



# ST FRANCIS DE SALES' CHURCH

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PARISH PRIEST: FR WOJCIECH STACHYRA SCHR

WESTMINSTER DIOCESE CHARITY No 233699

PARISH OFFICE: WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY: 9 AM – 5 PM

## 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022

Saturday	14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	6 pm	Neil McGee RIP
<b>Sunday</b>	15 <sup>th</sup>		9 am	Carlo Ioannon RIP
			11 am	Mary Hagan RIP
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday of Easter	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	Memorial of St Dunstan	9.30 am	Memory of Fr Martin
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>	Weekday of Easter	9.30 am	Holy Souls
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	6 pm	Mary & John Small
<b>Sunday</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup>		9 am	People of the parish
			11 am	Ann Macpherson RIP

Returning to Mass at Pentecost. An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales. This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity: 'The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.' It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as 'the Sunday Obligation.'

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. 'Virtual viewing' of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence.

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord's Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

Approved by the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops' Conference; Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parishioners,

A number of you have asked whether it is still necessary to wear masks when coming to the church. It is, as you know, no longer a legal requirement but at St Francis de Sales we have continued to encourage mask wearing as well as hand sanitising so that the more vulnerable among us continue to feel safe while Covid infections still remain relatively high. However, we understand that as mask wearing becomes less common elsewhere, including in other churches, many of you will have got out of the habit of carrying one with you. We do still want everyone who comes to Mass, especially those who are returning with some anxiety after a long absence, to feel safe, so, if you do have masks available, we will continue to encourage you to wear them. However, if you do arrive at the church without a mask or, if you find it especially uncomfortable or inconvenient to wear one then we certainly won't turn you away. We want our parish community to continue to grow and to be happy and joyful as we worship together. Many visitors to our church have congratulated us on our safety measures and we will continue to do all we can to make all feel welcome and safe. Thank you, as always, for your understanding. For the PPC: Peter Stuart

**LIVING WORD CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP** invites parishioners of St. Francis De Sales RC Church, Hampton to our ONLINE prayer meeting/Fellowship every Friday evening at 7pm. We also meet once a month at the parish Hall and the church TBA. For more times and dates we meet please email us at livingwordccr@gmail.com. Contact Sam on M: 07450355567 or Peter Stuart M: 07841419709

**THANK YOU** to the team of Confirmation catechists. Congratulations and God bless to all the young people of our parish and Sacred Heart parish, Teddington who received their Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday. We pray that the Holy Spirit enlightens and guides them with prudence of heart, mind and soul.



**PRIEST TRAINING FUND** Thank you for your contribution last weekend. The response of prayer for vocations, love and concern for the clergy, and for the current seminarians, was heart-warming. We raised £203.40 towards the same. If you still wish to donate, please use the QR code.

**OBITUARY** We are sad to announce the passing of: 1. Deacon Duncan's wife, **Ann Macpherson RIP** (funeral details awaited) 2. **Rosemary Sugden RIP**. Funeral will take place at St Francis de Sales on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 10:30am, followed by a committal at midday at Mortlake Crematorium. May their souls rest in the peace of our Lord.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** Cardinal Vincent will be leading the annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022. For details and to book call 01732 886666 or visit [www.tangney-tours.com/westminster](http://www.tangney-tours.com/westminster)

**OUR PARISH NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** Please consider volunteering in our parish. We have many roles available and the times are flexible. We are looking for new members for **Readers, Sacristan, Counters, Catechists, Flower Arrangers, Gardeners, Stewards, Welcomers and Cleaners**. Most roles require one or two hours a month and it is an opportunity to meet members of your parish community and give back to your parish. Our existing teams in each of these areas do a fantastic job for which we are very grateful, but they need reinforcement. Also, anyone with any ideas that they think would add to the church and parish community are very welcome to get in touch. Please email the parish office.

**UKRAINE HOSTING SCHEME EVENT** to support people seeking sanctuary will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 6.30 - 8pm via Zoom. Join Caritas Westminster and the Jesuit Refugee Service for an information session on hosting refugee guests. This session is open to those who are hosting, would like to learn more, or would like to join a group to discern what a wider welcome could look like. This session is a part of the wider Diocesan Community of Support; set up in response to the government's Homes for Ukraine Scheme, the Afghan Refugee Response, and the wider situation of asylum seekers and refugees in the Diocese of Westminster. Visit <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/ukraine-hosting-scheme-supporting-people-seeking-sanctuary-1340.php> or Caritas Westminster's Eventbrite Page

**VOCATION TO PRIESTHOOD & RELIGIOUS LIFE** Please pick a copy of Allen Hall seminary news from the welcoming area. If interested, your first point of contact is the Vocations Promotion Team: Canon Stuart Wilson: 07515 065696 [vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:vocationspromoter@rcdow.org.uk), Fr Mike Maguire: 020 8994 2877 [vocations@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:vocations@rcdow.org.uk)

**UPDATING CHURCH RECORDS** Please keep the parish updated with any changes to your email, home address or phone number. There are (new) parishioner forms in the Welcoming Area to assist you with this.

**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** by appointment only.

**BAPTISMS** Request for an appointment with the parish priest through e-mail.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES** <https://rcdow.org.uk/marriage-and-family-life/marriage-preparation/catholic-marriage-preparation-in-the-diocese-of-westminster/>

**ITEMS FOR THE PARISH BULLETIN** must be submitted to the Parish office by 12 noon on Thursdays in writing or by e-mail [hamptonhill@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hamptonhill@rcdow.org.uk)

**MASS INTENTIONS** If you would like a Holy Mass said on a specific date, it should be booked in advance. Please let Parish Office know or fill in a Mass card or envelope.

**IF YOU ARE ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL** please tell the staff to register you as Roman Catholic on your patient records. The current Covid 19 restrictions mean that parish clergy are not permitted to visit the wards, however the Catholic hospital chaplain will visit you if requested, just ask the nurse in charge on the ward.

**HIRE OF HALL** Please contact Trish Greenwood on 020 8977 6413.

**SAFEGUARDING** If you have any concerns or require advice regarding the safety or well-being of a child or vulnerable adult, please contact our parish safeguarding rep on: [hamptonhillsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:hamptonhillsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk). You can also contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 020 77989356 [safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk)

**MSZA ŚWIĘTA** w języku polskim w każdą niedzielę o godz. 10.00am, 11.30 am w St Edwards Hall, 25 Lower Teddington Road, Hampton Wick, KT1 4HB. Serdecznie zapraszamy.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** to support your parish financially. Because of the pandemic, most parishes have experienced the challenge of greatly reduced income. Our community and parish ministry needs your ongoing financial support to survive. The parish finance committee kindly ask parishioners to move away from giving cash or using planned giving envelopes for the Sunday collection. We are encouraged instead to use the method of Standing Order or donate online. Our account details are: **WRCDDT St Francis de Sales Church Hampton Hill** Sort Code **40-05-20** Account Number **61095447** or <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hamptonhill/donate/> You can also make donations for the upkeep of the church and parish by using the contactless payment device, which are in the porch, just before you enter the church. Volunteers are available to assist, if required. **GIFT AID:** If you are a UK tax payer, we strongly encourage you to Gift Aid your donation, as the government will top up your donation by 25 percent, meaning a £20 offering becomes £25. The parish relies heavily on this extra support which comes at no additional cost to you. This facility is also available on the contactless device, and we urge you to use it. If you have any questions on Gift Aid, please contact the parish office. Thank you for your continued financial support for your parish church.

#### Last week's offertory

loose	£196.67	envelopes	£178.00	contactless	£ 203.00
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