

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Wanstead

Second Sunday of Lent (B) - 28th February 2021

Newsletter



"This is my Son, the Beloved."

Fr Patrick Sammon & Fr Adrian Lowe

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YouTube Channel <http://tiny.cc/OLOLE11>

Father Adrian Reflects . . .

A few weeks ago, I used Zoom (the video software) to speak with my oldest school friend via the Internet - we have known each other since we were twelve, so a long time! I was in Rome for four years, until last year, and then when I returned we were in lockdown, so we have not been able to meet for a long time. It was great to have an hour-long conversation where we could see each other. We have one of those friendships where we can always pick up where we left off and there was a lot to catch up with! It was on a screen, but it was still good to hear about his family and see his wife and children: they have grown so much since we were last able to meet.

Although we had a wonderful conversation, and sat there with our mugs of coffee and a snack, it wasn't the same as meeting and sharing a meal together. I was reminded how this is similar to viewing Mass on screen. It is possible to attend Mass in our parish with our regular schedule of daily and Sunday Masses but there are many people who are still having to shield, or who do not feel able to attend Mass at the moment, and the online facility to watch church services has been a great help. The obligation to come to Mass has been suspended by our bishops and no one should feel pressured to come to church if they do not feel it is right for them, but we must also realise that watching Mass at home is not the same as being at Mass. It is a little like the Zoom conversation I had with my friend - it is better than nothing at the moment but we look forward to actually meeting and sharing together.

God is everywhere and in all things, but Jesus left us the Mass and Eucharist so we can enjoy his physical presence and receive his very being into our lives. Watching Mass on the Internet is an amazing use of technology - a comfort for many people to be able to see their church and priests, and perhaps also interesting to visit other

parishes and shrines on our screens, but we remember the beautiful words of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux,

'Think, then, that Jesus is there in the Tabernacle expressly for you, for you alone; He is burning with the desire to enter your heart.'

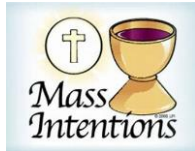
It is fine to watch Mass online at the moment and we are nourished by doing so, but we think of Jesus longing for us, waiting for us to be with him at Mass when we all attend. Hopefully, as things gradually return to normal, more people will be confident to return to church and receive the full nourishment of the Mass which Jesus promises us. Once again, daily Mass and Sunday Masses are here for you to come to at Our Lady of Lourdes.





Stay safe and have a good week.

God bless
Father Adrian

RIP Our sympathy and prayers to Linda Gerrish on the death of her young cousin Tracie Barry. May she rest in peace.

Michael Waters former priest of our diocese and Fr John O'Brien Parish Priest of St Thomas Moore Barking. May they rest in peace



Sunday 28 th February	8am Private Intention 9.30am Michael Reddan RIP  11.30am Kate Hayes RIP 6.30pm Clary Porter RIP.
Monday 1 st March	9am Rob Brazier RIP
Tuesday 2 nd March	8am Holy Souls Please note change of mass time. 9am Funeral Mass Pat Hetherington
Wednesday 3 rd March	 9am Norma Hawkins RIP 10.30am Funeral Mass Gérard Crosby RIP
Thursday 4 th March	9am Private Intention
Friday 5 th March	9am Terence Smith RIP
Saturday 6 th March	9am David Mills RIP 6.30pm John and Hannah Stack RIP (Gerrish).
Sunday 7 th March	8am People of Parish 9.30am Sister Perpetua Lynch RIP  11.30am Lyndsey Rita Alston RIP 6.30pm Edward Benson RIP
 Live streamed Masses are via our YouTube Channel at http://tiny.cc/OLOLE11	

PLEASE REMEMBER your face coverings when attending Mass and to sanitise your hands on your arrival and as you leave the church. If you have the NHS COVID 19 app on your smartphone, please scan the church QR code every time you visit the church.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Pat Hetherington Reception of body into Church 6pm 1st March.
Funeral Mass 9am Tuesday 2nd March.

Gerard Crosby Reception of body into Church 5pm 2nd March
Funeral Mass 3rd March 10.30am.

