

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

For Bill Jackson, Paddy Greene, Michael Qualter, Anne Mikulovic,
Catherine Masterson, Wariboko Granville
and all the faithful departed.

**OUR SATURDAY MORNING MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND**

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2025

Saturday 22nd February

	5.30 pm	Bill Jackson (RIP)
SUNDAY 23rd	9.00 am	Paddy Greene (RIP)
SEVENTH SUNDAY	10.30 am	Michael Qualter (RIP)
IN ORDINARY TIME	12 Noon	Ints of Nicola Ronaghan-Coveney (health)
	6.00 pm	The People of the Parish

Monday 24th **9.30 am** -

Tuesday 25th **9.30 am** -
10.30 am *Tuesday Morning Prayer Group*
2.30 pm *St Anthony Prayer Group*

Wednesday 26th **9.30 am** -

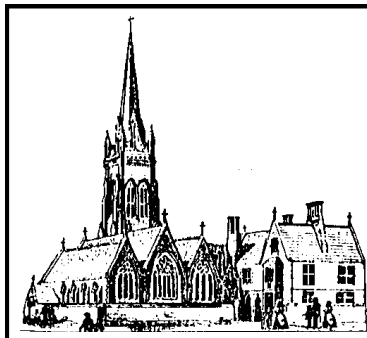
Thursday 27th **9.30am** -

Friday 28th **9.30 am** -
11.30 am **Funeral Mass of Catherine Masterson**

Saturday 1st March **10.00 am** **The Sick and Housebound**
St DAVID, **10.30 am** *Exposition and Benediction*
PATRON OF WALES

**CONFESSIONS: AFTER MASS ON SATURDAY
OR BY ARRANGEMENT WITH Fr JAMES OR Fr LINFERD**

THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY TO FRIDAY 11AM - 3PM



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
St THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, FULHAM
60 Rylston Rd, London SW6 7HW
Tel: 020 7385 4040 Email: fulham@rcdow.org.uk
Web: stthomasfulham.com
Priests: Fr James Neal & Fr Linferd Fernandes
Parish Deacon/ Catechetics: Rev Wayne O'Reilly
Email: fulhamcatechist@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Administrator: Mr Gerald Daly
Safeguarding Representative: Ms Shirley Mills
Email: fulhamsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk**

Dear Friends

I continue today with the Year of Jubilee series of 25 suggestions for how to celebrate and enter more deeply into the Year of Jubilee of Hope 2025. Today we reach:

9) Find a volunteer role: This one takes a bit of thought and planning and isn't necessarily a quick fix. Look for a cause that might use your existing skills and can serve the marginalized -- homeless shelters, food banks, or mentoring programmes. Serving others is faith in action, it also gives those less fortunate the ability to live with hope, too. In the parish in June we will be promoting the SVP, the Society of St Vincent de Paul, as a forum in which parishioners can play a volunteer role in social outreach.

10) Host a Jubilee celebration at home!: It's always important to celebrate the positive things in life. Therefore, why not organize a gathering for family, friends, or neighbours? Celebrate hope, share stories, eat cake, and inspire one another. We have "special" years like a Jubilee to help us to concentrate on what we should appreciate and celebrate all the time...

11) Dedicate one day to silence and reflection: In our noisy world, silence is a gift. Find a day in the diary somewhere during the year. Spend the day away from all your screens and reflect on your life, family, your relationship with God. You could also try going on a silent retreat to really focus on what's important. There are many places within easy reach of us and not too expensive to reach, such as Aylesbury Friary or Walsingham, or even Tyburn convent where there is permanent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

12) Discover a new devotion: It's important to nurture your spirituality, and one way of doing this is to try something new in your prayer life. From the Divine Marcy at Easter to Lectio Divina, or the Examen, there are many ways you can deepen your prayer life. Maybe start by rediscovering or even discovering The Rosary... Our Lady tells us it is a most powerful weapon. Is it fully deployed in Fulham?
Fr James

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN GIVING

Don't forget you can also make an offering via the 'Touch & Tap' at the door. For details of methods of Planned Giving, see the leaflet at the door of Church. Parish bank account details are below, and on the website *Donate* page.

