



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

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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

19th MARCH 2023

4th SUNDAY OF LENT (Laetare Sunday)

Canon Michael Dunne
Fr Daniel Daley
Fr Femi Victor Orilua CSSp
Tomas Krejci
Sharon Bowden

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Assistant Priest
Seminararian
Administrator

Tomas writes:

"I love you, Mother, I have woven a wreath / of rhymes wherewith to crown your honoured name," writes Christina Rossetti (1830-1894), a devout Christian, in whose poetry God is always present. In the end, her love of God even trumped the love to another human: dressed in black, Rossetti embraced lifelong singlehood, her reclusive writing remaining a lasting model of Lenten spirit. These verses, dedicated to her mother, introduce the Mothers' Day which falls on the Fourth Sunday in Lent. Also called Mothering Sunday, this day is a moment of bright joy. Thinking of our mother, we tend to think of tenderness, gentleness, pure and unconditional love. All too often, we have to lose her to realise and appreciate how much she sacrificed for us. – This coming Sunday was originally the day when Christians traditionally visited their "mother church" where they were baptised. In England, girls who worked as maids were given a day off to return to their families. And as Catholics, we have three mothers to remember: our earthly mother, the Church, and the Blessed Virgin Mary. As Pope Francis reminds us, she is not an optional extra, but helps us to grow in love: *"Her maternal gaze helps us see ourselves as beloved children in God's faithful people, and to love one another regardless of our individual limitations and approaches. Our Lady keeps us rooted in the Church, where unity counts more than diversity; she encourages us to care for one another."* Most of us still remember the time when our mothers used to take us by the hand, leading us through the first steps, helping us to understand the world around us. They were with us, taking everything to their hearts, embracing all things good and bad. Without their guidance we would have been lost, wandering off. Today, without the motherly guidance of the Church, we would grow into indifference and ignorance, becoming mere slaves to the world. We can pass through life safely if we cling to our Heavenly Mother, gathered under her mantle. However, there is also a conundrum of every mother's vocation: as she holds her children to her heart, she also prepares them for independence. The Mother of Sorrows stands soon at the foot of Jesus's cross, in agony with the suffering of her Son, as do all mothers for their children, their love being self-giving and self-emptying. Let us thank all mothers for who they are, keeping the eternal gift of unconditional love alive in the world, in the beautiful words of Christina Rossetti: *"In you not fourscore years can dim the flame /Of love, whose blessed glow transcends the laws /Of time and change and mortal life and death."*

4th SUNDAY OF LENT

Sat 18/3 6.30pm 6.30pm	Vigil Mass <i>Grove Park</i>	Daniel Murnane Gerry Mahon	RD 3 RD ANN
Sun 19/3 8.30am 9.45am 10.00am 11.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm	4 th SUNDAY OF LENT <i>Gunnersbury</i>	Margaret Barnett Birthday Maureen Marsden People of the Parish Jerry Collins Wilfred Barnes Martin Healy	RIP INT INT ANN ANN ANN
Mon 20/3 10.00am	ST JOSEPH	Luigi Cattini	RD
Tue 21/3 10.00am 6.00pm	LENT FERIA	Andrew O'Shaughnessy First Reconciliation	RD
Wed 22/3 10.00am 6.00pm	LENT FERIA <i>Comboni Cnvnt</i>	Muscat & Vukovic Families Austin Cromey	INT RD
Thur 23/3 10.00am	LENT FERIA	Felicia Agidee	RD
Fri 24/3 10.00am 6.00pm	LENT FERIA	Vera Driscoll Stations of the Cross	RIP
Sat 25/3 10.00am 11.00am 5.00pm 6.30pm 6.30pm	ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD <i>Grove Park</i>	Don O'Farrelly First Reconciliation Confession Margaret Edwards Molly Goodall	ANN RD RD

LET US PRAY

For those who are sick: Sandra Bocca, Cecil Pocock, Romeo Monthly, Fr. Eammon Conarty, Celine Duignon, Andy Cronin, Hugh Caldin, Elizabeth Fagundez, Alex Tuffy, Eileen McGuinness, Albie Korinek, Greta Gribben, John Monks, Jim Ryan, P.C.Wrynnne, Ted O'Connor, Cecilia Walsgrove, Marion Sutton, Iris Faulkner, Mike O'Farrelly, Elizabeth Mulhall, Pascale Murphy, Claudio Bogi, Gloria Weymouth, Theresa Southern, Constance Redmond, Georgia, Brid, Pat Gleasure, Tony Sheehan, Vinny McNamara, Sophie Duarte Bravo, Carlos Amaro Bitencourt, Maria Jose Bitencourt, Vera Jansen, Dr. Charles Bredin, Janice Mary Wilson, Mary Frain, Sarah Gordon, Margaret Organ and those suffering.

