



Our Lady of Grace & St Edward's Chiswick and St Dunstan's Gunnersbury with St Joseph's Grove Park

020 8994 2877

www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org

chiswick@rcdow.org.uk

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

11th DECEMBER 2022

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Gaudete Sunday)

Canon Michael Dunne
Fr Daniel Daley
Fr Erasmus Egenonu CSSp
Tomas Krejci
Sharon Bowden

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Assistant Priest
Seminarian
Administrator

Fr. Michael writes:



'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.' These are the words of the Entrance Antiphon of today's Mass written by St Paul in his *Letter to the Phillipians* (4:4-5). They are also the words which give this 'Gaudete Sunday' its name, from the old Latin of the liturgy before 1970, when the Entrance Antiphon was *'Gaudete in Domino semper; iterum dico, Gaudete. Dominus enim prope est.'* We don't in the parish have the habit of reading the Entrance Antiphon at the beginning of Sunday Mass, which in any case is replaced often by an opening hymn, but if we were in a monastery or in Westminster Cathedral, the Antiphon would be chanted as the monks, nuns or priests processed to the altar. But what is St Paul urging us all to rejoice about? The *nearness* of the Lord. He, in fact, is talking about rejoicing in the nearness of Christ's *Second Coming* – rejoicing in the prospect of the Risen and Ascended Lord coming in glory on the clouds of heaven for Judgement Day! We, on the other hand, are more rejoicing in the nearness of Christ at Christmas, which is also the Church's invitation to us in this second phase of Advent without neglecting our looking forward to the Lord's return in glory at the end of time. For whether we are rejoicing in the nearness of the Lord at Christmas or His Second Coming, the witness of our joy is to be the same. The joke runs, 'Jesus is coming – so look busy!' but being busy won't be enough. The true witness of our joy at the nearness of the Lord must be our love. 'In the evening of life we will be judged by our love,' says St John of the Cross whose feast day is on Wednesday. If we have confidence in the love we have lived in our lives then we can rejoice in the nearness of Judgement Day. In the mean time, the joy we have at Christmas is the more authentic Christian rejoicing the more we give witness to it by our love, in all the manifold ways in which love is lived. Then we will be ready to go out and meet Him both at Christmas and at the end of time.

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Gaudete Sunday)

Sat 10/12 6.30pm 6.30pm	Vigil Mass Grove Park	Geraldine Neville & Family Zakia Sfeir & Deceased Family	INT RIP
Sun 11/12 8.30am 9.45am 10.00am 11.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm	3 rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT Gunnersbury	People of the Parish Andrea McManus Les Ashton Jack Bracken Ralph French John O'Neill	INT RD RD ANN 1 st ANN 20 th ANN
Mon 12/12 10.00am	Advent Feria	Dorothy Nelson	SICK
Tue 13/12 10.00am	St. Lucy	Veronica Ryan	1 st ANN
Wed 14/12 10.00am 6.00pm	St John of the Cross <i>(Comboni Convent)</i>	Pearl Fernandes-Thanksgiving Geraldine Walsh	INT INT
Thur 15/12 10.00am	Advent Feria	Sharon Alphonse	INT
Fri 16/12 10.00am 6.00pm	Advent Feria <i>(Pime Convent)</i>	Inacio Felipe Fernandes- Thanksgiving Ante Gbesa	INT RIP
Sat 17/12 10.00am 11-11.45am 5-5.45pm 6.00pm 6.30pm 6.30pm	Advent Feria Grove Park	Dolores McMamana Confession Confession Benediction Bridget Sweeney Hagerty Family Deceased	INT INT ANN

LET US PRAY

For those who are sick: Sandra Bocca, Cecil Pocock, Romeo Monthly, Mary Garrett, Fr. Eammon Conarty, Celine Duignon, Andy Cronin, Hugh Caldin, Elizabeth Fagundez, Alex Tuffy, Isabelle Ranle, Eileen McGuinness, Albie Korinek, Greta Gribben, John Monks, Jim Ryan, P.C.Wrynne, Ted O'Connor, Cecilia Walsgrove, Marion Sutton, Iris Faulkner, Mike O'Farrelly, Elizabeth Mulhall, Pascale Murphy, Claudio Bogi, Gloria Weymouth, Theresa Southern, Constance Redmond, Joss Kellond, Georgia and those suffering.

