

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH, BAYSWATER



10 January 2021

Thought for the Week:

“The young woman bent low as if to direct our gaze to him. In an instant, I was on my knees, transfixed before the most beautiful of all faces. It was the face of a child. What I encountered in that brief, but

momentous minute was so astonishing I can barely say. Here in this poor, humble, little King I found all the wisdom that ever was. Here I somehow knew, was the source of all truth. Overwhelmed, I could not utter a single word, but simply knelt in adoration.” *From an anonymous meditation on the visit of the Wise Men to the baby Jesus.*

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.

A big **thank you** to everyone who made our Christmas and New Year celebrations so special: to Flavia for the beautiful flowers, to our readers, sacristy helpers and altar servers; to those who helped keep the Church open; to Alastair, our organist and Isabelle, our singer; to the Filipino adults and children’s choir for their music and the beautiful decorations; and to all who helped clean the Church. Fr. Keith, Fr. Richard and Fr. Paul would also like to thank you all for your cards, donations and kind gifts.

Please remember in your prayer one of our former parish priests, **Mgr. Mark Langham**, who has now entered the final stages of a long battle with cancer. Fr. Mark has requested that you do not attempt to contact him: just pray for him, please.

Pope Francis has announced a **Year of St. Joseph** for the whole Church, from Dec. 8 2020 to Dec. 8 2021, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of St Joseph’s proclamation as patron of the Universal Church. Pope Francis said he was establishing the year so that “every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God’s will.” He said the coronavirus pandemic has heightened his desire

to reflect on St. Joseph, as so many people during the pandemic have made hidden sacrifices to protect others, just as St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus. “Each of us can discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence -- an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble.” He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph’s role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, “Our world today needs fathers.” Here is the Pope’s prayer which it would be good to recite every day:

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.

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.

Our **Crib Offering**, as in previous Christmases, will be donated to the Catholic Children’s Society, who have been providing emergency food and essentials since the start of the pandemic to over five and a half children and their families

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 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 speak to Fr. Keith to fill in a form. 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.

This weekend we shall hold the annual appeal for the **Society for the Protection of Unborn Children** (SPUC). SPUC is currently campaigning to stop home abortion. Please be as generous as you can to help us defeat this dangerous attack on unborn children and their mothers. Donations can also be made online at www.spuc.org.uk/donate

Young people who have completed last year's preparation course for **Confirmation** can be confirmed by Fr. Keith provided the ceremony is held before 17 Feb. If you would like to be confirmed but need a preparation course, please contact Fr. Keith.

OTHER NOTICES

Next Sunday is observed throughout the Catholic world as **Peace Sunday**. Pope Francis writes: "The peace Jesus gives us is a peace for today and for the future. May the Lord give us this peace, full of hope, that makes us fruitful, that makes us communicative with others, that creates community, and that always looks to the definitive peace of Paradise." You can find resources for Peace Sunday at: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-Sunday-2021/>

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."

Copies of the **Westminster Diocesan Year Book** for 2021 are available in the bookstand at the back of Church for £4.50. Please place the money in one of the wall boxes.

A Day with Mary has launched its first ever online magazine. It can be found on the DWM web site: <https://www.adaywithmary.org>

DePaul UK Nightstop DePaul UK is appealing for volunteers to host **young homeless people** at this difficult time. All young people are assessed and checked before any placements are arranged, and DePaul UK are responsible for supporting the young people on their long-term needs, including finding them permanent accommodation. Hosts are reimbursed for the expenses they incur and are provided with toiletries to offer to any Nightstop guests staying. For more information, email: nightstopuk@depaulcharity.org.uk

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/>

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: Jennifer Ellis 07814 790659; Flowers: Flavia Vaz 07941 166668