PARISH BANK DETAILS: HSBC

Sort code: 40-05-20 Acct. No.: 11263137

Acct name: WRC DT ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY FULHAM

TIME TO RETURN PALM CROSSES: TODAY ONLY!! there will be a basket at the doors of church for the return of palm crosses which are burnt to make the ash for Ash Wednesday. PLEASE DON'T return palm crosses after today - 23rd Feb - there will be nowhere for them to go.

ASH WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH: Ash Wednesday begins the Great Forty Days of Lent, the season of preparation for our celebration of the mysteries of our redemption in Holy Week and the season of Easter. Ash Wednesday is NOT for us a Holy Day of Obligation, but it is obviously a good day to be at worship.

Mass with the Blessing and Imposition of Ashes will be available in the parish at **9.30am** and **7.30pm** on 5 March. Of course, if you work in other parts of London many central London churches will provide a celebration at lunch time.

- Ash Wednesday is a day of *BOTH* abstinence and fasting. What does this mean? A day of abstinence is like most Fridays: we abstain, or leave off, some luxury. The Friday abstinence is - for most of us - to deny ourselves meat in our diet (unless we are vegetarian!) and this works well for Ash Wednesday also. A day of fasting means that we reduce what we eat, or maybe cut out a meal altogether. These are penitential actions to remind us of our fragility. **N.B.** Fasting and abstinence are **NOT** required of those aged under 14 or over 65, or who are unwell or pregnant. These things are not punishments but they are devotions. Be sensible, but be devoted!!
- The Imposition of Ashes will be by sprinkling of ashes on the crown of the head, not by smearing on the forehead. This is because first, it is what the liturgy of the Church instructs! Also, many remain uncomfortable with the physical contact post-pandemic. Mainly though it is because the action of bowing our heads to receive the ash is a good penitential practice.

More information about the keeping of Lent will follow next week.

SUNDAY MISSALS ON SALE: Following the introduction of the new translation of the scriptures used in Mass, we now have some stock of the new edition of the Catholic Truth Society Sunday Missal. £19.95 from the Parish Office or from the Sacristy after Mass. **More stock on the way!**

PARISH ACCOUNTS FOR 2024: A summary of the Parish Accounts for 2024 has been posted on the notice board in Church. As always, Thank You for your generosity in support of the parish. If you have any questions about the accounts, ask Fr James or direct them as detailed on the notice.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES RENEWAL: From **NEXT SUNDAY** Please pick up new envelopes for the next financial year at the back of the church. If you wish to donate via envelopes and possibly gift aid your donation ask the team and they will help. If you are signed up for gift aid but no longer pay tax in the UK please let us know as we must not claim tax back if you are not a tax payer! If you wish to give by standing order ask the team. Of course you can also gift by the card machine by the north entrance to the church. Thank you for your support for the parish.

"MAGNIFICAT": We are now also stocking copies of Magnificat, which is a well known and loved monthly guide to Mass for every day together with a host of supporting articles, meditations and information. Excellent to use for Sunday Mass. Price £6.50. **MARCH ISSUE AVAILABLE TODAY.**

"MY DAY BY DAY" (£2.00) + "BIBLE ALIVE" (£3.00) LENT 2025: These excellent publications giving daily prayers and meditations and reflections on the Mass readings are available for you to purchase TODAY. Prices as detailed above.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY MATRIMONY AT THE CATHEDRAL: Saturday 17 May. The Cardinal invites couples celebrating in 2025 their **5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and any year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage. If you wish to attend please supply the following information to Gerald in the Parish Office by 24 March:

- 1) husband and wife's names;
- 2) date and church of Catholic marriage;
- 3) number of years married;
- 4) postal address & email address /telephone No.

CHORISTER OPPORTUNITIES AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: For Catholic boys with musical potential now in years 2, 3 or 4 - why not look at the possibility of becoming a Cathedral Chorister and attend the excellent Cathedral Choir School. See the poster in church. The school is offering introductory Zoom session, lasting 30 mins, at 6.30pm on 12 March. Contact Lucy Freeman on lfreeman@choirschool.com for a link.

CARITAS WESTMINSTER JUBILEE VOLUNTEERING FAIR: Sat 8 March at Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Ave, SW1, 3pm-5pm. Come along and discover a wide range of opportunities across the diocese. More info at caritaswestminster.org.uk/volunteer.