

This week at St Lawrence's



23rd/24th August 2014

21st Sunday of the Year
(Missal Page 120 – YEAR A Vol. 2)



Isaiah 22:19-23; Psalm 137; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20
22nd Sunday of the Year (Missal Page 122); Jeremiah 20:7-9; Psalm 62; Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

Dear Friends,

One of my favourite spiritual writers is Carlo Carretto. His books on prayer and contemplation have helped so many people, perhaps his most famous being “*Letters From The Desert*”, continue to be published and read today. In 1984 he wrote his *Spiritual Testament*, which ends with an extraordinary “*love letter*” addressed to the Church.

In this letter he says:

*“How much I criticize you, my Church, but yet how much I love you!
You have made me suffer more than anyone. And yet I owe you more than I owe any other person.*

I should like to see you destroyed. But I need your presence.

You have caused me so much scandal. And yet you alone have taught me to understand the true meaning of holiness. Countless times I have wanted to slam the door of my soul in your face; yet every night I pray to die in your arms.

No! I cannot be free of you; I cannot leave you, for I am one with you - even though not completely one. But if I leave, where should I go? What would I do? Build another Church? But I cannot build another Church without the same defects. Why? Because they are MY defects too.

And again, if I were to build another Church, it would be MY Church and not Christ's Church...”

Carlo Carretto experienced the Church as he experienced himself: flawed, yet divine, able to reveal the amazing love and mercy of God, and able to obscure it and destroy it too. And the same reality he discovered in his own life too. Perhaps this is your experience also? Perhaps you could write a similar “*love letter*” too? I am always encouraged when I read these words, because it is my experience too. At times I'd like to run away and take refuge in my petty ideas and then Instead, I am happy to be back to my church, to you all, and even if I will suffer and miss the heat and warmth of these three wonderful past weeks spent with my beloved ones. Yet I am sure that you are able to make me feel that warmth and love I left behind. May God help us to build His Church and not ours. Thank you for your prayers.

Fr Fortunato.

SACRAMENTS

CONFIRMATION 2015

If you are in Year 9 or above and would like to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2015 please register with Bridget Brinkley at one of the following times.

Tuesday 2nd, Thursday 4th September – 3.00pm to 5.30pm
Tuesday 9th, Thursday 11th September – 3.00pm to 5.30pm
Saturday 6th September – 9.30am to 11.00am

Please come to the Church where you will be asked to complete a registration form. The programme will begin on Thursday 2nd October.

EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Would you like to find out more about the Catholic Faith? Have you been searching for a deeper meaning for your life? Do you share your life with a Catholic, perhaps you are supporting your husband or wife bringing up your children in the Catholic Faith. If you would like to find out more about the Catholic Church or you thinking about becoming a Catholic please contact Bridget Brinkley on 020 8890 2367 or by e-mailing at bridgetbrinkley@rcdow.org.uk.

PARISH NOTICES

HELP WANTED

We are looking to recruit a volunteer gardener/groundsman for the Church. If you have any time to spare please contact the Parish Office for details.

STORAGE NEEDED

Do you have any spare garage/shed space for items needing to be stored from the old Parish Centre? We have an immediate need to store 6 collapsible garden tables and 25 garden chairs. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.

UCM

The UCM will meet on **Monday 8th September** at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

FIRE ALERT

Recently someone stacked votive candles, one on top of another, by Our Lady's Shrine. This is very dangerous and could lead to a fire. If you see this happen again please move the lit candles to a safe place or blow them out.

IN CASE YOU ARE ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL.....

In light of data protection please indicate on entering hospital that your details are to be passed to the RC Chaplain. Also state that you would like the RC Chaplain to visit you.

ST LAWRENCE'S PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group meets every **Thursday from 7.30pm to 9pm** in the Presbytery. A time of prayer and thanksgiving. Reflecting on scriptures. Intercessory prayers for the parish and wider community. New members welcome, come and see. The next meeting is on **Thursday 4th September**.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who helped me, you have been very generous and this has helped me to exceed my target. God Bless you all. Please continue to keep me in your prayers. Lloyd Gashu

REST IN PEACE

EMILY DENNY (EMMY) RIP

The funeral of the late Emmy Denny RIP will take place at Our Lady of Grace and St Edward Church, 247 High Road, Chiswick W4 4PU on **Thursday 28th August at 10am**. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for all those who mourn her.

OTHER

APPEAL FOR GAZA AND IRAQ

There will be a second collection after all Masses this weekend for the people of Gaza and Iraq. The money raised will be sent to CAFOD and Aid to the Church in Need to help provide food, shelter, water or medical care.

TREASURES OF WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Following the success of the free days for the Treasures of Westminster Cathedral Exhibition in July it has been decided to repeat this offer by having free Mondays - this coming **Monday, 25th August** (Bank Holiday) and all the Mondays in September from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Tokens are available from the Cathedral Shop.

