

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Peter & Annie Byrne & Deceased of Byrne Family; Eddie Green; Anthony Whyatt;
Yen Yee Chong and all the faithful departed.

Our Saturday Mass is usually offered for those who are unwell

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2026 Parish Mass Book Page 114

Saturday	8th	6.00 pm	Peter & Annie Byrne (RIP - annivs)
SUNDAY	9th	8.30 am	Charles Poon (RIP)
		10.00 am	The People of the Parish
19th SUNDAY IN		12 Noon	Eddie Green (RIP)
ORDINARY TIME		6.00 pm	-

Monday	10th	9.30 am	Ints of Stuart Peters-Gates (Health)
St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr			

Tuesday	11th	9.30 am	Anthony Whyatt (RIP)
St Clare, Virgin			
		10.00 am	<i>Tuesday Morning Prayer Group</i>
		2.30pm	<i>St Anthony of Padua Prayer Group</i>

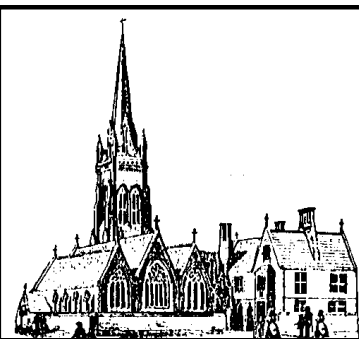
Wednesday	12th	<i>No Mass today. Church is closed,</i>	
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Thursday	13th	9.30 am	-
		11.00 am	Funeral Liturgy for Yen Yee Chong

Friday	14th	9.30 am	-
St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr			

Saturday	15th	10.00 am	The sick and housebound
		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
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Dear Friends

The weeks of Summer, especially if we get time of vacation either spent at home, or travelling away with family or friends or even alone, provide a good opportunity to spend a little more time reading books. This was the advice Pope Leo gave last week in noting the work of the Vatican Publishing House.

He is not alone. Pope Francis had made a point of urging everyone, and especially students for the priesthood, to read more novels! He said "...during the summer, finding a good book to read can provide an oasis that keeps us from other choices that are less wholesome" and encouraged people to put aside the mobile telephone and social media in order to immerse themselves in literary works.

Pope Leo last asked us to look at a book as an opportunity to think, to encounter others, and to proclaim Christ.

"In the digital age," he said, "the physicality of the book reminds us of the role of thought, reflection and study." Reading, he added, "nourishes the mind" and helps form "a conscious and well-formed critical sense."

The Pope also emphasized the social power of reading. "When we hold a book in our hands, we ideally encounter its author," he said. A book also connects readers across time: those who have read it before, those reading it now, and those who will read it in the future. Echoing Pope Francis' emphasis on the "culture of encounter," Leo called a book "a bridge to others, a source of dialogue that enriches us, a stimulus to expand our own perspective."

He pointed to the lasting power of saintly lives and spiritual writing: "We know well how reading a saint's biography or a well-written spiritual reflection can touch the heart." The Pope then evoked familiar sacred images: Mary reading Scripture at the Annunciation, St. Anthony of Padua holding the Gospels, and his own spiritual master St Augustine seated before a book, sometimes shown with a heart in his hand - "truth and charity."

"At the school of Mary and the Saints," Leo said, "let us nourish ourselves with the Word of God, so that it may shape our way of thinking and acting."

Happy Summer reading to everyone!

Fr James

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**

WELCOME TO DEVON PETRIE: Devon is one of our seminarians, discerning his vocation to the priesthood and studying at Allen Hall. It is important that each of our students has a place in the diocese to call "home" and Devon will now have his home here at St Thomas's. He is not on placement here and much of the time will be resident in the seminary. However, during vacations and at other times he will be here with us.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Usually on 15 August, this year this great Solemnity and Day of Obligation is moved to **Sunday 16th** in England - just in case you were wondering about the week's schedule!

200 CLUB JUNE DRAW: There were 109 members for the June draw. The winners are: 32: Pearlana Lettman £136.25; 107: David Rolls £27.25; 108: Bridget Rooney £27.25; 97: Fergal O'Sullivan £16.35; 85: Angela Moyna £16.35; 164: Gabriella Logue £16.35. Congratulations to the winners. **The 200 Club is our Parish Lottery - you have to be in it to win it! Application forms by the side door of church.**

PROPOSED SUNDAY PARKING RESTRICTIONS: The period of consultation ended this week. However, it is still worth contacting your MP, Councillors and Council Officers to register opposition to the plan to impose all day

parking restrictions seven days a week around the church.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2026, SAT 5 SEPT: The *March for Life* is a growing act of witness in the UK and many other nations, not just Catholics but all pro-life communities. The theme this year is "Abortion hurts the family." Details of the theme and events at www.marchforlife.co.uk . 10.30 – 1pm Pro-Life Family Summit with events for all ages at Emmanuel Centre, Marsham St SW1



10.30am Mass at Westminster Cathedral with many of the bishops of England and Wales

March 1.30pm Tufton St, SW1 – **3pm** Parliament Square for speeches.

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 5 places remaining.** 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

ENDORSEMENT OF SCHOOL APPLICATIONS: If you will be seeking the endorsement of a school application for ANY PURPOSE, Nursery, Primary, Secondary transfer etc, for ANY school or institution, between Sept - January, please register your intent with Fr James TODAY after your Sunday Mass. If you have any questions or doubts - ask Fr James after your Sunday Mass. (*Please note: Fr James won't be able to respond to Email or take telephone enquiries on this subject.*) Ample provision to meet to discuss possible endorsements will be available, but close to the closing dates for applications Fr James will be on annual leave.

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/