



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

30th JANUARY 2022

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Canon Michael Dunne
Fr Daniel Herrero
Sharon Bowden

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Administrator

Fr Daniel writes:

For the next few weeks, the second reading at Mass on Sunday will be taken from the 1st Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians. Therefore, this week I'm writing a few words that will help us understand better the struggles of the Christian Community in Corinth and the response that Paul gives them.

The ancient city of Corinth was destroyed by the Romans and then rebuilt in 44BC by Julius Caesar. Corinth then became the capital of the Province of Achaia, which together with its strategic position, made it a very attractive city, especially for those who were searching for new opportunities: Jews expelled from Rome, merchants, but also a fair number of slaves who had earned their freedom and were now looking for a place in society. Corinth was a very diverse and prosperous city, but also one driven by ambition and renowned for being a place for a lot of sexual immorality.

Paul arrived at Corinth around the year 51 AD. He stayed at the house of Pricilla and Aquila and worked with them for eighteen months. He had little success with the Jews living there, but the Pagans welcomed him but in hindsight, not all did it for good reasons. Paul then left for Ephesus, while Apollos remained there preaching the Gospel. Soon the problems started. The same divisions, ambition and immorality that plagued the city of Corinth had crept into the young Christian community.

The first divisions appeared between those who recognised Paul as their spiritual father and those who preferred Apollos because he was more eloquent. Then came the disagreements between those of Jewish origin and those who had converted from Pagan practices. The rich were starting to treat the Mass as a party neglecting their poorer brethren. Some brothers were taking others to public courts to solve their issues. And to make matters worse, some found in Christianity an excuse to continue their immoral practices. Some, for example, continued offering sacrifices to idols (specially at social events), others frequented prostitutes, but there was even the case of one of the brothers who was sleeping with his mother-in-law. A real mess!

The First Letter to the Corinthians allows us to see all these problems but more importantly the solution that Paul presents. Namely, creating a stronger bond between the brothers and sisters based on the love of God manifested in the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and, at the same time, encouraging them to abandon the ties and the mentality of world outside. Only then, the Church could pass from mirroring the problems of society to becoming the solution to them.

Interestingly, the many difficulties that the Church still faces are not very different from those at Corinth. Therefore, we should not read this letter as a mere historical text but as a prophetic word from God to the Church of today.

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 29/1 6.30pm 6.30pm	Vigil Mass Grove Park	Margaret Barnett Naja & Sfeir Families	1 ST ANN RIP
Sun 30/1 8.30am 9.45am 10.00am 11.00am 12.15pm 6.30pm	4 TH SUNDAY IN OT Gunnersbury	William (Bill) Clifford People of the Parish Tony Kealy Zofia Anna Urbanowicz & Chris & Janusz Ted Kamienowski Nick Utechin	ANN INT RD RIP/ INT RD SICK
Mon 31/1 10.00am 6.00pm	ST JOHN BOSCO	Mary Molloy & Family Reception of Ralph French	INT RIP
Tue 1/2 10.00am 12.00 Noon	Feria	Loletta Jones Funeral of Ralph French	INT RIP
Wed 2/2 10.00am 6.00pm 6.00pm	PRESENTATION OF THE LORD Comboni Convent	Sarah Nelson Reception of Mary Innes Lucie Alleaune	RIP RIP RD
Thur 3/2 10.00am 12.30pm	Ss LAURENCE, DUNSTAN & THEODORE	Patrick, Susan Connell & Family Funeral of Mary Innes	INT RIP
Fri 4/2 10.00am 12.30pm 6.00pm	Feria PIME Convent	Funeral of John Paul Myles Funeral of Nancy Jennings Sr. De Lourdes	RIP RIP RD
Sat 5/2 10.00am 6.30pm 6.30pm	ST AGATHA Grove Park	Jack Lupton John Colgan Deceased Friends of Nora O'Brien	SICK 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 and all those suffering.

For those recently deceased: Ralph French, John Paul Myles, Mick Hayes, Nancy Jennings, Joseph Martial, Mary Innes, Patrick Hogan, Philip Romain, Ena Mulhall, Eulalie Raymond, Moya O'Sullivan, Ben Okoro and Aishling Murphy. Rest in Peace.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Margaret Barnett, Bill Clifford, John Colgan, Tom and Brenda McVey, Eileen Griffin, Dr. Noreen Honan. Rest in Peace.

THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p.132:

1st Reading: **Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19**

Psalm: **70:1-6, 15, 17**

2nd Reading: **1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13**

Gospel: **Luke 4: 21-30**

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p.135:

1st Reading: **Isaiah 6: 1-8**

Psalm: **137: 1-5, 7-8**

2nd Reading: **1 Corinthians 15: 1-11**

Gospel: **Luke 5: 1-11**

COVID SAFETY IN CHURCH:

- FACE MASKS RECOMMENDED, not legally required.
- HAND SANITIZER / HAND-WASHING
- GET BOOSTERED / VACCINATED
- LATERAL FLOW TEST BEFORE MASS is recommended
- ANY SYMPTOMS OF COVID/FLU, please stay home!

HOLY WATER AND SIGN OF PEACE RETURN – The Bishops' Conference have issued new guidance for churches which have been agreed with Public Health officials and current regulations for England. Holy Water has returned to the Holy Water stoops and the tactile Sign of Peace may be restored. The scientific consensus is that the main viral transmission is via personal oral or nasal aerosol, and thus facemasks in churches are still beneficial.

LAST WEEK OF CRIB OFFERINGS - The Crib Offerings as 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. the crib will remain up until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas, Weds 2nd February.

