



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 NOVEMBER 2023

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Canon Michael Dunne
Fr Daniel Daley
Fr Jude Duruaku CSSp
Sharon Bowden

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Assistant Priest
Administrator

Fr Michael writes:

"Eat well, drink well and serve God well," is one of the surprising maxims of the great St Hugh of Lincoln (c1140-1200), whose feast day was on Friday, in spite of the fact that he was a monk of one of the strictest and most penitential orders in the Church, the Carthusians. His home monastery was the Grande Chartreuse in France, as in the 2017 film *Into Great Silence* but he had been sent over to run the English Carthusian house before being appointed Bishop of Lincoln and, among many other things, contributing greatly to the building of the spectacular cathedral there. Eminently spiritual, as befits his monastic heart and formation he was nonetheless immensely practical, courageous and compassionate. Full of the love of Christ he was also robust to help us avoid the judgement of today's Gospel passage for instance: "*When God finally judges each individual He will not hold it against him that he had not been a hermit or a monk but rejection will come if he has not been a real Christian. A Christian is expected to possess three virtues; if one of them is lacking, the name of 'Christian', without the reality of being one, will profit him nothing. From each will be required always to have charity in the heart, truth in the mouth and chastity in the body.*"

How do we 'serve God well' when we can feel so powerless in the face of so much suffering and injustice in the world, even more of which we'll hear about in this weekend's appeal from *Aid to the Church in Need*? I'm sure if the power of government, the levers of state or immense wealth were bestowed upon any of us, we'd feel more able to make a difference. But in today's parable, Jesus offers us a greater truth. We're not required to have 'everything' to do what is right and good, to produce our fruit. We must do this from *within* the ordinary circumstances in which we find ourselves, whether we have five talents, two or one. It is by *this* measure that our greatness or our meanness is revealed. Whatever the odds stacked against us, what we must not do, like the wicked lazy servant, is turn in on ourselves when our good and the good of others depends upon our turning outwards, in exactly the opposite direction, like those two servants called to share in their Master's joy.

This weekend we have an appeal from *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN) which supports persecuted and oppressed Christians through prayer, information and action. ACN supports more than 5,000 projects helping the Church internationally. Thus we'll have a second collection after all Masses. For more information perhaps visit their website: www.acnuk.org

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 18/11 6.30pm 6.30pm	Vigil Mass <i>Grove Park</i>	Lyn & Peter Dennis Laurence Ryan	ANN 1 st ANN
Sun 19/11 8.30am 9.45am 10.00am 11.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm	33 rd Sunday in OT <i>Gunnersbury</i>	Krystyna Szwajk Mary Callaghan Holy Souls The Cahill Family Kathleen & Brian Kearney John Patrick Reynolds	RD RD RIP INT ANN ANN
Mon 20/11 10.00am	FERIA <i>Holy Souls</i>	<i>Holy Souls</i>	RIP
Tue 21/11 10.00am	PRESENTATION OF THE BVM <i>Holy Souls</i>	<i>Holy Souls</i>	RIP
Wed 22/11 10.00am 6.00pm	ST CECILIA Comboni Covent	<i>Holy Souls</i> Sebastian Kataitis	RIP ANN
Thur 23/11 10.00am 12 Noon	FERIA <i>Holy Souls</i> Funeral of Helen Roskott	<i>Holy Souls</i> Funeral of Helen Roskott	RIP RIP
Fri 24/11 10.00am 6.00pm	ST ANDREW DUNG-LAC PIME Covent	<i>Holy Souls</i> Andrew Ryan	RIP RD
Sat 25/11 10.00am 11.00am 12.15pm 5.00pm 6.30pm 6.30pm	FERIA <i>Holy Souls</i> <i>Grove Park</i>	<i>Holy Souls</i> Confession Baptism Confession Janita Charles Chris Dixon	RIP ANN RD

For those who are sick: Sandra Bocca, Alex Tuffy, Cecilia Walsgrove, Claudio Bogi, Mary Frain, Celine Duignon, Andy Cronin, Jim Ward, Fr. Eamon Conarty, Tina Byrne, Greta Gribben, Romeo Monthy, Benjamin White and those suffering.

