



Our Lady of Grace & St Edward's Chiswick and 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

27TH FEBRUARY 2022

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Canon Michael Dunne
Fr Daniel Herrero
Sharon Bowden

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Administrator

Fr Michael writes:

At his General Audience in Rome last Wednesday, remarkably just before the launch of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Pope Francis appealed to believers and non-believers, to all people of goodwill, in the following words:

My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine. Despite the diplomatic efforts of the last few weeks, increasingly alarming scenarios are opening up. Like me, many people all over the world are feeling anguish and concern. Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war; who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies. I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilising coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.

And now I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike. Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. I invite everyone to make next 2nd March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

Given the strength of the Holy Father's words in phrases like "the diabolical senselessness of violence" and "the madness of war" it is not surprising that he followed up his Wednesday appeal with, on Friday, thus the day after the launch of the invasion, breaching diplomatic protocol: rather than summoning the Russian Ambassador to the Holy See to see the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Parolin (as the Russian Ambassador to the United Kingdom was summoned on Thursday to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to see our Foreign Secretary) the Pope turned up in person at the Russian Embassy asking to see the Russian Ambassador. They spent over thirty minutes together, the Vatican Press Office reported. It is to be hoped that the Ambassador will faithfully convey the Pope's thoughts to President Putin. In the meantime it is for us to pray "intensely" as the Holy Father asks and certainly observe Ash Wednesday this coming week with "God's weapons" of fasting and prayer, though fasting only for those who will not be at risk from doing so. As Cardinal Vincent writes in his Pastoral Letter to us this weekend: "No more war, no more violence!"

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 26/2 6.30pm 6.30pm	Vigil Mass Grove Park	Donal & Eileen McSweeney Saada Geryes Sfeir	ANN RIP
Sun 27/2 8.30am 9.45am 10.00am 11.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm	8 TH SUNDAY IN OT Gunnersbury	Mary O'Brien – Birthday Kevin Toner Marion Withers The Murray Family People of the Parish Matthew O'Leary	INT RD RD ANN INT ANN
Mon 28/2 10.00am	Feria	Maeve & Patrick O'Rourke	INT
Tue 1/3 10.00am	ST DAVID	Jim Timmony	SICK
Wed 2/3 10.00am 10.30-12.00 12.30pm 7.30pm	ASH WEDNESDAY	Ben Okoro Exposition and Benediction Felicia Jamie Fullerton	RD INT RIP
Thur 3/3 10.00am	Lent Feira	Sean Quinn	RIP
Fri 4/3 10.00am 6.00pm	Lent Feria	Ruth Sykes Stations of the Cross	2 ND ANN
Sat 5/3 10.00am 11-11.45am 5-5.45pm 6.30pm 6.30pm	Lent Feria Grove Park	Nancy Jennings <i>Confession</i> <i>Confession</i> Billy Kelly Elias Hoboss Baroud	RD ANN RIP

LET US PRAY

For those who are sick: Sandra Bocca, Cecil Pocock, Romeo Monthly, Mary Garrett, Fr. Eammon Conarty, Celine Duignon, Andy Cronin, Trish Williams, Hugh Caldin, Elizabeth Fagundez, Alex Tuffy, Isabelle Ranle, Eileen McGuinness, Albie Korinek, Greta Gribben and all those suffering.

For those recently deceased: Josephine Mortlock, Rita Gregory, Elena Harvey. Rest in Peace.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Clare Bourke, Donal & Eileen McSweeney, The Murray Family, Matthew O'Leary, Ruth Sykes, Billy Kelly, Michael & Maureen Devine. Rest in Peace.

THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p.144:

1st Reading: **Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7**
Psalm: **91: 2-3, 13-16**
2nd Reading: **1 Corinthians 15:54-58**
Gospel: **Luke 6:39-45**

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p.153:

1st Reading: **Deuteronomy 26: 4-10**
Psalm: **90: 1-2, 10-15**
2nd Reading: **Romans 10: 8-12**
Gospel: **Luke 4: 1-13**

CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY (CTS) BOOKLETS/LEAFLETS – There is a NEW and FRESH selection on a rack at the back of the church. Prices are marked on each booklet/leaflet. Please put the money for these purchases in the brown collection box marked 'CTS' also at the back of the church opposite the CTS rack.

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!

ASH WEDNESDAY and LENT

A) ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES: 10.00am, 12.30pm, & 7.30pm – marks the beginning of Lent and although not a Holy Day of Obligation it is a day of fasting and abstinence, requiring us to abstain from meat, and eat no more than one meal and two small collations, unless elderly or vulnerable. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all Masses, and imposed, as by tradition, in the form of a cross on the forehead. Alternatively you may ask the priest to sprinkle ashes over your head or simply remain in your place. **The older children from St. Mary's School will be attending 10.00am Mass with reserved seating** but there will still be plenty of space for parishioners. All Masses are simple said Masses but will be longer than normal because of the imposition of ashes. **Pope Francis has designated Ash Wednesday as a universal day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace in Ukraine.**

B) WEEKLY SPIRITUAL EXERCISES FOR LENT:

TUESDAYS 6.30pm to 7.30pm: 'ENCOUNTERING THE SPIRIT' – a small group prayer experience based on the spiritual listening and speaking learned from the synodal process. Each week we will reflect together on the previous Sunday's Gospel and how to put it into practice. The first meeting is next Tuesday 8th March in the St Edward's Room on the theme of 'Wilderness & Temptation'.