For the recently deceased: Angela Doran. May She Rest in Peace.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Natasha Richardson, Gerry Mahon, Jerry Collins, Wilfred Barnes, Martin Healy, Don O'Farrelly, William Desmond Kelly, Roma Ryan, Elizabeth Shepherd. May they Rest in Peace.

THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p.164

1st Reading: **1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13**

Psalm: **22**

2nd Reading: **Ephesians 5: 8-14**

Gospel: **John 9: 1-41**

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p.170

1st Reading: **Ezekiel 37:12-14**

Psalm: **129**

2nd Reading: **Romans 8: 8-11**

Gospel: **John 11: 1-45**

CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY (CTS) BOOKLETS/LEAFLETS – are on a stand at the back of the church. This now includes new booklets for Lent with daily reflections and prayers. 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.

CLOCKS GO FORWARD NEXT SUNDAY – Don't forget that clocks go forward an hour next Sunday 26th March at 1.00am with the slight risk of missing the Mass you expect to attend unless you alter your alarm before retiring for a shorter night than usual!

THE PARISH LENT PROJECT:

OUR OVERSEAS LENT PROJECT THIS YEAR: St Francis Leprosy Guild (SFLG) - a Catholic charity with a 127 year history of working to end the suffering still caused by leprosy. It supports 40 leprosy centres around the world treating and supporting almost 20,000 people in low-income countries. **£395.10** has been donated so far. Leaflets at the back of church with our unique SFLG QR code so any donation made via the QR code records the donation coming from the parish so our fundraising thermometer can keep going up! Please see <https://www.stfrancisleprosy.org/>

OUR DOMESTIC LENT PROJECT THIS YEAR: Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023 - Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal with whatever they can afford. **£160.85** has been donated so far. Take a donation envelope either for more info or to use the QR code to make your donation online, though perhaps let the Parish Office know so our fund-raising thermometer at the back of church can keep going up!

CASH placed in the Lent Project money box at the main doors of the church will be divided 50% for St. Francis Leprosy Guild and 50% Cardinal's Appeal. Cash placed in envelopes made for either charity and handed into the collection or the presbytery will go 100% to the named charity. Cheques should be payable to 'Our Lady of Grace and St Edward's Church' and come in an envelope marked with the designated charity. Undesignated cheques will be divided as per the cash in the Lent Project box.

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS – At 6.00pm each Friday evening in Lent we will have the liturgical celebration of the Stations of the Cross. Leaflets will be available at the back of the church.

HOLY WEEK:

PALM SUNDAY – 2nd April

Palms will be blessed and distributed at each Mass. Please note:

9.45am Mass will commence at **9.30am** in the Parish Centre.

11.00am Mass will commence at **10.50am** in the Parish Centre.

12.15pm Mass will begin at **12.30pm** in church.

CHRISM MASS - Tues 4th April

This Mass takes place in Westminster Cathedral at 12.00 noon, and is celebrated by the Cardinal, Bishops and priests of the Diocese. At this Mass the oils of Chrism, Catechumens and the Sick, are blessed and consecrated for parish use this year.

MAUNDY THURSDAY – 6th April

8.00pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper, also with the washing of the feet. After Mass there is Watching at the Altar of Repose until midnight with Compline at 11.45pm.

GOOD FRIDAY – 7th April

9.00am: Office of Readings and Morning Prayer.

10.00am to 11.00am: Confessions.

11.00am: Children's/Family Stations & Veneration of the Cross.

3.00pm: Celebration of the Lord's Passion.

5.00pm to 6.00pm: Confessions.

HOLY SATURDAY – 8th April

9.00am: Office of Readings and Morning Prayer.

10.00am to 11.00am: Confessions.

5.00pm to 6.00pm: Confessions.

9.00pm: The Solemn Easter Vigil of the Resurrection.

