



Seventh Sunday of Easter - Yr A

16th/17th May 2026

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 16 9.30am 11am 2pm 4pm 6pm	Mendes/Pereira Family Well Being FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FIRST HOLY COMMUNION HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS Jose Delfino Pereira	INT INT INT INT RIP
Sun 17 8am 9.30am 11am 7pm	Sachio Pereira Agnelo M Fernandes Christine Cahalane Reuel Roman Quebral (B'day Rem)	T'GIVING RIP (2nd A) RIP (A) RIP
Mon 18 9.30am	Acima Da Gama	INT
Tue 19 9.30am 7pm	Francisco & Anamaria Fernandes Sue & Ken Clarke (for Sick/Elderly)	RIP INT
Wed 20 9.30am 11am	Saturnina Bansale FUNERAL - DENZIL MENEZES	RIP (1st A) RIP
Thur 21 9.30am	Cruz & Perpetua Gonsalves	RIP
Fri 22 9.30am 7pm	Seraya Fernandes (B'day) David Crawley	T'GIVING RIP (7th A)
Sat 23 9.30am 10.15am 6pm	Paulina Folake Badejo HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS Zeferino & Elvira Ribeiro	RIP (A) INT RIP (A)
Sun 24 8am 9.30am 11am 7pm	Raymond Crosby Lobo Madeline Margaret McGillicuddy Patricia Doreen Garle Boleslaw & Jan Matusik	RIP RIP RIP RIP

Santuario Lamp is lit for the intentions of Ashley Wells

OTHER REGULAR MASSES, LITURGY

Confessions and Adoration: Saturday 10.15am-11.15am
Confessions: Saturday 4pm-5pm; Morning Prayer: Mon-Fri 9.10am
Rosary: Monday & Friday 10am; St Anthony Devotion: Tues 10am
Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help: Wednesday 10am
Sacred Heart Devotion First Friday 10am
Charismatic Prayer & Intercessory Group: 3rd & 4th Saturday 7pm
Polish Mass: Every Sunday 1pm
Malayalam Mass: 3rd Sun 2.30pm
Filipino Mass: 4th Sat 2.30pm
Nigerian Mass: 4th Sun 2.30pm

Dear Friends,

On the 4th of May, we celebrated the Feast of the English Martyrs. During the Mass I attended, a realisation came to my mind, all Catholics in this country and I have been the heirs of these Martyrs. Without them, Catholicism within England would have disappeared and lost its roots. There are five English seminaries in the world today: two in Rome, one in Spain, and two in England. Of these five, only three have a heritage of descent from the Reformation. In my first year of Seminary in Spain, as I walked the corridors, I would look at portraits of those who died for the faith in this country and feel a heavy weight on my shoulders.

It has been remarked to me that Allen Hall is the Heir of Douai, a college established in France to supply priests for mission to England. However, I have recognised over time that it is not just seminarians and priests who are the heirs of Douai, Valladolid, and Rome, but all those who practice their faith in this country. We are all heirs to the English Martyrs. Because of the fidelity of those missionaries and the families who hid them, the faith survived underground for centuries. The reestablishment wasn't a loss of its heritage but a revitalisation of its presence in the country. We, to this day, join in many of the pieties and traditions of pre-Reformation England, including our devotion to Our Lady of Walsingham and visits to St. Cuthbert in Durham, whose bishop's ring is worn by the bishop of Hexham and Newcastle for ordinations to this day.

Today, Catholicism in this country is rich with the heritage of many cultures from around the world. For many, this is a country of refuge from religious persecution. While our faith is persecuted by others in society, it's parishes like St. Lawrence's that demonstrate the faith will always be alive in this country. So, during this month of May dedicated to Our Lady, I encourage you to pray for the conversion of England, which is and always will be Our Lady's Dowry.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Ashley Wells, Seminarian

PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Mon, Wed, Thur: 10.00am-12noon & Fri: 12.30-2.30pm
Tues, Sat & Sun: Office Closed

SCRIPTURE READINGS (Year A)

Today: Seventh Sunday of Easter p.275
Morning Prayer Week 3
Next week: Pentecost Sunday p.279

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Bernadine of Siena (1380-1444) Feast Day May 20
Patron of Advertisers, PR, Chest ailments, gambling addicts
"The highest form of humility is to serve others without expecting anything in return.."

PARISH CONTACTS

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Ashley Wells

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CATECHESIS CORNER

The third person of the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Spirit, is sometimes referred to as “the forgotten” member of the Godhead. He is, no doubt, the least spoken of among the three persons of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As Catholics, we believe the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Holy Trinity—fully divine, co-eternal, and equal to the Father and Son. As the “Lord and Giver of Life,” the Spirit is the personal love between the Father and Son, acting as the Sanctifier who inspires Scripture, guides the Church, and dwells within believers to bring them to holiness. The Holy Spirit is received at Baptism and strengthened through Confirmation. The Spirit builds up, animates, and sanctifies the Church, enabling it to maintain truth. The Holy Spirit bestows seven gifts: Wisdom (seeing things from God's perspective), Understanding (grasping spiritual truths), Counsel (right judgment in accordance with God's will), Fortitude (strength in trials), Knowledge (knowing God's will and truths), Piety (deep devotion to God), Fear of the Lord (reverence for God's majesty). These seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are drawn from Isaiah 11:2, “The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord”. Note that these gifts are interconnected, and complement one another. Saint Paul also itemised the gifts of the Holy Spirit in his writings. For instance, in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, he mentioned the following: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miraculous powers, prophecy, distinguishing spirits, speaking in tongues, and interpretation of tongues. The ones itemised in Isaiah and adopted by the church are understood as stable gifts meant for the individual, because they shape a believer's character so that he or she can live a holy life consistently. On the other hand, gifts like healing, prophecy, interpretation, miracles, discernment of spirits etc as itemised by Saint Paul are what we regard as Charisms or Charismatic gifts. They are given for the service of the church and others. What this means is that the Seven Gifts are inward, shaping our heart, while the Charismatic Gifts are outward, serving others, and if you have the inward gifts, the outward gift naturally flows.

