



SHRINE & PARISH OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN,

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Rector and Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Willis.

Assistant Priest: Fr William Johnstone.

Parish Secretary: Karen Toole: Safeguarding: Sylvia Vernon.

**PARISH
NEWSLETTER
3rd March
2024.
THIRD
SUNDAY
OF LENT.**

Lamp intentions this week:

Sacred Heart Lamp- Brid Hassett- Sick Int.

Blessed Sacrament Lamp 1 - Theresa Walls – RIP

Shrine Lamp 1 – Joncy Braganca

Shrine Lamp 2 –Esmerelda & Family Int.

Mass intentions from Saturday 3rd March 2024

6pm: Domingo Braganca - Anniversary

Sunday 9am: James & Patrick McCormack - Anniversary

11am: Pro Populo

5.30pm: Patricia & Gerry Deery – Int.

Mon: 10am: Catherine Falvey -CMB

7pm: Chris Keenan – Lately Dead

Tues 10am: J P Fanning -RIP

7pm: Holy Souls OLM

Wed: 10am: Peter Armstrong – Int & for good Health

7pm: November Dead List 2024

Thurs :9am: Holy Souls OLM

7pm: John Cronin -RIP

Fri: 10am: Muriel Dovey – Int.

7pm: Yvonne Johnson – Sick Int.

Saturday 10am: Hilda Finnerty- RIP

6pm: Pro Populo

Sunday 9am: Fr Kevin McDevitt- Anniversary

11am: Holy Souls OLM

5.30pm: Alex & Oscar Werminski – Int.

Masses & Sanctuary Lamp intentions can be booked online:

willesden@rcdow.org.uk or by phone 02089654935

MASS INTENTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM 15th April 2024

and SANCTUARY LAMPS *from next weekend!*

USUAL MASS TIMES:

Saturday 6pm (Anticipated said Mass for Sunday)

SUNDAY 9am (simple said: Livestreamed)

11am (Solemn Mass with Choir)

5.30pm - (Traditional Latin)

Monday to Saturday 10am, & Monday-Friday 7pm

(No evening Mass on Bank Holidays)

Confessions: Tue 6.15-6.45pm & Sat.10.30-11.30am & 5-5.45pm.



What can keep us from the presence of God? Jesus' dramatic cleansing of the temple was seen by his disciples as a prophetic sign of God's work to purify and restore true worship and holiness among his people. The temple was understood as the dwelling place of God among his people. When God delivered his people from slavery in Egypt, he brought them safely through the Red Sea, and led them to Mount Sinai where he made a covenant with them and gave them a new way of living in moral goodness and holiness embodied in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). God also gave Moses instruction for how his people were to worship him in holiness and he instructed them to make a Tabernacle, which was also referred to as the "tent of meeting" where the people gathered to offer sacrifice and worship to God. The tent of meeting was later replaced by the construction of the temple at Jerusalem. The New Testament Scripture tells us that these "serve as a copy and shadow of the heavenly sanctuary" - God's true Temple in heaven (Hebrews 8:5). Jesus' cleansing of the temple is also a prophetic sign of what he wants to do with each of us. He ever seeks to cleanse us of our sinful ways in order to make us into living temples of his Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). God desires that we be holy as he is holy. Do you thirst and hunger for God's holiness?

Lord Jesus Christ, you open wide the door of your Father's house and you bid us to enter confidently that we may worship in spirit and truth. Help me to draw near to your throne of mercy with gratitude and joy. Amen.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: APPEAL FOR ADORERS. If this is something that you could help with then please add your name to the Sheets on the table at the back of church by the Green Notice Board. Obviously there are times when other things like holidays or an appointment means that it is not always possible to be here, but if you could **normally** be here, that's fine, and also why it is best to have 2 or 3 names for each half hour.... You can of course sign up to more than one half hour segment! This will then assist us in creating a rota of Eucharistic adorers. Remember the words of Jesus on the eve of his passion. Could you not watch with me one hour? It is such a small thing that he asks of us. But one which is crucial if he is to make his home in our hearts.

Refreshments after the 9am Masses on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. And the 11am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays **Come, and join us in the Marian Hall.**

Sponsor an Organ Pipe as a gift. Beautiful Cards available that pay for a pipe to be restored in the Organ. £25 per Pipe, with a card you can give at a token. Available from the Repository or Parish Office.

ONLINE:

Children's Liturgy: <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/>

Livestream Mass: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesden> or the **Willesden Shrine Facebook Page.** 9am Sunday.

Sign up to e-alerts from the Parish to receive news, updates and the weekly Newsletter directly to your email!

Go to the parish website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesden>

Parish Offerings:

Weekend of 24th/25th February £1,301.81 Shrine Restoration £60.54 Organ Fund: £239.10

Many thanks to all who support the ministry and mission of our Parish.

Sacramental Preparation dates:

First Communion: Sunday 10th March 9.55am in the Marian Hall

Confirmation: Tuesday 5th March 6pm in the Marian Hall.

Adult Preparation for the Sacraments, 3.45pm today in the Presbytery.

THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT

Almsgiving. As usual, we have the opportunity of supporting **Cafod, and Caritas;** envelopes are available at the rear of Church. Envelopes can be placed in the Collection Basket at and weekend Mass during Lent.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated communally on Wednesday and Friday mornings and Friday evenings after Mass.

Lent Study Course "We are bold to say", which centres on the prayer Our Saviour taught us; the Our Father, will be offered on Thursday morning after the 10am Mass, or Thursday evening after the 7pm Mass.

PARISH LENTEN MOTTO: MERCIFUL, NOT MISERABLE!

Envelopes for Easter Lilies, in remembrance of loved ones, to decorate the Shrine & High Altar with lilies during Easter will be available next weekend. Additionally, there will be a second collection for Easter Flowers on Sunday 16th March.

Annual Mass for Matrimony The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 25th May at 2.30pm for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries such as 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+. 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).

New Boxes of PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES available after Masses this weekend.

Warm Welcome Space. From Thursday 11.30am ~2.30pm in the Marian Hall.

Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. **Take action:** Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!

Separately, an amendment (New Clause 1) to the Government's Criminal Justice Bill, which is coming up for Report stage in Parliament in early March seeks to change criminal law so that "no offence is committed by a woman acting in relation to her own pregnancy" **at any gestation.** This means that a woman who induced her abortion at home using pills (or any other method) at any stage of pregnancy, including just before natural birth, **would commit no offence.** This is dangerous for women and lethal for unborn babies. Please contact your MP urgently, asking them to oppose this extreme and barbaric proposal. You can do this using SPUC's easy to use webtool, at

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments> Please pray for the defeat of this amendment, for protection of unborn babies, and help and comfort for mothers in need.

TODAY: CHORAL VESPERS & BENEDICTION AT 4.30PM