



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

30th JULY 2023

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Assistant Priest
Supply Priest
Administrator

Fr Jude writes:

THE QUEST FOR WISDOM

The opening prayer of the 17th Sunday of the ordinary time captures succinctly our need for wisdom, when it beckoned on our Heavenly Father who is our ruler and guide, to enable us *“to use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure”*. Thomas a Kempis refers to this ability or *enablement* “to despise the world and seek the kingdom of Heaven” as “the highest wisdom.” (*Imitation of Christ Chapter 1, no. 3*).

The ancient Greek philosophers opined that the pursuit of wisdom is the gateway to our true happiness. Hence, Aristotle defines the philosophical quest as the *love of wisdom*, since it was believed that “the wiser you are, the happier you will become” (*Et tu prudentior, beator eris*). This conclusion follows from the fact that wisdom will enable a person to make better choices and decisions that will ultimately promote their general wellbeing and salvation. This awareness “came home to me” from infancy, when my father of blessed memory repeatedly quoted to me and my siblings during our evening family prayers, a part of the popular *universal prayer for all things necessary for salvation*. This prayer says in part: *Lord help us realize the nothingness of this world, the greatness of heaven, the shortness of time and the length of eternity*.

Beloved, the good news of today is that we have been called and predestined unto the possession this treasure: to be conformed unto the image of Christ the power and wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:24). The question is whether we are using our God-given opportunities to discern the active presence of God in our day to day life so as to make informed decisions and the right choices? The current scenarios in our world today are *nothing but lessons* reminding us of the transient nature of all material things, thus challenging us to focus on the values that matter. When we realize that seeking the kingdom of God and its righteousness (Matt.6:33) is the highest wisdom, then we would have arrived. Like the man who found the treasure hidden in the field, or the merchant in search of fine pearls (Matthew 13:44-45), we will jettison every other distraction for this ultimate prize. For as our elders say, “when one discovers that which is more valuable than the farmland, one sells the barn”.

Let us therefore, humble ourselves like Solomon, and use the opportunity God has given us as predestined sons and daughters unto glory, to ask for wisdom so that we may always discern what is right and abide by it, amidst an uncertain and rapidly changing world.

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 29/7 6.30pm	Vigil Mass	John Hogan Baby Edward Walker	RD
6.30pm	Grove Park		RD
Sun 30/7 8.30am	17 th SUNDAY IN OT	Imelda Murphy - Birthday Trish Higgins Private Intentions William John Collins Angela Doran - Birthday Sylvia Robson	RIP INT INT ANN RD RD
9.45am			
10.00am	Gunnersbury		
11.00am			
12.15pm			
6.30pm			
Mon 31/7 10.00am	ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA	Margaret O'Merara	RD
Tue 1/8 10.00am	ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI	Brid O'Neill - Birthday	INT
Wed 2/8 10.00am	FERIA	Janis Mary Roberts Yuki Hasegawa	RD INT
6.00pm	Comboni Convent		
Thur 3/8 10.00am	FERIA	William Blake	RD
Fri 4/8 10.00am	ST JOHN VIANNEY	Eilish Ryan Memorial Service for Fred Moses	ANN RIP
11.30am			
Sat 5/8 10.00am	FERIA	Mary & John Innes Confession	RIP
11.00am			
5.00pm			
6.30pm			
6.30pm	Grove Park	Flt Eng. R.H. Jones Maurine & Henry Song	ANN INT

For those who are sick: Sandra Bocca, Cecil Pocock, Romeo Monthy, Fr. Eammon Conarty, Celine Duignon, Andy Cronin, Hugh Caldin, Alex Tuffy, Eileen McGuinness, Greta Gribben, John Monks, Jim Ryan, Ted O'Connor, Cecilia Walsgrove, Marion Sutton, Mike O'Farrelly, Elizabeth Mulhall, Pascale Murphy, Claudio Bogi, Gloria Weymouth, Theresa Southern, Constance Redmond, Georgia, Brid, Tony Sheehan, Vera Jansen, Dr. Charles Bredin, Mary Frain, Natalie Williams, Monica McGowan, Kirsten Constance (and her baby), Kay Kiggins, Peter Kerridge, Brian Moignard, Nora Murphy, Bernadette Boylan, James Ward, Jenni Brown, Annette Griffin, Conrad Murphy and those suffering.