MORNING CONFESSIONS AND ADORATION back to the usual time from 23rd May.

CHILDREN AT MASS Parents and Guardians thank you for bringing your children to Mass and to the Lord. It is important that we all help in the formation of each other, helping children to understand that they have an important place and role in the Church and in the parish. If you have a baby that needs to be fed during Mass, please do not hesitate to feed them, even if this means in your seat. Toddlers and older children are at the age of being taught more and more about Mass, as best we can, encouraging them not to eat during Mass so that they can transition to the ‘fast’ later on in their lives. If your child cries, please do not worry; it is their contribution to the Mass and, perhaps, even telling us priests and deacons to shorten our homilies! If you feel your child is getting irritable or distracted, again, do not worry, please use a soft toy to distract them or, if needed, please do take them to the porch or outside to settle them down, but remember to come back in, come back to your church home. One request I have is that we teach our children the difference between the beauty and sacredness of church and the role of a school playground, for example, making sure they do not hurt themselves by running around, tripping over, and please do not let the children go near the candle stands. I have often found that having the children close to you and close to the front of the church not only helps them focus on everything that is happening on the Sanctuary, it also keeps them interested, distraction-free. So, again, we welcome you and your families for as full a participation at Mass as possible. Parents and Guardians, you are the first and best teachers of the faith, and we encourage you and support you in your vocation.

SAFEGUARDING IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF US ALL It is important that we all, as a parish family, commit to positive safeguarding, remembering that safeguarding in everyone's responsibility. It is so important to look out for each other, to care for each other and to safeguard each other. If you have any concerns regarding the safety or wellbeing of a child or vulnerable adult please see the information in the porch, on the parish Safeguarding notice board, on what to do and where to reach out for help. If you have an immediate concern and you believe a child or vulnerable adult is at immediate risk, our responsibility is to seek the help of the Police, calling 999. We also have our parish Safeguarding Reps, Marinha and Victor, who are a valuable resource, as well as the parish clergy and team. Please do not hesitate to be in contact if you have any concerns or questions.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING Is an important tool for keeping up-to-date and fresh with safeguarding strategies and developments. Many of us undertake safeguarding training aligned with our employment, volunteering and other commitments, and the Church also offers free online safeguarding training, with new materials currently available from the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA). Whilst this training is available to all, and I would encourage as many parishioners as possible to undertake this online training, it is mandatory for clergy, staff and volunteers. Please use one of the two links below to complete training as soon as possible, and if you are new to online training from the CSSA, once you have accessed the links, please choose the ‘REGISTER FOR FREE’ button to proceed. Please inform the parish office when you have completed your training, including the role you undertake in the parish, for our records.

1.Clergy, Trustees, Employees and DBS Volunteers:

<https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/course/westminster-archdiocese>

2.Volunteers without DBS:

<https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/course/safeguarding-for-volunteers-in-the-catholic-church-13>

CONSIDERING PRIESTHOOD? Fr Mike has been one of the two Diocesan Vocation Promoters for the past 8 years and has accompanied many through the process of discerning a call to priesthood. If anyone in our parish has any questions about vocation or you would like to have an initial conversation about a call to priesthood, please do not hesitate to make contact with him. If you are younger than 18 years-of-age, then this request and continued communication must come from parents / guardians. Do not be afraid to respond to the voice of the Good Shepherd; He will only ever lead you to where He needs you to do Him some definite service.

WEEKLY HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD Please do come and pray for vocations, especially vocations to the priesthood here in our own diocese. Archbishop Richard has asked that Holy Hours will take place in parishes to promote this prayer intention and, for us, the remaining Holy Hours will be as follows: **Week Three (16th May, 4pm)** Pray for seminarians in their formation. **Week Four (23rd May, 10.15am)** Pray for your parish's priests and all clergy serving in the diocese.

THANK YOU to the organisers, volunteers and Parish Pastoral Council members for the superbly enjoyable Lourdes Fundraiser ‘Race Night’ last Saturday. It was superbly successful for parish socialising, with great laughter, and a wonderful chance to fundraise. To all involved, Thank You!

REST IN PEACE - We pray for the repose of the souls of Denzil Menezes and Manuel Pais Da Cunha. Funeral details on the notice board. May they rest in eternal peace.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

9th-10th May Loose: £1,511.90, Envelopes: £224.05
Total: £1,735.95 Race Night: £1,206.00

HSBC BANK ACCOUNT NAME: WRC DT FELTHAM
Account Number: 71095528 Sort Code: 40-05-20

Please add your Surname, First Name as a reference, to help our bookkeeper, and indicate if it is for a Donation, Baptism, Mass, etc.