COMBONI SISTERS 150th ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDATION – This year is the Sisters' sesquicentenary being founded in Verona in 1872 for mission in Africa at the time particularly. They are therefore celebrating internationally whilst also raising the profile of the current need for the continuation and development of the missionary imperative they have lived so generously over 150 years. Various celebratory events are planned for London and Chiswick including a Mass and Reception on a Thames cruiser emulating the journey of the first Sisters accompanied by the then Fr Daniel Comboni up the River Nile to the interior of Africa. Firstly, however, the jubilee year will be launched in the parish on Sunday 6th Feb when we will hear a word from one of the Sisters after all Masses. The Comboni magazine will be distributed afterwards.

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 also in envelopes marked 'Foodbank' through the letterbox.

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

BAPTISM – The next Baptism Preparation Course for those seeking their first baptism for a baby or infant is on 1st and 8th Feb in the church and St Edward's Room. Apply via the Parish Office or the parish website: <http://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org>

CENTERING PRAYER (CP) – The group is convening weekly via the Zoom, Mondays at 7.30pm. Next meeting takes place on 31st Jan. Contact John O'Brien:07747611616 or john@jobrien.co.uk

ALLEN HALL SEMINARY MAGAZINE – the latest edition is available at the back of the church, please take a copy.

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.

A DAY WITH MARY – This takes place on Sat 19th February at Holy Apostles Church, Winchester Street, SW1V,9.45am-5.30pm.

PARISH FUNERALS:

Very sadly, many parish families are suffering the death of a loved one at this time; friends and neighbours are enquiring about funeral arrangements. Let us spiritually accompany the deceased and the bereaved with our prayers, participating in the Lord's assistance - *"Blessed are those who mourn, they shall be comforted"* (Mt 5:5).

Ralph French - 31st Jan 6.00pm, Reception into Church
1st Feb 12.00 Noon, Requiem Mass

Mary Innes - 2nd Feb 6.00pm, Reception into Church
3rd Feb 12.30pm Requiem Mass

John Paul Myles - 4th Feb 10.00am Requiem Mass

Nancy Jennings - 4th Feb 12.30pm Requiem Mass

Patrick Hogan - 7th Feb 11.00am Requiem Mass

Mick Hayes - 11th Feb 1.45pm Requiem Mass

Philip Romain - 15th Feb 12 Noon Requiem Mass

Joseph Martial - 18th Feb 11.30am, Requiem Mass

Eulalie Raymond - 8th March 12 Noon, Requiem Mass

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

ST JOSEPH'S, GROVE PARK NOTES

CHISWICK & GROVE PARK BRIDGE CLUB – meets every Tuesday at 7.00pm in the Parish Room of St Joseph's Church, 1 Bolton Rd. A friendly group who play duplicate bridge and usually finish around 10.00pm. There's a table fee of £3.00. For info call Phil Tait on 07860575135 or email philliptait@btinternet.com

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL JOB VACANCY - Sacred Heart are looking to appoint an experienced Administrative Assistant for our busy Student Services Centre. The closing date is noon 7th February. Please see TES for further information. [Administrative Assistant, London - Tes Jobs](#)

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOOL: GOLDEN TICKET FOR GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY. If you have a son in Years 2 or 3 who loves to sing then the world's greatest Catholic Choir would be delighted to hear from you. Every year six boys enter Year 4 as new choristers and all receive generous scholarships supplemented by means-tested bursaries where necessary providing education at a top independent school as well as the opportunity to sing and tour in a world famous choir. Fr Michael has four such 'Golden Tickets' if interested or also find out more at www.choirschool.com

VOLUNTEER for CAFOD - A vital aspect of church is people being willing to share their talents, experience and energy. We have lots of different ways you can get involved such as: In the parish, highlighting CAFOD's work to support communities globally who are living with injustices and in poverty. In local schools – delivering assemblies and workshops about CAFOD's work. No experience necessary. Full support, resources and regular training provided. DBS Check & references part of application. If you'd like to know more, please contact Tony tsheen@cafod.org.uk

WORKING WITH OLDER PEOPLE? If so, there's to be a diocesan networking meeting for you online, 11.00am to 12.30pm Thurs 3rd Feb. The event is for anybody who journeys alongside older people, perhaps by organising events or running projects. It is an opportunity to share ideas, discuss issues, and meet others who are engaged in the same mission. Please contact Rosa Lewis for more information rosalewis@rcdow.org.uk

GARDEN IMPROVEMENTS READY FOR THE SPRING? A NEW Garden Enterprise at Caritas St Joseph's Centre facilitates the employment of young adults with learning disabilities by engaging them in all aspects of garden maintenance. In addition, the Garden Enterprise can provide garden design services, and supply garden furniture made out of recycled wood by adults with learning disabilities. To discuss your garden maintenance and design requirements, please contact Gail Williams, the Centre Manager, gailwilliams@rcdow.org.uk

RETOUVAILLE - Covid 19 - a very challenging time for many marriages. So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. You wonder would we be better apart? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriageand you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about Retrouvaille', or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing 3rd to 6th March 2022 call or text +44 788 729 6983. Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.org or visit www.retrouvaille.uk

TEA AND COFFEE MORNINGS – There is a 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!

RECYCLE YOUR RELIGIOUS ONLY CHRISTMAS CARDS – Please drop your religious cards through the Priests' House letterbox or hand them in to the Parish Office. Either the whole of the card or just the picture half can be given in and then they can be turned into the prayer cards used on the next Christmas Tree, through the kind labours of volunteers.

Collections for last weekend:

OLOG & St Edward's and St Dunstan's Chiswick
£4348.07

St. Joseph's Grove Park
£171.98

Thank you for your generosity.