LIFE PREGNANCY CARE CENTRE

A mini fair in aid of the Life Pregnancy Care Centre will be held on **Saturday 30th August** from 11am to 1pm at the Life Pregnancy Care Centre, 20 Vicarage Farm Road, Hounslow West TW3 4NW. See poster on the notice board in the porch for further details.

UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE 2014 – SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

Churches and Meeting Houses in London are invited to mark Peace Day 2014 by inviting neighbours from different religious traditions to visit, to exchange messages of peace and to celebrate local peace-building and friendship. Please see poster on notice board for further details.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Open day and evening for Admission to Year 7 in 2015 will be held on **Thursday, 2 October 2014** from 9.30 am - 12.30 pm and 6.00 pm - 8.30 pm. Address by the Headteacher, Ceri Bacon MA at 6.45 pm and 7.30 pm. All welcome.

ECUMENICAL DAY CONFERENCE

A one day conference entitled "Christian Unity Since Vatican II: Memory, Present, Where Now?" will take place from 10am – 4.30pm on **Saturday, 15 November 2014** at Farm Street Church & Centre, 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH. Cost £10 per person to include coffee/tea and biscuits (bring own packed lunch). The conference is being organised by Churches Together in Westminster in conjunction with The Society for Ecumenical Studies, and is kindly being sponsored by the Catholic League. Places are limited, so advance booking is essential.

PILGRIMAGES

DOWRY OF MARY PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

The Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham takes place on **Sunday 7th September**. A coach will leave from **Browells Lane (by entrance to The Green)** at **7.15am** to arrive in time for the welcome of flags and banners from different countries, so come in your national dress. Mass at 12 noon will be followed by a picnic and procession, which will end with Benediction. Please come prepared for all types of weather and bring a packed lunch and drinks. We will return home about 8.30pm. The cost is £16.00 per person. **To secure your seat please post your money in an envelope as soon as possible, clearly marked with your name and "WALSINGHAM", to the Parish Office.** There is a waiting list and seats will be offered on a first come, first served basis even though you may have put your name on the list and haven't yet paid.

SANTIAGO AND FATIMA – 9 – 14 SEPTEMBER 2014

A coach will pick up St Lawrence's pilgrims from **Browells Lane at 5am on Tuesday 9th September (opposite the entrance to The Green)**, then pick up pilgrims from St George's before making its way to Gatwick. The coach fare is £12.00 per person. Please put your money in an envelope clearly marked with your name and "Santiago", to the Parish Office. There are a few of you that haven't yet paid, if you are making your own arrangements please let Florie know as soon as possible.

Mass intentions and other services this week:

Saturday 23rd Feria	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	11.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	Eric Brumwell RIP (Anniversary) and Frank Stackpoole RIP
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
+ First Mass of Sunday	18.00	Henrietta Rana in Thanksgiving 70th Birthday
+ Sunday 24th 21 st Sunday of the Year	09.00	People of the Parish
	11.00	James, Dewan & Vidia Joseph RIP
	13.00	Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)
	14.30	Mass led by the African Community
	18.00	Deceased members of the McGillicuddy Family
Monday 25th Feria	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Anita Calmiano RIP
Tuesday 26th Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	For the intentions of Gabriel D'Souza
	10.00	Novena to Our Lady
Wednesday 27th St Monica	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	For the intentions of Sr. Monica Killeen
Thursday 28th St Augustine	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Maria & Manuel Joaquin and Beatriz Faria RIP (A)
	12.00	<i>Marriage of Philippe De Azevedo and Mary Blackford</i>
Friday 29th The Passion of St John the Baptist	09.15	Morning Prayer
	09.30	Sean Reidy RIP
Saturday 30th Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward	11.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	11.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	11.45	Benediction
	12.00	For the intentions of Dean & Claire Hanlon
	14.00	<i>Marriage of John Paul Ezeagu and Theodora Mbanu</i>
	17.00	Sacrament of Reconciliation
+ First Mass of Sunday	18.00	Irena Gorczynski RIP (9th Anniversary)
+ Sunday 31st 22 nd Sunday of the Year	09.00	Lourdino Soares (Good Health)
	11.00	In Thanksgiving – Rodrigues Family
	13.00	Mass in Polish (Msza sw.)
	18.00	People of the Parish

Sanctuary Lamp: Esther Kusi-Appiah RIP

Thank you for your generosity in last week's Offertory Collection:

16th/17th August: Envelopes £909.21, Loose £686.87, Standing Orders £420.00 Total: £2016.08
Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees: Registered Charity No. 233699

Sunday Mass Times: Saturday 6 pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 9 am, 11 am & 6 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - Saturday 11am & 5pm

Contact us:

9 The Green, Feltham, TW13 4AF
www.saintlawrences.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Chris Vipers

Parish Sisters: Sr. Katherine O'Reilly, Sr. Monica Killeen, Sr. Nora Gorman

Pastoral Assistant: Bridget Brinkley

020 8890 2367

feltham@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest: Fr Fortunato Pantisano

Parish Secretary: Florie Fernandes