



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

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3rd SEPTEMBER 2023

22nd 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:

Today as I write this on Saturday for the weekend it is the 50th Anniversary of the death of J.R.R. Tolkien, having died on 2nd September 1973, aged 81, may he rest in peace. His immense stature as an author both at home and abroad – *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* having been translated into about 40 languages - is impressively recognised this year by the Royal Mint issuing a commemorative £2 coin. With the King's Head on the front, the coin has Tolkien's monograph on the reverse surrounded by a runic pattern. Around the edge of the coin is a line from Tolkien's poem *The Riddle of Strider* from *The Fellowship of the Ring*, the first volume of the trilogy: 'Not all those who wander are lost'. In its context, in a letter from Gandalf to Frodo, it's a reference to the wandering Aragorn but it points very much to his destiny, so it's very definitely a truth which applies to each of us, too, as, going onwards through life, we discern sometimes less clearly and sometimes more, the call and destiny we have in Christ. Even in this Sunday's passage from the Gospel, Peter indeed, 'wanders' a little in remonstrating with Jesus before steadying himself again, readying himself again in the light of the Lord's words, just as the protagonists of the Fellowship of the Ring must do to ensure as best they can that the struggle together ahead for the mission will be fulfilled. That *The Lord of the Rings* is a profoundly Christian and particularly Catholic work, is explicit in Tolkien's letters: "The Lord of the Rings is of course a fundamentally religious and Catholic work; unconsciously at first, but consciously in the revision. That is why I have not put in, or have cut out, practically all references to anything like 'religion', to cults or practices in the imaginary world. For the religious element is absorbed into the story and the symbolism." I look forward to exploring this with a new book which I have just ordered: *Tolkien's Faith: A Spiritual Biography* by Holly Ordway and perhaps sharing more with parishioners who are interested. I was intrigued in the publicity material of the book to learn that two of Tolkien's favourite saints were, as might be expected from so great an intellectual, St Thomas More, a great intellectual of his time also and martyr; but extraordinarily to me, St Bernadette Soubirous, the fourteen year old illiterate peasant girl of Lourdes graced with the eighteen apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the grotto of Massabielle in 1858. I had never thought the apparitions at Lourdes which lit the way ahead for Bernadette and so many millions of pilgrims after her, might also have been the inspiration for luminous encounters through the darkness of the struggle for victory in the Middle Earth of *The Lord of the Rings*.

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 2/9 6.30pm	Vigil Mass	Brian Gill Sean D'Lassell	RD RD
6.30pm	Grove Park		
Sun 3/9 8.30am	22 nd Sunday Ordinary Time	David & Maureen Barney, 50 th Wedding Anniversary Jeremy Marshall	INT RD
9.45am		People of the Parish	INT
10.00am		Luigi Lamberti	ANN
11.00am		Moira Gordon-Smith	RD
12.15pm		Lindsay Deveney	SICK
6.30pm			
Mon 4/9 10.00am	FERIA	Renee Lynn-Pearl	SICK
Tue 5/9 10.00am	FERIA	Sean McPhillips	RD
Wed 6/9 10.00am	FERIA	Ludwik Maryniak Sr. M. Angela Colombara & Sr. Iolanda Mazzocchi	RD RD
6.00pm	Comboni Convent		
Thur 7/9 10.00am	FERIA	Roberto Becci	RD
Fri 8/9 10.00am	THE NATIVITY OF THE BVM	Damien Callaghan	RD
6.00pm	PIME Convent	Sandra & Mornam Shing	INT
Sat 9/9 10.00am	FERIA	Brian Gill	RD
11.00am		Confession	
12.15pm		Baptism	
5.00pm		Confession	
6.30pm		Angela Sheehan	INT
6.30pm		Pajoe Tyding	RD

For those who are sick: Sandra Bocca, Pascale Murphy, Alex Tuffy, Cecilia Walsgrove, Claudio Bogi, Mary Frain, Kevin Herbert and those suffering.

For the recently deceased: Andrew Neary Jnr. May he Rest in Peace.

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: J.R.R. Tolkien, Irva Diana McLaughlin, Luigi Lamberti, Maryann Plinfol - 1st Anniversary. May they Rest in Peace.

THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p. 122

1st Reading: **Jeremiah 20: 7-9**

Psalm: **62: 2-6, 8-9**

2nd Reading: **Romans 12: 1-2**

Gospel: **Matthew 16: 21-27**

NEXT WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS, Mass Book p. 125

1st Reading: **Ezekiel 33: 7-9**

Psalm: **94: 1-2, 6-9**

2nd Reading: **Romans 13: 8-10**

Gospel: **Matthew 18: 15-20**

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.

