

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Jerzy, Zofia & Michal Matuszewski; Lily Avery; John Moyna; Colm O'Reilly;
Masline Joseph;
and all the faithful departed.

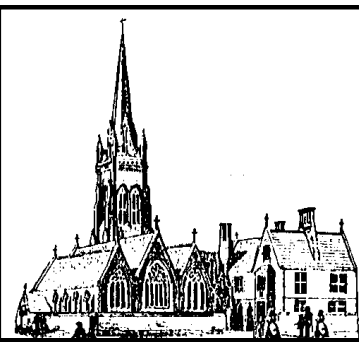
Our Saturday Mass is usually offered for those who are unwell

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2026
Parish Mass Book Page 105

Saturday	18th	6.00 pm Jerzy, Zofia & Michal Matuszewski (RIP)	
SUNDAY	19th	8.30 am	The people of the Parish
		10.00 am	Lily Avery (RIP - anniv)
16th SUNDAY IN		12 Noon	Ints of John & Teresa Crowley (70th wedding anniversary)
ORDINARY TIME		6.00 pm	John Moyna (RIP - anniv)
Monday	20th	9.30 am	-
Tuesday	21st	9.30 am	-
		10.00 am	<i>Tuesday Morning Prayer Group</i>
		2.30pm	<i>St Anthony of Padua Prayer Group</i>
Wednesday	22nd	<i>No Mass today. Church is closed,</i>	
St MARY MAGDALENE			
Thursday	23rd	9.30 am	-
St BRIDGET OF SWEDEN (C0-Patron of Europe)			
Friday	24 th	9.30 am	Colm O'Reilly (RIP - anniv)
St Charbel MakhluF		11.00 am	Funeral Mass of Annie Gormley(RIP)
Saturday	25th	10.00 am	The sick and housebound
St JAMES THE GREAT, APOSTLE		10.30 am	<i>Exposition and Benediction</i>

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 5.00 - 5.40PM

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY
11AM - 3PM, (Closed on Wednesday except Holy Days)**



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
St THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, FULHAM**

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Dear Friends

Last Sunday, whilst on vacation at his summer residence near Rome, Pope Leo commented on the great Parable of the Sower that we all heard at Mass, with some good advice for the weeks of summer, and quoting oone of the gretest of the Fathers of the Church. Here's what he said:

"Jesus himself, the Word made flesh, who gave his life for our salvation, is the seed that the Father continues to sow throughout the world so that, by dying, he may bear much fruit (cf. Jn 12:24). It is true that sometimes he finds in us hard and unresponsive soil, at other times distracted soil, like the beaten path, the rocky ground, or the thorny bushes. Yet there are also moments when he finds receptive and fertile ground, and then miracles of love are set in motion that have the power to transform everything — as we ourselves have no doubt experienced in our own lives. For this reason, the Father never ceases to sow, because he knows that the power of his love is stronger than our weakness...

Referring to the "seed" of the Word of God, Saint John Chrysostom asks, "How could it be reasonable to sow among thorns, on rocky ground, or on the path? In the case of seeds and soil, it would not be reasonable; but in the case of souls and doctrine, it is altogether praiseworthy" because in God's hands it is possible that "rocky ground may be transformed into fertile soil; that the path may no longer be trampled underfoot or exposed to every passer-by, but become rich earth; and that the thorns may be cleared away and the seed may enjoy complete security"

Let us therefore resolve, especially during these summer days of vacation, to make room for listening to, reading, and meditating on the Word of God, thereby fostering — together with rest and wholesome recreation — meaningful moments of silence and prayer. In this way, we shall return to our usual activities renewed in body and spirit, ready to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel and ever more capable of contributing to the growth of the Kingdom of God."

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

S.V.P.(SOCIETY OF St VINCENT DE PAUL): The next meeting of our new SVP Conference is on Thursday 17 September at 7.30pm in No. 62.