For those recently deceased: Felicia Agidee, Patricia Moore. May they Rest in Peace.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Jack Bracken, Ralph French 1st Anniversary, John O'Neill, Veronica Ryan, Hagerty Family, Aida D'Oronzio, Melissa Hughes 1st Anniversary, Carmel Houlihan. May they RIP.

THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p.88

1st Reading: **Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10**

Psalm: **145: 6-10**

2nd Reading: **James 5: 7-10**

Gospel: **Matthew 11:2-11**

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p.90

1st Reading: **Isaiah 7: 10-14**

Psalm: **23: 1-6**

2nd Reading: **Romans 1: 1-7**

Gospel: **Matthew 1: 18-24**

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK – The new **WYB** is on sale from the Repository on Sunday mornings or the Parish Office at £5.00.

REPOSITORY – will **NOT** be open today. Open again next weekend, we are **NEWLY STOCKED** with Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars and Year Diaries as well as sympathy cards, candles and rosaries etc. The Repository is open after all Sunday morning Masses for cards, gifts and many more items.

THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

18th Dec. 4th Sunday of Advent:

8.30am: Mass
9.45am: Family Mass
10.00am: [Gunnorsbury] Mass
11.00am: Sung Mass
12.15pm: Mass

6.30pm: Mass

19th to 24th Dec inclusive, Advent Ferias

10.00am: Mass
24th Dec. (Saturday) Christmas Eve:
6.00pm: Carols
6.30pm: Christmas Eve Family Mass
6.30pm: [Grove Park] Christmas Eve Mass
10.30pm: Carols
11.00pm: Christmas Midnight Mass

25th Dec. (Sunday) Christmas Day:

8.30am: Mass
9.45am: Mass
10.00am: [Gunnorsbury] Mass
11.00am: Sung Mass
12.30pm: Mass
No Mass at 6.30pm

26th Dec. St. Stephen, The First Martyr

12 Noon: Guild of St. Stephen Mass

27th Dec. St John, Apostle & Evangelist

10.00am: Mass

28th Dec. The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

10.00am: Mass

29th Dec. St Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr

10.00am: Mass

30th Dec. The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

10.00am: Mass

31st Dec. (Saturday) 7th Day in the Octave of Christmas

10.00am: Mass
6.30pm: Mass
6.30pm [Grove Park] Mass

1st Jan. (Sunday) Mary, Mother of God

8.30am: Mass
9.45am: Mass
10.00am: [Gunnorsbury] Mass
11.00am: Mass (Choir on holiday)
12.15pm: Mass

6.30pm: Mass

2nd Jan. Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

10.00am: Mass

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

The Parish office will be closed from 24th December and re-open on Tuesday 3rd January

THE PARISH'S PUBLIC CAROL SERVICE TODAY- The Carol Service will take place today at **3.30pm** here in the church. An excellent occasion to share the festive spirit with friends and neighbours who are not Catholic so please invite them along.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE - You are invited to place the names of your deceased relatives and friends whom you would like to remember during these days of Advent and Christmas, or any other prayer intention, on the Christmas tree at St Edward's Chapel.

CRIB OFFERINGS - The Crib Offerings by custom will go to the Westminster Catholic Children's Society to help disadvantaged children and families locally. This will help provide mental health services, family support and emergency grants for vulnerable children in our Diocese. Offerings can be made in the Crib Offering marked candle safes beside the crib. Offerings for the candles at the crib should also be placed in the Crib Offerings boxes.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CRAFTS - Please join the Children's Liturgy group on Monday 19th November from 4pm in St Edwards Room for Advent / Christmas Crafts for children all ages. We will be making some Christmas ornaments to decorate St Edward's Room on Christmas Eve and some to take home.

FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS REHEARSAL - If you plan to attend the First Christmas Mass on Saturday 24th December at 6:30pm and your children would like to take part in the acting of the Gospel, please join us on Wednesday 21st December at 4pm in St Edward's Room for rehearsal.

