



Our Lady of Grace & St Edward's Chiswick with St Dunstan's Gunnersbury

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Latest parish news

For even more regular news on parish life and activities, check the Latest News page on the parish website at <http://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org/read-me-1/> or follow the parish on Twitter @ourladychiswick or Facebook at Our Lady of Grace & St Edward, Chiswick, London W4

10TH SEPTEMBER 2017

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Fr. Michael Dunne
Fr. Mike Maguire
Sharon Bowden

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Administrator

Fr Mike writes:

Cardinal John Henry Newman wrote, 'to live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often'. This quote has surfaced in my meditation these past few days, as I reflected on the significant changes that the life of our parish has faced recently: Fr Andrew's departure to St Mary Moorfields and my arrival as Assistant Priest; those children who are either beginning their time at St Mary's or another primary school or those who have left to enter secondary education; families who have relocated away from the parish; new parishioners who have moved in; and, of course, the deaths of two of our beloved pastors, Canon Peter Gilbert and Cardinal Cormac.

In 2016, and recently published on the Bishops Conference website, Cardinal Cormac offered a beautiful 'Pause for Thought' on the Chris Evans Show, during which he spoke about 'a good death'. Imagining Cardinal Cormac engaging the listener with, 'I want to tell you a little story', the Cardinal told the story of a group of trainee priests who had prayerfully gathered around the bed of an older priest who was near death. The priest gave instructions for one of the seminarians to share a bottle of champagne with those gathered. Taking a glass himself, he said, 'I have lived a very happy life. I want you to drink with me to a happy death', and soon afterwards he died. Recognising that often people put dying to the back of their minds, Cardinal Cormac said, 'I believe that everyone is lovable in the eyes of God. In spite of all our weaknesses and failures, God loves us and so death must be of a piece with life. With the help of God, I hope I will be able to face it, not with fear but with hope and confidence as being in the hands of God.' Finally, Cardinal Cormac concluded that 'the way to have a good death is to try to live a good life.'

We give thanks to God for the good life that Cardinal Cormac has embraced, and we entrust him, our beloved Cardinal and friend, into the hands of God. Requiescat in Pace.

Arrangements for Cardinal Cormac in Chiswick:

At 8.00pm today Sunday 10th Sept., Cardinal Cormac's remains will be received into the church by Bishop Mark O'Toole. The simple liturgy will be followed by a rosary and time for prayer, paying personal respects to the late Cardinal, and signing the Book of Condolence. At 9.50pm there will be Night Prayer of the Church. The church will close at 10.00pm.

At 12.00 noon on Monday 11th Sept., Bishop O'Toole will offer Mass for the late Cardinal together with priests and parishioners. The church will have been open as normal from 7.00am. There will be no 10.00am Mass. Following the noon Mass, Cardinal Cormac's remains will leave Chiswick in preparation for the obsequies at the Cathedral. Parishioners are invited to a reception in the Parish Centre after Mass.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7
Psalm: 102:1-4, 9-12 response v 8
2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9
Gospel: Matthew 18: 21-35
All viewable at: <http://www.universalis.com/mass>

At all Masses: SUNDAY MASS: RESPONSES: READINGS: Page 7 Page 125

LET US PRAY

For those who are sick: Sandra Bocca, Claudio Boggi, Marie O'Keeffe, Rose Murphy, Christine, Dominic & Patrick Egan

For those recently deceased: Roy Teed, Michael Riley, Agnes Clements, Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Bridie Hetherton, Christy & Kitty O'Leary, Jan & Wiera Pacak, John Brosnan, Genevieve O'Boyle, Janina Saniewska & Broneislaw Saniewski, Frank Khan, Jessica Brace-Stratton, John Innes

