

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Fletcher Merkel; Harper Moyski; Gerry carey, Margaret Swiatly
and all the faithful departed.

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

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 2025

Parish Mass Book Page 133

Saturday 6th September

	6.00 pm	-
SUNDAY 7th	8.30 am	Intentions of Pope Leo
	10.00 am	The People of the Parish
23rd SUNDAY	12 Noon	-
IN ORDINARY TIME	6.00 pm	Gerry Carey (RIP)

Monday 8th Sept 9.30 am Margaret Swiatly (RIP)
NATIVITY OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Tuesday 9th 9.30 am -
10.30 am Tuesday Morning Prayer Group
2.30pm St Anthony Prayer Group

Wednesday 10th No Mass today. Church is closed.

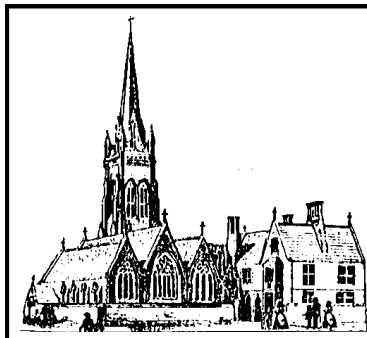
Thursday 11th 9.30am -

Friday 12th 9.30 am -
The Most Holy Name of Mary

Saturday 13th 10.00 am The sick and housebound
St John Chrysostom 10.30am Adoration and Benediction
Bishop & Doctor of the Church

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 ,

None of us take a long trip without preparing and planning ahead. We make sure we have a map and directions for the journey ahead. We work out how much it will cost us and we sit down to see what's involved in the journey ahead. We do our best to be prepared for any unplanned events along the way. We don't set out ill-equipped or unprepared.

The invitation from Jesus is always *follow me*, and the decision to follow in his footsteps is not one to be taken lightly. Jesus makes this very clear right at the beginning of this Sunday's gospel when he spells out the cost of being his disciple, *if anyone comes to me without hating their father and mother, wife, children, brothers and sister and even his own life, they cannot be my disciple!* Jesus tells that we have to work it out for ourselves to see if we have what it takes to live with demands of being his follower. This means that first we have to figure out what being a follower of Jesus will cost us and then decide whether we have the energy and resources to meet that cost. The cost of being a disciple of Jesus? Everything we have and are! The reward of being a disciple? Everything God has and is!

The danger is that if we are overly worried and concerned about the cost of following Jesus, we might never set out on this path in the first place. It will cost us much, everything in fact. But we have already started on this journey at our baptism. The reward is priceless; the fullness of life which begins here and now and which we will inherit fully in the life to come. We begin this journey of being the disciple of Jesus in faith, but not on our own. The first reading from the Book of Wisdom tells that we are given the gift of wisdom and the Holy Spirit to guide and lead us on our journey. The challenge, then, is not to look at the cost, but to keep our eyes on Jesus who is walking with us showing us the way. In faith and hope, then, let us take up our cross and follow where Jesus lead us.

As many of you are already aware this Sunday is my last as Parish Deacon here, after 30 plus years serving at the Altar in different ministries, I have decided to move on to pastures new. So, with a Deacon's heart and Catechist's patience, I say this particular goodbye. I'll stay involved in catechesis, trusting in God to continue the work. May God continue to bless you and this wonderful parish.

Blessings,

Deacon Wayne

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

DEACON WAYNE: As you will have heard from Dcn Wayne or read in this Newsletter, **TODAY** 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.

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

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 includes 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, payments can be made to the Office or Fr James.

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).

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!

A MESSAGE FROM CAFOD: Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. With your support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. Find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at cafod.org.uk.

CARDINAL VAUGHAN SCHOOL OPEN EVENINGS: Year 7 open evenings will be held on Thurs 11 Sept and Weds 17 Sept. The Headmaster will address parents and pupils at 4.30pm and again at 6.00pm. Following each speech, parents will be taken on a tour of the school. The online application link is available at www.cvms.co.uk/admissions

ST THOMAS MORE LANGUAGE COLLEGE OPEN EVENING: See poster in church for contact details for meetings for Year 7 admissions available on 17 and 25 Sept and 8 Oct from 4.00 - 6.00pm.

WIMBLEDON COLLEGE OPEN EVENINGS: See the poster in church for full details. The College invites prospective parents and pupils for admission into Year 7 in September 2026 on 25th Sept from 5pm to 8.00pm. Full details at www.wimbledoncollege.org.uk/openevents.

PLANNED GIVING: During the Sundays of October the Finance Committee will be making a presentation about Planned Giving to the parish. The Cardinal asks every parish to review our Planned Giving every few years to take into account changed circumstances for households in the parish and to promote efficient ways to provide for our needs. There'll be more information about this in the coming weeks. Today I want to flag up some changes to the diary as a result:

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: Do pick up a copy of *Mission Today*, the news magazine from *MISSIO* - the Holy Father's umbrella organisation for supporting missionary activity around the world. Perhaps you also use a "Red Box" to collect for *MISSIO*. Each year there is a collection for this initiative and this year this will be on **21 September**, instead of the traditional October date.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: See the poster in church for more contact details. This year's harvest Fast Day is on 3 October. There will be envelopes available for you to take part and return if you wish to take part in addition to the direct links to CAFOD, but this year we won't be having a collection additionally for this.