LEFT IN CHURCH - A carrier bag with keys and items was left in the church. If this belongs to you, please contact the Parish Office.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS - The offerings on Christmas Day or in envelopes marked 'Christmas Offering' are for the priests of the parish. Priests do not receive a salary and what is donated at Christmas is one of their main sources of their annual income together with the Easter offering, Mass offerings and stole fees such as those for funerals. Envelopes are at the back of the church for your kind contributions. If you are going away over Christmas you may wish to leave your offering at the presbytery.

GUNNORSBURY NOTES

CHRISTMAS MASS: 10.00am Christmas Day 25th Dec. Full details in adjacent column.

ST JOSEPH'S, GROVE PARK

CHRISTMAS MASS: 6.30pm Christmas Eve 24th Dec. Full details in adjacent column. The offerings of Christmas will be banked for the parish, not the priests, whose income is from Chiswick parish with which Grove Park is twinned.

PARISH MEETING / PARISH GIVING - Thank you to those who came to the meeting on the parish's future plans effectively. The generous support already given becomes most effective if given through the Planned Giving Gift Aid Envelopes scheme or Standing Orders which are also Gift Aided. Over £2,000 was claimed back for the parish in 2021 from tax paid. Standing Order forms are available at the back of church or from the Parish Office. Thank you.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT - although likely to be a packed event for the school community, parents and friends, there should be some space for parishioners if they wish to attend. It's here in Our Lady of Grace at **5.00pm Tues 20th Dec** with a retiring collection for a school charity.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION 2022/23 IS NOW OPEN - Fr Daniel has now published the application process as well as the teaching session dates from January to the Confirmation Masses 17th June 2023. Please go to the parish website and click on 'Sacraments' and then on 'Confirmation' and 'Form submission' for all details: www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org **The closing date for receipt of completed applications is next Sunday 18th December.**

YOUNG ADULT SOCIAL in Chiswick - Following the success of these informal gatherings for Catholics aged 18-35 they will now happen each Sunday until Christmas. Meet **THIS EVENING** after 6:30pm Mass for a pub trip. New people welcome! Come and meet!

CENTERING PRAYER (CP) - The group is convening weekly via Zoom at 7.30pm with the next session Tuesday 13th Dec. Contact: John O'Brien: 07747611616 or john@jobrien.co.uk

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS 2023: To obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP), if your Catholic practice allows for it, pls contact the Parish Office to request a self-assessment form (preferably sent electronically) and an appointment with Fr Michael.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 in LISBON - Pope Francis is inviting millions of the Church's youth, 18-35, to join him in Portugal in August next year. The Westminster Diocese is taking a group of 50 and surely some should come from this parish? Deepen faith, encounter Jesus, meets others from across the world, forge memories to last a lifetime - as well as two weeks in Fatima/Porto and Lisbon 25th July to 9th August! Please see posters at the back of church or <https://dowym.com/events/world-youth-day-lisbon/>

CATHOLIC CENTRE EVENT - Hugely successful covers band, 'Bigger Than Mary' perform an evening of 70's & 80's hits for your pre-Christmas boogie. Saturday 17th December, 7.45pm at the Catholic Centre, 2 Dukes Ave, W4 2AE.

CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY (CTS) BOOKLETS/LEAFLETS - are on a stand at the back of the church. Prices are marked on each. Please put the money for these purchases in the brown collection box marked 'CTS' at the back of the church.

TEA AND COFFEE MORNINGS - **Tuesday morning** post-Mass coffee morning at 10.30am in the St Edward's Room each week and a **Friday coffee morning** in the Parish Centre Lounge Bar at 10.30am. All are very welcome!

2023 CALENDARS - We have a surplus of 2023 calendars given to us by the various Funeral Directors which are at the back of the Church to be taken away if wanted, free of any charge or offering.

Collections for last weekend:

OLOG & St Edward's and St Dunstan's Chiswick

4/12/22 - £4024.63

St Joseph's Grove Park 4/12/22 - £198.35

Thank you for your generosity.