David Coote Reception of body into Church 6pm 17th March
Funeral Mass 18th March 3pm.

Iris Finney Funeral Mass 25th March 2pm

Our Sympathy and Prayers to the families of the deceased,
May They Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory

PRAYERS PLEASE This week can we pray for all whose anniversary of death occurs this week, for the sick and housebound, for all in our nursing and care homes, for those in hospital and all NHS staff, for our schools staff and pupils, and for all who have asked for the prayers of the community.

THE ROSARY lead by members of the parish community will be uploaded to the Parish YouTube Channel at 8pm every Wednesday during Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be uploaded to the Parish YouTube Channel at 8pm every Friday during Lent.

LENT COURSE – The second session of this year's Lent Course will be held on Tuesday 2nd March on 8pm on WHO IS JESUS? via Zoom – if you are interested in joining and haven't registered please email the parish office at: wanstead@dioceseofbrentwood.org

BAPTISMS. It is possible to conduct Baptisms. Numbers are limited to 6 people including child.

STEWARDS if you can help with stewarding at mass please contact Bernie Dando our site manager via wanstead@dioceseofbrentwood.org Your help would be greatly appreciate.

PARISH OFFICE. The parish office is closed at present and will not reopen until it is safe to do so. The Parish Secretary is not in the office. Requests for certificates etc should be made by email wanstead@dioceseofbrentwood.org. The priests are not available for face-to-face meetings - unless its urgent Unfortunately it is not possible for the priests to visit homes hospitals or care home's. If end of life spiritual assistance is required by a loved one, please phone the Presbytery on 0208 989 2074 to make arrangements.

100 CLUB Renewal forms are being posted this weekend and I do ask parishioners please to renew their subscriptions. It is just £60 for the year with 3 cash prizes each month. What a bargain! A marvellous way to help the parish and win a cash prize. Proceeds go to parish funds. There are renewal forms in the church porch. If you have not subscribed before, do not miss this wonderful opportunity. New members are always welcome. Thank you.



The parish is on Facebook & Twitter @OLOLE11 and on Instagram at @OLOL_E11 please follow or like these pages and ask your family and fellow parishioners to do the same.

Sunday Mass is live streamed on our YouTube channel every Wednesday & Sunday <http://tiny.cc/OLOLE11> - please subscribe today.

GIFT AID 2021–22 Due to the COVID situation, this year's new Gift Aid boxes have been posted out using second class post during w/c 22 February. The boxes do not need to be used until 12th April which is the first Sunday after Easter but if you have not received a box in the post by the end of March please let the parish office know.

We would also like to clarify:

- Easter 2021 (April 2 - 4) falls within the 20 -21 tax year - so you should have an Easter envelope for this in your existing set. If not, please use one of the green special collection envelopes in your current set or one of the white offertory envelopes at the back of the church for your Easter donation.
- Whereas Easter 2022 (April 15 - 17) falls within the 22 - 23 tax year - The net result of this is that there is not an envelope specifically for Easter in the new set of envelopes

Finally, because of COVID, some parishioners have been unable in the last year to use the Gift Aid envelope system at all during 2020 – 2021. If you are one of those parishioners, it is possible that we may not have posted you a new set for 2021 - 2022, so please let us know by email or phone and we will do so.

PARISH FINANCES With fewer people attending mass now due to COVID restrictions parish Finances have been severely depleted. If you are in arrears with your envelope contributions please send in your envelope ASAP. Thank you for your support.

Contributions to the parish can be made via a page on the Brentwood Diocesan website at:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=wanstead>
or by scanning our QR code with your smartphone
and selecting “General Offertory”.



You can, if you prefer, make a payment directly into the parish bank account using online banking. You will need to set up the OLOL Wanstead Parish as a payee on your online banking app or internet page.

The Parish Bank details are as follows:

Account Name:	<i>Catholic Church Wanstead Our Lady of Lourdes</i>
Sort Code:	<i>40-13-22</i>
Account number:	<i>71018973</i>