For the recently deceased: Eileen Kemble, Brenda Houston, Lee Monono, Helen Roskott, Mary Casser, William Francis Ryan RIP.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Lyn & Peter Dennis, Laurence Ryan (1st Anniv), Kathleen & Brian Kearney, John Patrick Reynolds, Sebastian Kataitis, Janita Charles. RIP.

THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p. 155

1st Reading: **Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31**

Psalm: **127: 1-5**

2nd Reading: **1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6**

Gospel: **Matthew 25: 14-30**

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p. 158

1st Reading: **Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17**

Psalm: **22: 1-3, 5-6**

2nd Reading: **1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28**

Gospel: **Matthew 25: 31-46**

CATHOLIC UNIVERSE WEEKLY – Five copies a week at the back of church. £3.50 per copy with cash to the the 'Catholic Papers' box.

REPOSITORY – On sale now and **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. Pop in and see us.

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.

NOVEMBER, THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS the 'November Dead Lists' are available at the back of the church for the month when one parish Mass daily will be offered for the Holy Souls.

NOVEMBER'S BLESSINGS OF THE GRAVES – The annual Blessings of the Graves in local cemeteries during the Month of the Holy Souls will be 3.00pm TODAY, in Gunnersbury Cemetery. (Warm, windproof and waterproof clothing is recommended; also portable chairs recommended for the elderly.) Details of all Blessings of Graves in Hounslow Deanery during November are on the noticeboard at the back of church.

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION - a total of **£1864.24** had already been raised between Chiswick, Gunnersbury and Grove Park a fortnight ago but a further £400 came in last weekend. Thus, a **grand final total £2,264.24 is being sent off**. *Thank you!* Donations can also be given online: www.rcdow.org.uk/donations.

COMBONI CALENDARS NEXT WEEKEND – Next weekend will bring the annual distribution by the Comboni Sisters after Masses of their 2024 Missionary Calendar. It is given freely but any contributions to the Sisters' work would be gratefully received. In further Comboni news there'll be a 10.00am to 1.00pm Advent Retreat led by Sr Natalia on Sat 2nd Dec at the Comboni Centre, 2 Chiswick Lane, with an Auction on Sun 10th. Details forthcoming.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION – Registration is now online via the parish website <http://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org> for parish children who will be 14 years old at least at the time of their Confirmation in summer 2024. **The closing date to register for Confirmation is Friday 5th Jan 2024** with the Introductory Talk on the 14th Jan 2024.

ADULT CONFIRMATIONS & RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) or THINKING ABOUT CATHOLICISM? – This year's course is **beginning this Wednesday, 22nd November at 7.00pm** in the St Edward's Room, the entrance to which is from the side of the church before the Priests' House. If you know of anyone else who is considering becoming a Catholic or if a Catholic has missed out on any of the sacraments, please let them know. Please contact: chiswick@rcdow.org.uk 020 8994 2877

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>

CENTERING PRAYER (CP) – The group is beginning its twelfth year in Chiswick now convening weekly via Zoom at 7.00pm with the next session Tuesday 21st Nov. Please feel free to ask about it and contact John O'Brien: 07747611616 or john@jobrien.co.uk

SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS DINNER - The annual Christmas dinner for our senior parishioners and neighbours will take place in the Parish Centre on Sun 3rd Dec. This event is for our parishioners, as well as for other senior citizens who live within our parish boundaries. Anyone who wishes to attend must have a ticket, which can be obtained from the Parish Office. We rely on volunteers to help with the successful running of the day. **We need volunteers:**

Sunday 3rd Dec: 9.00am – 11.00am – setting up
1.00pm – 3.30pm – helping to serve
3.30pm – 5.30pm – helping to serve and tidy up

We also need drivers both before and after the party. This is absolutely essential as many of the guests are unable to travel without transport. Please contact Jackie Knight if you are able to help on 0771 2675020 jmg123@btinternet.com. It would be lovely to have some teenagers/young people also volunteering for the event which is always great fun. Also we like to give each guest a small gift, items such as small boxes of sweets, toiletries, or gentlemen's socks are very welcome, and can be handed in at the Parish Office by Fri 1st Dec.