THIS WEEK - 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 9/9 6.30pm	Vigil Mass	Bridie Hetherton	ANN
Sun 10/9 8.30am 9.45am 10.00am 11.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm 8.00pm	23 RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Gunnersbury	Danny Doherty Christy & Kitty O'Leary Jan & Wiera Pacak Tara & Colin Kearney Marriage John Brosnan People of the Parish Reception of Cardinal Cormac	SICK ANN ANN INT ANN INT
Mon 11/9 10.00am 12.00noon	FERIA NO MASS Mass for the Dead	Cormac, Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor	RD
Tues 12/9 10.00am 12.30pm	FERIA	Giovanni & Fiora Beschizz Violet Bushell	INT RIP
Wed 13/9 10.00am	ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM	Genevieve O'Boyle	ANN
Thurs 14/9 10.00am 12.30pm	THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	Michael Riley Janina Saniewska & Broneislaw Saniewski	RD ANN
Fri 15/9 10.00am 12.30pm	OUR LADY OF SORROWS NO MASS	Jane Nixey	SICK
Sat 16/9 10.00am 11-12pm 12.15pm 5-6pm 6.30pm	STS CORNELIUS & CYPRIAN	John F Gamble - Birthday Confession Baptism Confession People of the Parish	RIP

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday to Friday - 3.00pm to 4.00pm, Saturday 5.00pm to 6.00pm
CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11.00am to 12.00noon & 5.00pm to 6.00pm
MORNING PRAYER: Friday 9.40am
BENEDICTION: Saturday 6.00pm

Fr ANDREW'S FAREWELL MASS

Fr. Andrew's official Farewell Mass is at 12.15pm next Sunday. Following Mass there will be a reception and presentation in the Parish Centre. If you would like to contribute to this presentation, there will be a collection after all Masses this weekend. Fr. Andrew's Reception will also be an opportunity to welcome formally our new Assistant Priest, Fr. Mike Maguire.

OCTOBER PILGRIMAGES - On Saturday 7th October is the diocesan pilgrimage to **Walsingham**, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Please now register interest at the Parish Office if you would like to attend as transport, together with other parishes, must soon be booked as we wish to keep costs as low as possible but we can only do that with the correct numbers.

- **From 16th to 21st October** is the pilgrimage to **Spain** in the footsteps of one of the great masters of the spiritual life, St John of the Cross, officially nicknamed in the Church as 'the Doctor of Divine Love'. All five nights will be in our three star hotel in Avila, located in an ancient central square. The first full day will be spent in Avila itself while the remaining three days will be day-trips by air-conditioned coach to Salamanca, Toledo and Segovia, though each evening we will be back in Avila for dinner, so any individual pilgrim could eschew a day-trip in favour of a second day in Avila. Significant, though not exceptional, walking is to be expected on the day-trips. The cost is £1719pp sharing, or £824 single. Brochure and form available in Parish Office or contact Fr Michael for details. The tour operator, Pax Travel, are now seeking to confirm numbers for this pilgrimage too, so please speak to Fr Michael if there is any interest at all or a decision is pending.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2017-18

Preparation for Year 3 children and above who hope to make their First Reconciliation and Holy Communion next summer, and for their parents, will commence September. This preparation programme is for those who live in Chiswick or Gunnersbury parishes, or who regularly attend Mass in either of our churches. If you would like to enrol your child please complete one of the (bright yellow) forms which will be found on the right-hand side wall towards the back of the church and return it with a baptismal certificate to the Parish Office. **Please note today is the cut-off date for forms to be returned.**

PERHAPS BECOMING CATHOLIC? – If you know of anyone who is exploring the possibility of becoming Catholic, please put them in touch with Parish Office/Fr Michael. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults will be beginning in the autumn as usual. This is also the programme for Catholic adults seeking sacraments which, for one reason or another, were missed earlier on, eg Confirmation.

TUESDAY TEA & COFFEE MORNINGS resumes this Tuesday 12th Sept., in St Edward's Rm after 10.00am Mass.

SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

If you are the parents or guardians of a baptised Catholic child you are free to apply for a place at a Catholic school. This application is best supported by the Certificate of Catholic Practice, which is the form of evidence of Catholic practice which the Bishops' Conference has now mandated. This Certificate is *NOT* the old 'Priest's Reference' which allowed for some nuance, which is why the old system was subject to legal challenge. This new Certificate is *certifying* actual Catholic practice. If you are a Catholic but not a *practising* Catholic, which is to say that you do not *habitually* attend *weekly Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation and have not done so over recent years*, it will be impossible for Fr Michael to issue a Certificate of Catholic Practice. Little or no Catholic practice means it is unreasonable to expect a Certificate to be issued. To obtain a Certificate, if your Catholic practice allows for it, you should contact the Parish Office to request an appointment with the Parish Priest. Please ensure you also collect and complete a Catholic practice self-assessment form before meeting Fr Michael. It is also *perfectly feasible* to submit an application to a Catholic school *without* a Certificate of Catholic Practice. The application will simply be categorised according to the admission criteria published by the particular school.