EASTER SUNDAY – 9th April

Masses at 8.30am, 9.45am (Family), 11.00am (Solemn), 12.30pm, and 6.30pm. *Gunnersbury* at 10.00am and *Grove Park* at 10.30am.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP – Those aged 18-35 are welcome to join the weekly social gathering of young adults in our parish. Meet outside church after the 6.30pm Sunday Mass. See: <https://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org/young-adults>

ALTAR SERVING RECRUITMENT – 4.00pm Sunday 26th March in church with our parish Master of Ceremonies, Jim Cullen. All parish children who have made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend the session which will last for one hour. At least one parent must attend the session also. New servers, supported by their parents, need to be ready to attend the 11.00am Sunday Mass for some time before they can return to their usual Mass.

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – are available to collect from the Parish Office (weekdays 9.00am to 4.00pm) to those parishioners who have signed up for them. Those envelopes that haven't been collected will be posted out w/c 27th March. Gift Aiding your Offertory and other donations to our parish using numbered envelopes or a Standing Order, is a very practical way of *increasing the value of your offering by 25 pence for every pound you give at no extra cost to you!* Providing you are a UK Taxpayer, you can join the scheme by signing a Gift Aid Declaration which can be obtained from the Parish Office or contact the office by email: chiswick@rcdow.org.uk We would also ask those parishioners who have already signed up to inform the office about any changes (eg your name and address) so we can update our records before we start to distribute new envelopes.

GUNNERSBURY NOTES

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES - those who have previously received new boxes of envelopes each year will be posted this year's in the w/c 27th March. If you wish to join the scheme by either using numbered envelopes or by Standing Order, contact the Parish Office chiswick@rcdow.org.uk

GROVE PARK NOTES

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – This weekend the new Offertory Envelopes will be handed out after Mass at the back of church. Please take a moment to collect yours. If you have used envelopes in the past but they are not available for collection, please contact the Parish Office 0208994287 or email chiswick@rcdow.org.uk Those envelopes not collected will be posted out week commencing 27th March. If you wish to join the scheme by either using numbered envelopes or by Standing Order, please contact the Parish Office chiswick@rcdow.org.uk

CENTERING PRAYER (CP) – The group is convening weekly via Zoom at 7.30pm with the next session Tuesday 21st March. Contact: John O'Brien: 07747611616 or john@jobrien.co.uk

THE MEN'S GROUP - Our next meeting is on Thurs 23rd March, 8.15 for 8.30pm in the St Edward's Room. Men of all ages are very welcome to join us for a video and discussion on 'Divine Renovation UK - Less Is More: Prioritising Evangelisation in the Parish', followed by drinks at The Lamb. Email Stephen Donnelly at donnellysm@hotmail.com for details, or just turn up. We are affiliated to www.catholicman.uk

'BIGGER THAN MARY' BOOGIE NIGHT are delighted to be returning to **The Catholic Centre on Saturday 25th March**. Following the success of the evening in December they have added another decade of dancing tunes! Come along and boogie to an evening of 60's, 70's & 80's....starts at 7.45pm. Tickets £10.

AFTERNOON TEA - 29th March 2.30pm - 5.00pm in the Catholic Centre Lounge Bar - *Home Instead Chiswick and Hammersmith* are pleased to announce that they are reinstating their afternoon tea events starting Weds 29th March and would love to welcome you, serving delicious tea and entertainment. Come along for a chat. Bring a friend, everybody is welcome to this free event.

TEA AND COFFEE MORNINGS – The Tuesday post-Mass coffee morning at 10.30am in the St. Edward's Room and on Friday at 10.30am in the Parish Centre. All are very welcome!

CATHOLIC CENTRE CHISWICK – The Parish Centre is open for all activities and the Lounge Bar is open for its regular hours: Friday noon to 11.00pm; Saturday and Sunday noon to 6.00pm. And a reminder - *please* ask the Manager 020 8747 5074 before parking.

LENT TAIZÉ PRAYER in Notre Dame de France (French Church, 5 Leicester Place WC2H 7BX) at **7.30pm 25th March**, with Taizé chants, scripture and silence in the heart of London. All welcome!

CATHOLIC HERALD MAGAZINE – available at the back of the Church, price £5.00. Please put the money for these purchases in the brown collection box marked 'Papers'.

REPOSITORY – On sale this week, Mothers' Day cards, Easter cards and other religious items and also the Westminster Year Book £5.00. It is open after all Sunday morning Masses.

Collections for last weekend:

OLOG & St Edward's and St Dunstan's Chiswick
12/3/23 - £4198.05

St Joseph's Grove Park 12/3/23 - £163.35

Thank you for your generosity.