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS 2023. To obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP) you should **firstly** contact the Parish Office to request an appointment and collect a self-assessment form (also sent electronically). You should **secondly** complete the self-assessment form and bring it to your appointment with Canon Michael. If you are a Catholic but not a *practising* Catholic, it will be impossible to issue a CCP as it is *certifying* actual Catholic practice of *habitually attending weekly Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation* over several years. It is also *perfectly feasible* to submit an application to a Catholic school *without* a CCP. Your application will simply be categorised as according to the admissions' criteria advertised on the school's website.

THE FAMILY OF THE LATE JACK HOLDEN wish to say *Thank You* to the wider circle of family, friends and many others for all their kind words and sympathies since the loss of Jack and the funeral.

ST JOSEPH'S GROVE PARK NOTES

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT WITH SUPPER - Sat 25th November – has been **POSTPONED** to the New Year due to parishioners' existing commitments not allowing for the numbers to make the event happen on Saturday. Thank you to those who supported the idea.

ADVENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS (18-30s) with the Assumption Sisters on Sunday 3rd December 2023 in Kensington. Young people are invited for a day retreat to prepare spiritually for Christmas, with reflections, prayer, adoration, and confessions. Venue: Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Simon Stock, London W8 4BB. Timings: Mass at 12.15pm, Lunch at 1pm, Retreat from 2pm-5.30pm. Donations only. Register: tramy@assumptionreligious.org

A CHRISTMAS CONCERT RELIEVING HOLY LAND SUFFERING At 7.30pm Thursday 14th December in Our Lady of Victories Church, Kensington High Street, there's the annual CHRISTMAS CONCERT of FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND featuring The London Welsh Male Voice Choir and guest soloists. Tickets to include a Holy Land themed Reception at 6.00pm are £50; tickets for the Concert only at 7.30pm are £30. See poster at back of church for QR code or search Eventbrite 'FHL Christmas Concert' or visit: www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/Event/christmas-concert-2023

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOOL - Every September up to six boys join Westminster Cathedral Choir School in Year 4 as choristers. Becoming a chorister offers a boy the opportunity to sing in central London and on tour internationally in one of the world's famous choirs, and to join a thriving, inclusive, independent school for boys, age 4 – 13. All choristers receive generous scholarships supplemented by means-tested bursaries worth up to 100% of fees. The next Zoom session is 22nd Nov at 6.30pm. Contact Lucy Auger for a link: lauger@choirschool.com

ST MARY'S NURSERY? - At St Mary's we are constantly striving to ensure that we are meeting the ever changing needs of children and families within our community. We are keen to learn your views and invite you to complete the one page form at the back of church (pls hand in to the Parish Office) or on the parish website. The answers provided will help us to make any changes that may be useful in meeting parents' needs. Thanks!

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNINGS - These events are designed for parents and prospective pupils to attend. They will run from 9.30am – 10.30am on the following days: Friday 17th November and Friday 8th December. Please contact the school office if you would like to attend on 0208 994 5606 or email office@stmarys.hounslow.sch.uk

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR We're gearing up for the annual Christmas Fair on Saturday 2nd December from 12.00-4.00pm. All are welcome to join us in what will be a wonderful kickoff to the festive season, including great food, entertainment, shopping, and our famous Christmas Raffle. Raffle tickets are £1 will be available at the Coffee Mornings following the 9:45am Family Mass each Sunday during the month of November. Come by for a cuppa, and grab a chance to win one of our fantastic prizes supplied by local Chiswick businesses! Thank you!

TEACHING POST AT ST MARY'S? - St Mary's is seeking to appoint a positive and inspiring Teaching Assistant for January 2024 who can work in Key Stage 1. Please see the school website for more information: <https://www.stmaryschiswick.org.uk/>

TEA & COFFEE AFTER 9.45am MASS TODAY! Coffee morning will take place today in the Parish Centre and will take place every weekend, except during school holidays. Families, children, visitors all welcome. If you would like to volunteer to help at the coffee mornings, 4 volunteers are required on a rota basis. Please contact Monica by email if you can help: monicaolim@hotmail.com

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

Collections for last weekend:

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

12/11/23 - £4,411

Grove Park

12/11/23 - £220

Thank you for your generosity.