- We are seeking to know if there are people with mobility issues who would get to church if a lift was available. Know anyone in this situation? Please contact the office or Fr James
- The Food Hub collection is up and running, and you'll find the collection point at the back of church near St Joseph's shrine. Posters in church show you what items are needed for donation.
- **Our SVP branch here in Fulham is selling tickets for the annual SVP summer raffle. Proceeds will go towards furthering the SVP's objective of 'Turning concern into action'. The top prize is £5,000, with £1,000 for second place, and 15 additional prizes of £100 each. Tickets will be sold after mass throughout the summer for £1 each, with the draw taking place on 24th September. ON SALE TODAY**
- **Currently the contact telephone number for any calls to the SVP is the Parish Telephone: 020 7385 4040**

St THOMAS' FRIENDS FOR FRIENDS SUMMER PICNIC: Pietro writes: The picnic of St Thomas Friends for Friends is confirmed for **SUNDAY, 19th July after the 12:00 Mass**. We all bring our food and drinks and we share. **Everybody is invited**. If it is not raining (!), we will go to Bishop's Park, in the area in front of Doneraile Road. Participants should make their way independently, but if someone needs a lift they can write to me at stradapie@gmail.com and we'll do our best to organise a lift. If it is raining, we would go to n.62. We expect to start eating by ca. 13:45, and the picnic to end by ca. 16:00.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM SAT 19 SEPT: The cost of hiring a coach for this is now too much to make it possible for us. So, we are combining with White City parish. See the sign-up sheet in church: We have 24 places. The cost for coach + pilgrim donation is £30. Coach leaves 7am and return is about 8pm. It is a long day, but usually a lovely event. This year with Archbishop Richard.

ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT GOING TO UNIVERSITY SOON? See the flyers in church for information about Catholic support for student societies. Contact www.catholicstudentnetwork.co.uk

NEWS FROM RIGHT TO LIFE UK: Unfortunately, Lauren Edwards MP has confirmed that she is bringing back Kim Leadbeater's assisted suicide Bill, with the next vote in the House of Commons on Friday 11 Sept. This means that we have just over 9 weeks to ensure MPs understand why this dangerous Bill must be rejected then. The good news is that it is going to be much more difficult for the assisted suicide lobby to gain traction and win this vote compared to the last time.

The assisted suicide lobby has now lost the last two major battles it has fought and only 12 MPs need to change their minds for the Bill to be defeated. Some MPs have already indicated that they may change their vote to oppose assisted suicide, so we should be encouraged. But we are not there yet, and this is going to be a big battle. *Right To Life UK* has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you email your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons on 11 September.

Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide: <https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>

PROPOSED SUNDAY PARKING RESTRICTIONS: The Council is proposing to extend parking restrictions on Saturday evenings and all day Sunday to every street in the vicinity of the church. If you have an option to take part in the consultation survey, please, if you feel able, opt to keep things as they are. Restrictions will cause problems for many worshippers.

CALLING YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS (AGE 18-35): **"EVANGELIUM" CONFERENCE:** 21 - 23 August at Oratory School, Reading. A conference on Catholic faith, life and culture to help make faithful young Catholic adults effective for mission. Many fine speakers.

INFORMATION FROM URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS WIMBLEDON: Join one of our open events to hear why Ursuline High School may be the right choice for your child, take a tour of the school, and meet many staff and students. In addition, we'll share our prospectus, enrichment, wellbeing & personal development programmes, the application process and other important information. **YEAR 7 (MAIN SCHOOL), 2027+ ENTRY Open Evening:** Wed 23rd Sept 6.00 – 8.30pm.

Open Mornings: Monday 28th September – Friday 2nd October 2026. See poster or visit: www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/admissions/open-events-2/

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE SAT 1ST AUGUST: This pilgrimage, led by Bishop Peter Collins of East Anglia, will go to England's Nazareth, the National Catholic Shrine at Walsingham. In the last year abortion up to birth has been legalised and there is a continued effort to make assisted suicide legal. Please join the pilgrimage to help build the 'great prayer for Life' asked for by Pope St John Paul II. Coaches from Westminster Cathedral and Southwark St George's Cathedral, details on poster in church.