For the recently deceased: Fr Mark Leenane, late PP of St Vincent de Paul Parish, Osterley; Fred Moses, Baby Elliot Drake-Linney. May they Rest in Peace.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: William John Collins, Eilish Ryan, Flt. Eng. R.H. Jones. May they Rest in Peace.

THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p. 108

1st Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12
Psalm: 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130
2nd Reading: Romans 8:28-30
Gospel: Matthew 13: 44-52

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p. 111

1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-3
Psalm: 144:8-9, 15-18
2nd Reading: Romans 8:35, 37-39
Gospel: Matthew 14: 13-21

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

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.

FOODBANK COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND – Non-perishable items of food may be brought and left in the box at the back of church next weekend. Cash collection also after all Masses.

THANK YOU TO Fr DAMIAN and WELCOME TO Fr PETER - Fr Damian Wachowiak from the Archdiocese of Poznań in central western Poland has been with us in the parish for the month of July, giving up his own summer holidays from his parish at home. He has very much enjoyed his month serving in the parish as well as having time to explore so much of London and its rich cultural and Catholic history. We thank him very much and wish him well for the future. This coming weekend we will then welcome **Fr Peter Csigi** from the Diocese of Pecs in Hungary. Fr Peter will stay for three weeks.

SIMPLE MASSES FOR SUMMER: -The Sunday Masses in which there is routinely the Choir or the singing of hymns will become simpler over these weeks of July and August. The 11.00am Choir is on holidays and so are the musicians who support the 9.45am and 12.15pm Masses. It is hoped the 11.00am Mass can sustain hymns. **Weekday Masses** will remain the same except the Friday 6.00pm PIME Convent Mass, Chiswick Lane, is suspended until September.

NEWSLETTERS This is the last for July and will cease for the month of August with the first Newsletter of the new academic year being on Sunday 3rd September. **Those thinking ahead about applications for the new academic year's Youth Confirmation Programme and RCIA** (for adults thinking of becoming Catholics or Catholics who have not received the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation) **need not be concerned as details will be published with ample time allowed from September.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023/2024 – Registration is OPEN This year the registration for the sacramental programme is online, via the parish website <http://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org>. The closing date to register for First Holy Communion is Sunday 24th September, with the course beginning with the Enrolment Mass on Sunday 1st October at the 12.15pm Mass. The course is open to parishioners' children living within the parish boundaries of Chiswick, Gunnersbury and Grove Park, and who regularly attend Mass. Exceptionally, others with good reason may apply but those will need permission of their respective Parish Priests.

BAPTISM – The next Baptism Preparation Course for those seeking their first baptism for a baby or infant is on 5th and 12th Sept in the church and St Edward's Room. Apply via the Parish Office or online via the parish website: <http://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org>

A PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LISIEUX in the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of St Thérèse – What about combining the delights of autumn in Normandy and immersion, in her sesquicentenary, into the life, spirituality and 'Little Way' of St Thérèse of Lisieux? The four night and five day trip will allow for one full day visiting the places associated with St Thérèse in Lisieux itself, including the Carmelite Convent in which she lived and died in her vocation; then a day in ALENÇON and environs, the place of her birth and childhood; and finally a day on a thousand years of Norman and British history in a trip to include Falaise Castle, birthplace of William the Conqueror, and the historic city of Bayeux, with Cathedral, Museum and Tapestry, returning to Lisieux via Gold Beach, the central of five heroic landings on D Day 1944. **From 16th to 20th October 2023**, we travel from and to Chiswick by de luxe minibus via Eurotunnel. We stay in the Grand Hôtel de l'Espérance (3*). Based on fifteen pilgrims (and a stable currency exchange and other costs), single occupancy will be £740; double occupancy just £601 per person, excluding lunches, entrance fees and personal expenses. If interested, please contact the Parish Office. With the parish organizing the trip, pilgrims MUST have personal travel insurance and sign a waiver of liability and assumption of risk. Any monies paid cannot be refunded unless a substitute pilgrim, if a waiting list develops, takes the place of a cancellation.

