

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Leoma Thomas; Jacek Miller; David Henry; Geraldo Henrique de Campos;
*Deceased of the Crane Family, inc Adriane, Herbert, Bomma, Jeanne & Robert;
Peter Neal; Jan Deregowski
and all the faithful departed.

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

20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 2025
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Saturday 16th August

	6.00 pm	Jacek Miller (RIP)
SUNDAY 17th	8.30 am	David Henry (RIP)
	10.00 am	Geraldo Henrique de Campos (RIP)
20th SUNDAY	12 Noon	*Deceased of the Crane Family
IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00 pm	The People of the Parish

Monday 18th 9.30 am Peter Neal (RIP - anniv)

Tuesday 19th

9.30 am	Jan Deregowski (RIP - anniv)
10.30 am	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group
2.30pm	St Anthony Prayer Group

Wednesday 20th *No Mass today. Church is closed.*

St Bernard, Abbot &
Doctor of the Church

Thursday 21st 9.30am -
St Pius X, Pope

Friday 22nd 9.30 am -
The Queenship of Mary

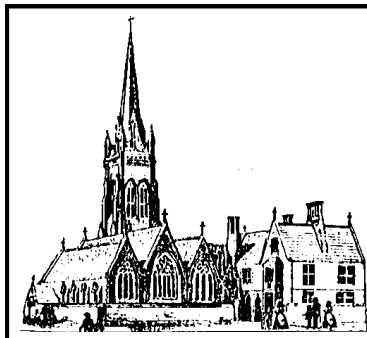
Saturday 23rd

10.00 am	The sick and housebound
10.30am	Adoration and Benediction

St Rose of Lima

**CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 10.30 - 11.20AM ; 5.00 - 5.40PM
OR BY ARRANGEMENT**

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY
11AM - 3PM, (Closed on Wednesday)**



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
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Dear Friends

This week, a few reflections on St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), one of the two particular saints of Auschwitz whose memory we kept on 9 August. As a Patron Saint of Europe, she is a person of particular significance for us and a great friend to have in heaven...

Even though Edith Stein was raised in a Jewish family, she eventually embraced atheism and poured herself into philosophy, and she was a gifted academic. St. John Paul II explains in his homily for her canonisation how she sought "freedom" and thought her radical choices would give her peace. She wanted to rely exclusively on herself and was concerned to assert her freedom in making decisions about her life. In this she was like so many in the world today, following the cult of self...and that's a temptation that we have to be aware of too, as it seeps into the Church.

However, she soon discovered that there was no peace in a life divorced from God. Her "freedom" was not freedom at all. At the end of a long journey, she came to the surprising realization: only those who commit themselves to the love of Christ become truly free.

Freedom does not consist of doing whatever we want to do, but in freely choosing the good. St. John Paul II expanded on this lesson from Edith Stein's life and encouraged young people to reject this false idea of freedom.

"This woman had to face the challenges of such a radically changing century... Her experience is an example to us. The modern world boasts of the enticing door which says: everything is permitted. It ignores the narrow gate of discernment and renunciation. I am speaking especially to you, young Christians, ...Pay attention! Your life is not an endless series of open doors! Listen to your heart! Do not stay on the surface, but go to the heart of things! And when the time is right, have the courage to decide! The Lord is waiting for you to put your freedom in his good hands".

St. Teresa Benedicta was able to understand that the love of Christ and human freedom are intertwined, because love and truth have an intrinsic relationship. We may think that freedom can only be found in a life without God, but Edith Stein proves to us that an atheistic life is not free at all. Only in Jesus Christ can we find true and lasting freedom, a freedom to love and rest in the peace of God.

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: WRCDT ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY FULHAM

CATHOLIC SOCIETY OF ARTISTS EXHIBITION: The Gallery, 54 Shepherd Market, Mayfair W1J 7QX; 19th - 30th August 10.30am - 6.30pm. An exhibition of the works of society members and including the work of our of our own parishioners. Open to all.

DEACON WAYNE: Mark your diary for Sunday 7 September. As you will have heard from Dcn Wayne or read in this Newsletter, 7 Sept is his last Sunday with us formally in his Deacon's ministry. (Dcn Wayne continues as our Parish Catechetical Coordinator.) To mark this we'll have a Reception with a chance to spend a little time with Dcn Wayne after the 12Noon Mass that day. More nearer the time.

SOCIETY OF St VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP): Thanks to everyone who came to either information evenings with a view to setting up a Conference of the SVP in the parish. The SVP provides an umbrella structure to organise voluntary work in the parish. There will be a follow-up meeting to take this further on **TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER at 7.30pm in No.62**. Still open to any interested, or just curious, but at this meeting we hope to formally sign up members to start the actual founding of a local Conference. In the meantime, ask Fr James for info, and visit svp.org.uk

MARCH FOR LIFE UK SAT 6 SEPTEMBER: Events at Emmanuel Centre, Marsham St SW1 10.00am - 1pm. This consists of a Pro-life Human Rights Summit, sessions for children of all ages, prolife stalls from organisations across the country and much more; Mass at the Cathedral 10.30am; March to Parliament Square 1.30pm. See posters/ flyers in church for contact info. *This is a growing annual act of witness and resources and is right on our doorstep. Join Catholics and others from across the UK.* Contact: info@marchforlife.co.uk. Tel: Isabel: 07773 501721 or Ben: 07885 505116.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR CANONISATION OF St CARLO ACUTIS: At Our Lady of Dolours, Fulham Road on Saturday 13 Sept at 3pm with Cardinal Vincent. (St Carlo was baptised in Our Lady of Dolours).

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM SATURDAY 20 SEPT: We have booked a coach together with Holy Cross parish for the **Jubilee Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady**. £40 per seat in-

cludes pilgrimage contribution. £20 for those under 16 Years. Mass with Cardinal Vincent, Reconciliations, Rosary procession on the Holy Mile, Benediction in the old Abbey grounds. Costs of coach hire are becoming very expensive, but this is a lovely day. Whether you are a Walsingham veteran, or have never been before, come for the day! There's a sign-up sheet in church, and payments can be made to the Office or Fr James.

MESSAGE FROM "RIGHT TO LIFE UK": The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12 September. Right To Life UK has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill.

Please take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide - it takes just 30 seconds!

WEBSITE "E-ALERTS": On the Website Home Page you can now subscribe to "E-Alerts." This means we will send an email weekly with the Newsletter and any notices, and send out any other short-notice information as it happens.

GOING AWAY THIS SUMMER?: If you are lucky enough to have vacation time this summer and are going away, now is the time to plan your Sunday Obligation. Google the local Catholic Church and join the local community...Fr James always welcomes parish Newsletters and bulletins from anywhere and any language! Bring one back from where you get to!

THE DIOCESAN MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE OFFICE WRITE: There is a notable spike in separation and divorce enquiries after the summer holidays, as stresses and pressures come to a head. Within our Catholic setting there are movements, who provide well-established models of support and accompaniment to help a couple to work through disillusionment in marriage and discover new narratives. Here are two:

Retrouvaille provides programme and model of ongoing accompaniment for the couples who are willing to work together on their differences and find ways to resolve conflict in their relationship. This is a marriage support programme, not relationship counselling. See poster in church or contact: www.retrouvaille.org.uk. Tel: 0788 7296983.

Marriage Care is a relationship counselling charity established in our diocese nearly 80 years ago. Their relationship counsellors are fully trained and have gone through a formal selection and training process. Relationship Counselling provides a structured and supportive environment for couples to navigate difficulties and improve their communication. Info at www.marriagecare.org.uk/ Tel: 0800 389 3801.