WEDNESDAYS after Mass from 10.30am to 12.00 noon: EXPOSITION and BENEDICTION. The Rosary will follow 10.00am Mass as usual but in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Perhaps leave and return; perhaps just drop in for extra prayer. Benediction will be at 12.00 noon.

FRIDAYS 6.00pm: STATIONS OF THE CROSS. Following the Angelus at 6.00pm, there will be a liturgical celebration of the Stations of the Cross. Those present may process behind the priest around the church at the Stations or remain in pews as preferred. (There will be no 6.00pm Mass in the PIME Convent during Lent.)

C) LENT PROJECT 2022:

As from before the pandemic, we'll have a dual Lent Project, one *domestic* and one *overseas*.

The CARDINAL'S APPEAL is our domestic project and this year the appeal will fund parish social outreach projects and Caritas Westminster (celebrating this year its 10th year of foundation) social outreach projects. For what it does and which projects are supported see: <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/> There are specific Cardinal's Appeal envelopes at the exits of the church.

COMBONI-150 is our overseas project, celebrating also the 150th anniversary of foundation of the Comboni Missionaries. All funds given through the parish will go directly to Comboni social outreach projects overseas often in areas of tension and conflict such as a clinic and school on the Ugandan border supporting refugees from South Sudan; and schools in Congo and Sri Lanka.

CASH placed in the Lent Project money box at the main doors of the church will be divided 65% for Comboni-150 and 35% Cardinal's Appeal. Cash placed in envelopes marked 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.

FOODBANK COLLECTION THIS COMING WEEK – Between this weekend and next we will have our monthly collection of non-perishable items of food which may be brought to the presbytery door. Cash donations are welcome in envelopes marked 'Foodbank' through the letterbox and there will also be a collection after each Mass next weekend.

St PATRICK'S NIGHT PARTY Sat 12th March – Organised by **Friends of the Holy Land** and hosted at Our Lady of Victories Church, Ken High Street, it's from 7.00pm and includes LIVE Irish Bands and a display of Irish Dancing; plus raffle, food and Guinness! Tickets £20 on the door or to avoid disappointment reserve a ticket by emailing: fhkensington@hotmail.co.uk

40 DAYS FOR LIFE EALING – from 2nd March until 10th April, you are invited to pray peacefully for all those affected by abortion. To find out how you can help, call Sarah 07776256838, email, or come to the opening event, 6.00pm, Sunday 20th Feb, Polish Church, Ealing Broadway. London40daysforlife@hotmail.com

GUNNERSBURY NOTES

The Late RITA GREGORY RIP - On Wednesday 9th March at 12.00 Noon the Requiem Mass and funeral of our late parishioner Rita Gregory will take place in the church. May she rest in peace.

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – As we can't leave new boxes of envelopes in church due to GDPR restrictions, those who have previously received new boxes of envelopes each year will be posted this year's in the week commencing 28th March.

GROVE PARK NOTES

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CHISWICK & GROVE PARK BRIDGE CLUB – meets every Tuesday at 7.00pm in the Parish Room of St Joseph's Church, 1 Bolton Rd. There's a table fee of £3.00. For info call Phil Tait on 07860575135 or email philliptait@btinternet.com

BEREAVEMENT GROUP - The next meeting is on Tues 1st March in the Parish Centre Rm 1 at 7.00pm.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY - Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14th May at 3.00pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please contact the Parish Office giving the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – will be available to collect from the Parish Office (weekdays 9.00am to 4.00pm) week commencing 14th March to those parishioners who have signed up for them. Those envelopes that haven't been collected will be posted out w/c 28th 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 (ie your name and address; please remember you cannot use your family member's envelope) so we can update our records before we start to distribute new envelopes. If you are not a UK taxpayer any more or pay insufficient tax to cover any refund that the parish claims on your donations. Thank you for your continued generosity during these difficult times: in 2021 the parish received **£29,275 in Gift Aid payments from HM Treasury thanks to your being in this scheme!**

CAFOD's Walk Against Hunger Lent challenge - There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. So, this Lent, challenge yourself to walk 200km, and help give hunger its marching orders. Do 5k a day, your way, for 40 days, and you'll conquer your 200k target in time for Easter – and help people around the world to live free from hunger. To take part, go to www.cafod.org.uk/walk

THE PASSAGE a Catholic Charity, working with people who are homeless, is holding a St David's Day concert on Thurs 3rd March at 7.30pm, Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square with The London Welsh Male Voice Choir. All tickets are £20. Please support the work of this excellent charity. Tickets at <https://passage.org.uk/st-davids-day-concert/> or telephone 020 7592 1856.

VOLUNTEERING FAIR, Saturday 5th March, 12.00-2.00pm Westminster Cathedral Hall - Whether you want to try volunteering for the first time or are looking for a new role, come and discover opportunities. See: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/caritas-volunteering-fair-tickets-250053004267

Collections for last weekend:

OLOG & St Edward's and St Dunstan's Chiswick
£3991.68
St. Joseph's Grove Park
£185.88

Thank you for your generosity.