REPOSITORY – The Repository is open after Sunday morning Masses for cards, rosary beads, statues, gifts and other religious items.

FOODBANK COLLECTION -Today we have our monthly collection of non-perishable items of food for the foodbank for families and individuals in crisis as well as having a cash collection as an option.

MUSIC AT 11.00am MASS OVER SUMMER – THANK YOU! – We had three parish volunteers who provided piano or organ accompaniment for the hymns they had kindly chosen to keep the 11.00am Sunday Mass as a 'sung' Mass even with the Choir and parish musicians rightly on holiday over six weeks of July and August. Thank you very much to Ursula, Lucy and 15-year-old Storm for their generous gifts of their talent to assist us in prayer.

PIME CONVENT MASS RESUMED – The Friday 6.00pm Mass at the PIME Convent on Chiswick Lane has resumed from this coming week as shown on the front of the Newsletter. The Convent Masses are public Masses and the Sisters will welcome parishioners. However, please be ON TIME, BEFORE 6.00pm otherwise by coming late Mass is interrupted. Phones should also be switched OFF. Capacity in the PIME Convent is limited to six visitors.

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>

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.

YOUTH CONFIRMATION – For parish children who will be 14 years old at least at the time of their Confirmation in summer 2024. Details will be forthcoming later this term when finalised, providing plenty of time to sign up in October.

ADULT CONFIRMATIONS & RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) or THINKING ABOUT CATHOLICISM? – If you know of anyone who is considering becoming a Catholic or if a Catholic has missed out on any of the sacraments, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the course to follow. It will be on Weds at 7.00pm from Nov 2023 to May 2024. No course details are yet available but if you'd like to register or express an interest please contact the Parish Office: 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. Next Sunday, 10th Sept., we have the first of the new term's Q&A sessions with the priests in the St Edward's Room after 6.30pm Sunday Mass. See: <https://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org/young-adults>

SCHOOL APPLICATIONS, SECONDARY AND PRIMARY, 2023. To obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP), *if your Catholic practice allows for it*, you should **firstly** contact the Parish Office to request an appointment and collect a self-assessment form (which can also be sent electronically). You should **secondly** complete the self-assessment form and bring it to your appointment with Canon Michael. You should not bring blank CCPs from schools. 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. The period of churches being closed is irrelevant because Catholic practice is to be evidenced over *several years*. It is also *perfectly feasible* to submit an application to a Catholic school *without* a CCP. The application would be categorised according to the admission criteria published by the school. Phone or email the office for a 10-minute slot which will be scheduled weekly here. The first availability: **Weds 13th Sept & Thurs 14th Sept 3.00-5.30pm.**

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.

CATHOLIC CENTRE LOUNGE BAR is 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.

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 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 including the 'Bayeux 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 takes the place of any cancellation if a waiting list develops. Just THREE places left!

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 CARDINAL VAUGHAN MEMORIAL SCHOOL OPEN EVENINGS for Year 7 (First Form pupils) -These events are designed for parents and prospective pupils to attend. They will include an address from Mr Stubbings, Headmaster, and a tour of the school. Thursday 14th Sept & Tuesday 19th Sept. The Headmaster will speak at 4.30pm and 6.00pm. Full details are available on our website www.cvmc.co.uk/Admissions/

A DAY WITH MARY – on Sat 16th Sept at St. Joseph's Church, High Road, Wembley, 9.30am to 5.45pm. For more info see the leaflet at the back of the church.

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, LONDON is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat 2023 at St John Fisher Church, 80 Imperial Close, North Harrow, HA2 7LW on Saturday 9th September from 1:30pm to 4:30pm led by the Marian Fathers. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Also The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London, is hosting a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, Co Mayo from November 9th to 14th to pray for the Holy Souls. Again it will be led by the Marian Fathers. Package includes: Return flights by Aer Lingus from Heathrow Airport, half board, 5 nights accommodation in en suite twin rooms, hand-luggage (10 kgs), all transfers and Airport Development fee. The retreat will include daily Mass and Hour of Mercy and retreats at Glendalough and Kylemore Abbey. Cost £800. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more info.

TEA AND COFFEE MORNINGS – The Tuesday post-10.00am Mass coffee morning in the St. Edward's Room will resume on Tuesday 12th September and the post-10.00am coffee morning in the Parish Centre will resume on Friday 15th September.

Collections for End July/August:

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

30/7/23	-	£4048.49
6/8/23	-	£3582.19
13/8/23	-	£3523.12
20/8/23	-	£4013.35
27/8/23	-	£4016.79

Grove Park

30/7/23	-	£200.70
6/8/23	-	£171.78
13/8/23	-	£206.35
20/8/23	-	£231.68
27/8/23	-	£260.67

Thank you for your generosity.