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>

PARISH VOLUNTEERS & DBS Certs – Catherine Sutherland our Safeguarding Representative will be emailing parish volunteers offering opportunities to those who need them for the renewing of their DBS certificates. Catherine is offering dates for thirty-minute appointments in the Priests' House Meeting Room to validate documents and to submit renewal applications. Please respond to the emails in good time: chiswicksg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Please contact the Parish Office for an the appointment.

CENTERING PRAYER (CP) – The group is convening again at 7.30pm on Tues 1st August. For info: John O'Brien: 07747611616 or john@jobrien.co.uk

ST DUNSTAN'S GUNNERSBURY NOTES

PRESBYTERY CHANGES – There'll be a meeting of those who wish to remain after the 10.00am Mass today to explain changes to the presbytery arrangements.

ST JOSEPH'S GROVE PARK NOTES

PRESBYTERY REFURBISHMENT - Those who have house keys from previous need must not enter the house as it is legally a building site! The usage of church and Parish Room is not affected.

FRED MOSES RIP, Chiswick Memorial Mass Friday 4th August, 11.30am – The Funeral Mass of our late and well-known parishioner is to be on 8th August in his hometown of Newcastle, after which he will be buried with his late wife, Joyce. His brother has given his blessing to our having a Memorial Mass for Fred as our spiritual farewell and in lieu of travelling to the funeral. All are welcome to this Mass followed by a simple Reception in the Parish Centre. A collection at the Mass will defray parish expenses.

COMBONI THANKS! – Sr Natalia and Comboni friends are very grateful to all who came to support the Quiz Night and Pizza recently and all who volunteered to help at the event, including the Comboni Sisters in Aboke, Uganda, who administer the girls' school which will benefit from the funds raised and so transform more girls' lives in Uganda. **The Quiz Night raised £2,187;** the **Sponsored Walk on 10th June raised £4,439**, a total of **£6,626**. The overall total needed is £10,000, so if anyone can give ideas for raising £3,374, or can contribute something towards the £3,374, Sr Natalia would welcome a conversation! Thanks to all who supported these events!

CARD-READERS FOR DONATIONS TO CHURCH – A new development in church are the card-readers, much recommended by the diocese and requested by many visitors to the parish as well as parishioners. There's a question about connectivity with the church internet as they can be slow. Among Fr Michael's many quibbles with them is that they don't say 'Thank you' after receiving a donation. The parish is, however, very grateful for all contributions!

THE LATE FR MARK LEENANE, Parish Priest of Osterley, RIP The Requiem Mass for the late Fr Mark will be at 12.00 noon on Tuesday 1st August at St Vincent de Paul Church. His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols will be the principal celebrant. The parish website is: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/osterley/>

CATHOLIC CENTRE LOUNGE BAR OVER AUGUST will remain open for the routine hours for all to enjoy: Fridays from 12.00 Noon to 10.00pm; Saturdays and Sundays 12.00 Noon to 6.00pm. All are very welcome. However, there is one change for the Parish Centre. Following inspection from a diocesan risk assessor, the smoking shed has been deemed non-compliant to buildings' regulation and health & safety legislation and therefore notification has been given that it is to be dismantled. It will come down on or after 14th August.

A DAY WITH MARY – on Sat 5th August at St Mary of the Angels Church, Moorhouse Road, Bayswater, 10.00am to 5.30pm. For more info see the leaflet at the back of the church.

CELEBRATE SUMMER family activity pack - Download the brand new CELEBRATE online family activity pack for summer! Packed full of activities to do, pray, read and watch, this online resource will give you ideas on how to connect with God, your family and others. Use this link to download the CELEBRATE SUMMER pack for free today - <https://www.celebratetrust.org/onlinefamilyactivitypacks>

YOUNG ADULTS FORMATION - The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer. As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, formation on *Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham*, among other topics, will be given. Come either: 14th - 21st Aug or 30th Aug - 6th Sept. To find out more, please enquire by 31st July by emailing the COLW Sisters at freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org

TEA AND COFFEE MORNINGS – The Tuesday post-Mass coffee morning in the St. Edward's Room and on Fridays in the Parish Centre have now concluded for the August break and will resume in September. *Thanks to all the volunteers.*

Collections for last weekend:

OLOG & St Edward's and St Dunstan's Chiswick
23/7/23 £3825.34
Grove Park
23/7/23 £233.55

Thank you for your generosity.