDLER GROUP

Our next sessions is on **Wednesday 24th April**.

ABC CLASSES

We next meet on **Friday 26th April** and Friday 10th May at 6pm in the church meeting room.

HOLY MARRIAGE

Marriage is a sacred calling from God. Every part of Family Life is sacred in God's eyes.

Every family is unique and blessed by God. If you would like to marry in the Church, email Fr Jonathan to arrange a meeting with him to discuss what might be the next step

jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk

If you are already married civilly (perhaps you married legally in a registry office) and would like now to marry in the House of God before the Holy Altar, please email Fr Jonathan to arrange a chat to discuss the next step and what might be possible. (*Of course, please do not book any venues or parties until you have spoken with Fr Jonathan in person*). **There is room in God's Church for everyone.** Everyone has a special calling from God and is loved by God and by His Holy Church.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT

Many couples preparing for marriage enjoy this pre-marriage course "smart loving". It can also be helpful to married couples who want to strengthen again their vows and reflect with love and openness together:

smartloving.org/engaged

smartloving.org/marriage-kit

smartloving.org/breakthrough

www.retrouville.org.uk/

MARRIAGE VOWS

Renewing wedding commitment - if you married in the Catholic Church and would like to renew your commitment and love as vowed on your wedding day, you can renew this commitment here before God's Holy Altar on consecrated ground, please email Fr Jonathan to arrange the next step. Email : jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk

HOLY BAPTISMS

Congratulations to the newest members of the Holy Catholic Church and our parish family:

Max, Aloniab, Isabelle, Okeana

SENIORS

Our next meeting is on **Friday 3rd May at 1.30pm in the hall**. We have a speaker. Many thanks
Jean 020 8898 4484 or 07808 583158

'GIFT AID BOXES'

Thank you for all your generosity and support. For those who gift aid with envelopes, the boxes are ready for collection at the back of church after Mass ; or from the Parish Office Mon – Fri 10am -2pm.

RECYCLING CANDLE WAX

As Christians, we care for the environment and for all of Creation. As a parish, we recycle as much as possible, including the old candle stubs. We currently have 3 boxes of old candle wax that needs to be recycled. We also have broken electrical items that need to be recycled. If you can drive these items to the special centres, please email whitton@rcdow.org.uk

ADORATION 24 HOURS WITH JESUS

Friday 3rd May 10am - Saturday 4th May 10am. We're back to our monthly time of adoration in May so please sign up on the rotas at the back of church if you are able to spend an hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. This is a great opportunity to stop and be still as we prepare our hearts for Pentecost. Security arrangements are in place during the night time hours. Extra volunteers are needed in many time slots including around 4pm-6pm on Friday. Any questions please contact: **Mary McGhee 07786 737437**

'BUT A PRIEST IS ONLY BUSY ON A SUNDAY MORNING, RIGHT?'

Some people genuinely think a priest only serves on a Sunday morning and then he is free for the week. So here is a snap-shot of a typical day of a celibate Diocesan Priest. (Monks in monasteries, and Religious Friars, and Priests who are also teachers/ doctors/etc, they have a different routine).

Mondays to Fridays

6am - wake up /

Breakfast / Matins & personal prayer.

7am - open church

8am - adoration

8.45am - Morning Prayer

9.15am - Holy Mass (20-40 people come to this Mass)

10am - meeting in the office about church building

11am - visiting sick / meeting parishioners

1pm - lunch (and midday prayer)

2pm - visiting sick / care-homes

5pm - meetings with parish people / signing forms

6pm - Evening Prayers ('Vespers')

7pm - lock church

7.10pm emails and admin & update the website

8pm supper

9pm Study time (I'm learning ancient Hebrew; and studying the scriptures)

10pm / 11pm night prayers and sleep.

Of course, I also try to visit the retired priests ; school visits ; care-home visits ; meeting with local priests ; on-going training (for all the legal policies for running : halls, churches and charities). I regularly meet with non-Catholic church leaders for Ecumenical dialogue.

Sometimes there are unexpected things, like emergency Last Rites; urgent Confessions / Anointing ; funerals and burials. (This week there are 3 funerals in our parish)

On Saturdays, we have baptisms (last Saturday we had 2 baptisms) ; weddings ; meetings with parish groups ; house blessings etc.

Also a priest must say his Rosary and Divine Mercy devotions, praying for peace in the world.

On an average weekday, I meet with around two hundred people. On a weekend, I meet at least 1,000 people (Mass count for the 4 Sunday Masses of Sun 1st Oct 2023 was 810 people, and our numbers are going up – thank God !).

So, the priestly life is certainly not lonely !!

The priestly life is wonderful.

Thank you for all your support and prayers.

As Jesus said to St Peter and the Apostles: *"Everyone who has left houses, family or land for My sake will be repaid 100 times over and inherit eternal life!"* (Mt19:29)

SAVE THE DATE

24/04/24 - ST GEORGE'S DAY PARTY

7pm Mass , 7.30pm Party in hall

27/04/24 - Legion of Mary (ACIES)

27/04/24 – PRO LIFE VIGIL

(7.30pm at Westminster Cathedral)

11/05/24 – FHC DAY

17/05/24 - OPUS DEI Speaker

19/05/24 - PENTECOST !

26/05/24 - SOLEMN BLESSING of Our Lady's Statue by Mgr Keith Newton

--/05/24 – KONKANI CONFESSIONS

with Fr Patrick (date tbc)

14/06/24 – PRO-LIFE GROUP MEETING at 7.30pm in hall

27/06/24 – CONFIRMATION DAY by Cn Paschal