GETTING MARRIED - Couples planning to get married are required to give six months' notice. This provides sufficient time to complete the necessary paperwork, to undertake a Catholic Marriage Preparation Course, and otherwise prepare for this most important sacrament. If you are hoping to marry in 2018, please contact the Parish Office, or if you know someone who is, you might draw their attention to this notice.

NEW READERS – A short course for new Readers will be starting next month. We are looking for Readers at all of our Masses. If you are interested, please contact David Richardson, davidrichardson@outlook.com or on 020 8994 4696.

NEW DRIVERS TO & FROM MASS – If you would be prepared *occasionally or regularly* to drive an elderly parishioner living very locally to and from Sunday Mass, please be in touch with the Parish Office or Fr Michael. Just one or two more frail parishioners are beginning to ask if this might be possible.

LOVE THY NEIGHBOURS – Sometimes a bit of a challenge but made easier for Chiswick and Gunnersbury parishioners with our new 'Good Neighbours' scheme which is a group of volunteers who are ready to pop into neighbours who are living alone or just back from hospital or newly bereaved or for any number of other reasons would benefit from some shopping to be done or a bit of company. If any parishioner knows of a neighbour who might appreciate a visit please contact the Parish Office and we will send around a friendly volunteer.

GUNNERSBURY NOTES

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sunday – 10.00am
Tuesday and Thursday – 9.30am

SMARTLOVING WORKSHOP - BreakThrough is a three-hour workshop primarily designed to renew hope and encourage couples to attend further weekend sessions together. It is a practical, solution-focused workshop for all stages of marriage. Drawing on contemporary research and Catholic theology, this workshop provides skills and insights to transform marriage relationships into the thriving, joy-filled encounter that they are meant to be. From 2pm–5pm on 23rd Sept & 28th Oct, Vaughan House, Westminster; 18th Nov, Our Lady & St Michael, Garston; 3rd Feb 2018, Ss' Michael and Martin, Hounslow; 24th Feb, St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, Hendon; 17th March, Vaughan House, Westminster. For more info & to register for a place on ONE of the days contact family@rcdow.org.uk or 020 7931 6064. £10 per couple by cash or cheque.

FOODBANK COLLECTION - Thank you to all those who donated to the Foodbank last weekend.

MONDAY EVENING PRAYER & PRAISE, COMBONI CENTRE 7.00pm – Join Srs Natalia and Graca for 30 minutes prayer to unwind from work and deepen faith. In their chapel at 2 Chiswick Lane.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE - There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner from 6th to 8th October 2017 at the Emmaus Centre, West Wickham, Kent. For details please contact Freda 01322-838415 Sandra 01293-783965 or John 01992-642443 email johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

CATHOLIC HISTORY WALKS - For King and Country Tues 19th and 26th Sept all at 6.30pm – 'Catholics and Politics', St Thomas More, Guy Fawkes, Pugin, Parliament and the Abbey. Meet on the steps of Westminster Cathedral. (Nearest Tube: Victoria.) See notice at back of Church for more details.

MOTHERS' PRAYERS – The Mother's Prayer group commences again this Thursday from 9.30am to 10.30am in the Priests' House. Mothers with young children are welcome to bring them. Contact Jacqueline 07776 175194, or email: jacqueline.munro@hotmail.com More info at: www.mothersprayers.org

ST. EDWARD'S CLUB – The next meeting of the St. Edward's Club will take place on Monday 18th September.

CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY (CTS) BOOKLETS/LEAFLETS - We have a stand at the back of the Church for the CTS booklets/leaflets. **Money for the booklets/leaflets can be placed in the brown collection box marked 'CTS' at the back of the church.**

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA - This week the Wednesday Cleaning Group will be cleaning the church. Thank you.