



14 February 2021

Thought for the Week:

“Christian self-denial does not imply any condemnation of the things it gives up, but simply an absolute preference for the one thing needed. It aims at the destruction of the obsessive concentration on self caused by sin., at letting us be seized, invaded and carried away by the generosity of God’s life, the life

which is love. Its purpose is to lead us to abandon ourselves in everything through faith to the love of God. It only seems to break us in order to raise us up and open our hearts.” *Fr. Louis Bouyer*

FORTHCOMING PARISH EVENTS

The latest Government lockdown regulations **do not affect Churches**: we are still permitted to come together for Mass and other services. Please wear a mask unless you are exempt and observe social distancing. Our Church remains **open for prayer** from 8am till 6.30pm every day, and the Blessed Sacrament is exposed during most of that time. We celebrate Mass at 12 noon every weekday and Saturday, and our weekend Mass schedule is: Saturday 6pm, Sunday 11am and 6pm. Confessions can be heard before each Mass.

Ash Wednesday begins the annual observance of Lent



this Wednesday. We will have Mass at 12 noon and 6pm and there will be a Portuguese

Mass at 8pm. Because of the pandemic, ashes will be imposed in a different way, by sprinkling them over your head rather than by direct contact. If you would prefer to celebrate Ash Wednesday at home with your family, we can give you some ashes and a suitable prayer if you bring a container.

This coming **Friday our parish Mass** will be at 10am and will be a funeral. There will be no 12 noon Mass on Friday this week.

The Cardinal has extended till Pentecost (23 May) the permission he has given to parish priests to confirm young people between the ages of 13 and 18. If any of last year’s **Confirmation group** would like to be confirmed before then, please contact Fr. Keith to arrange a date. If you would like to be confirmed but need a preparation course, please contact Fr. Keith.

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is a very important part of any parish’s life and work. The email addresses for our new safeguarding volunteers, Victoria and Caterina, safeguarding matters are: bayswatersg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk and bayswatersg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Phone / text: 07920 116511 (call only between 11am and 4pm) If you perform any voluntary service in the parish, you are required to have a Disclosure and Barring Service certificate (DBS). If you do not have one, please contact Victoria or Caterina by email.

Healing of body and soul was a central part of the ministry of Jesus. His human nature fills him with compassion for our sickness, and his divine power is able to make everything whole and new. What is required on our part is faith in his divine power and in his loving will that we be made whole. In order to express this better in our parish, we have resumed the practice of Anointing the Sick after our Wednesday 12 noon Mass, but this time with just a few people so that there is more time to pray with each person. We invite you to let us know before each Wednesday Mass if you would like to be prayed with and to give us a brief description of your needs.

The Funeral Mass for **Mgr. Mark Langham**, our former parish priest, will take place this Thursday Feb. 18th at 11.30pm and can be watched live on: www.westminstercathedral.org.uk Our own memorial Mass for Fr. Mark will be on Sunday March 7 at 11am.

Each Friday during Lent we celebrate the **Stations of the Cross** in the evening. This year it will be at 6pm.

The pandemic and its effects have made us more aware of how important it is to be able to communicate with our parishioners and those who attend Mass here, so we are creating a **new database of parishioners**. We invite you to fill in one of the forms that will be handed out. No-one is obliged to do this, and if you do, your details will be stored securely and accessible only to the parish priest and secretary.

Pope Francis’ prayer for the **Year of St. Joseph**, from Dec. 8, 2020 to Dec. 8, 2021: *Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us, too, show yourself a Father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

OTHER NOTICES

Justice and Peace is offering Zoom briefings every Monday lunchtime, from 1pm to 1.45pm, in preparation for the **UN Climate Conference** in Glasgow in November For the Zoom link, more details, or to join the accompanying Care of Creation mailing list, contact colettejoyce@rcdow.org.uk / 07593 434905 or visit <https://westminsterjusticeandpeace.org/>

Caritas Westminster is offering an opportunity to reflect on responses to COVID-19 in light of **Catholic Social Teaching**, on 16th February from 2pm to 4pm. Register on Eventbrite at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-why-prayer-reflection-discernment-on-our-response-to-covid19-tickets-136485398501

The Bishops of England and Wales have issued a statement about **COVID vaccination**, which can be found on our notice board, and also on <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/bishops-conference-statement-on-covid-19-vaccines/> The conclusion is: “Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines for the good of others and themselves. In good conscience, one may refuse a particular vaccine but continues to have a duty to protect others from infection.”

A Day with Mary has launched its first ever online



magazine. It can be found on the DWM web site: <https://www adaywithmary.org>

JRS UK has a variety of **volunteering roles** through which you can support refugees in need at this incredibly difficult time. Volunteer Delivery Drivers and Phone Support volunteers are particularly in need. Find out more: <https://www.jrsuk.net/volunteer/>

A cross-party group of MPs have come together to bring forward the **Abortion (cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill**. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip, and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK. Please visit www.standupandsmile.org.uk to email your MP asking them to support the Bill.

Pro-abortion MPs in Parliament want to stop pregnant women getting help outside abortion clinics by calling for buffer zones. SPUC is campaigning to **save the right for peaceful pro-life vigils** to take place. Hundreds of children are alive today in this country because their mother met a loving pro-life person just before they walked into the abortion clinic. We must

protect this vital work. Please sign our petition to save the right to save lives. It only takes a minute of your time, but it could mean a lifetime for an unborn baby. You can sign the petition here: <https://spuc.org.uk/SaveTheRightToSaveLives>

Westminster Caritas writes: Please do not forget the hundreds of people rely on generous donations from our parishioners. This includes the need for hygiene items, toilet paper, sanitary products etc, as well as sealed packages of dry food, tins, and long-life milk etc. Foodbanks also welcome donations of money - please give what you can. Please also consider if you could spare some time to volunteer – perhaps by driving to collect food for a foodbank – or simply by looking out for your neighbours. Contact cfc@rcdow.org.uk or call 020 7931 6077 to add your name to a list of people who would be willing to help respond.

Lenten Retreat – 17th February to 24th March 2021. This will also have Individually and Group Guided Sessions. “Be Drawn to Christ” is a weekly Wednesday invitation to engage your faith journey. Whether you may have shrugged off, or never much committed yourself to, a regular time of praying meditatively – why not let this time be different? Let this mini-series accompany that inner emptiness, call it dis-ease within, that desires God. If you are interested and wish to find out more, please email ruth.preston@carmelite.org.uk

Marriage Care, established in 1946 in response to the pressure on family relationships following the end of the Second World War, now offers support from trained counsellors to couples and families who need help in coping with the pressures of ‘Lockdown’. Further information:

<https://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/marriageand-family-life/news/marriage-care-at-75---we-are-here-for-you/>

OUR CONTACT DETAILS AND MASS TIMES

Website: www.humilitas.org

Mgr. Keith Barltrop, Parish Priest: 07879 953953; keithbarltrop@rcdow.org.uk; Parish Office: Mariella Khoury 020 7229 0487; bayswater@rcdow.org.uk
Office open Mon.-Fri. 10am-2pm; Caretaker: Savio Fernandes: saviofernandes@rcdow.org.uk; Fr. Michael Hollings Centre: Keong Lim 07798 940 840
keonglim@rcdow.org.uk; Evangelisation: John Stayne: johnstayne@rcdow.org.uk; First Holy Communion and Baptism: Margaret Wickware: margaretwickware@rcdow.org.uk; Safeguarding: Caterina Resca and Victoria Lewis: bayswatersg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk and bayswatersg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk Phone / text: 07920 116511 (call only between 11am and 4pm); Flowers: Flavia Vaz 07941 166668