



Our Lady
Lourdes
Wanstead

ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com



Seventh Sunday – 1st Sunday of Lent

23rd February—9th March 2025

Parish Priest
Father Martin Boland

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GENERAL PARISH NEWS

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN) APPEAL on 1/2 March will be given by the National Director, Dr Caroline Hull and Mr John Ravi.

ACN supports over 5,000 projects helping the Church's mission internationally. ACN has stepped up its support for Christians in Lebanon, Syria and Holy Land in response to the deepening crisis offering food, medicine, help with education, pastoral programmes and other desperately-needed assistance. This year, ACN is also focusing on the suffering of young Christians in priority countries, many of whom are orphaned and displaced due to targeted attacks against their Christian communities. There will be a retiring collection after all Masses.

If you wish to get involved in the charity, or if you wish to be an ACN volunteer, please contact John Ravi on 07932 973650, John.Ravi@acnuk.org or you can go to www.acnuk.org.

LAST YEAR'S PALMS Please bring your old palms and leave them in the trays in the entrances to the church. These palms will be burnt down to make ashes that will be used on **Ash Wednesday**.

ASH WEDNESDAY is on the 5th of March and marks the beginning of the forty days of Lent, a time of spiritual preparation for individuals and a community for the Easter Vigil. Mass times with imposition of ashes will be at 9.15 a.m. and 7.00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS every Friday evening at 7.00 p.m.

R. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

V. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Please note that there will be no evening Adoration of Blessed Sacrament during Lent.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FINAL HYMN AT SUNDAY MASS? Lent is forty days of more serious and disciplined preparation for the celebration of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. It is for this reason that our worship is more restrained: we do not sing the joyful Gloria, there are no flowers on the sanctuary and we will not sing a final hymn. This restraint focuses our attention on our relationship with God and a deepening of faithfulness to that relationship.

THE SUNDAY EVENING MASS TIME will be changed to the earlier time of 5.00 p.m. from the First Sunday of Lent, 9th March. Fr Martin would like to thank the Parish Council and those parishioners who expressed a view. These all helped to inform his decision on this matter.

All other Sunday Mass times will remain as they are at present.

TRAINING MORNING FOR OLD AND NEW PARISH READERS on Saturday 8th March 9.00–10.30 a.m. in the Church.

We are grateful to our readers for proclaiming the word of God. But we need new readers, fresh voices, new accents that enrich the proclamation of God's word in our community.

If you would like find out more about serving the community as a reader then please come along to this morning or contact Fr Martin.

It would be good to be able to offer teas and coffees for old and new readers on this morning. Fr Martin is looking for volunteers to help with this. At the moment, he has no one to help. Would you give a hand? If so, please let him know.

LENT CAFOD FAST DAY is on Friday 14th March. Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities suffering the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope.

Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10 or use the QR code at the church entrances.

YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE PARISH would you be interested in joining thousands of other young men and women of secondary school age at Flame 2025 on Saturday 15th March? Tickets £10. To find out more go to www.bcys.net/events/flame2025/ and if you would like to go please contact Fr Martin.

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE on Wednesday 9th April from 7.00 p.m. A number of priests will be available to hear confessions and bring you the healing and mercy of God.

‘When faced with the gravity of sin, God responds with the fullness of mercy. Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive.’ (Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, 3)

HOLY YEAR PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES for *the Feast of the Immaculate Conception*, 8th December. Our first step is to see if there is any interest from parishioners in going to Lourdes at this time. If you are interested, please sign up on the **HOLY YEAR PILGRIMAGE SHEET** at the church entrances.

After we have an idea of interest, we will be in contact with more information.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the souls of

John Scanlon whose Funeral Mass will take place on Friday 28th February at 10.00 a.m. His mortal remains will be received into the Church the evening before at 5.00 p.m.

Margaret “Peggy” Ludlow whose Funeral Mass will take place on Monday 3rd March at 10.30 a.m.

LOURDES HELPERS Thank you for your most generous donations for the recent appeal. The amount of £677.61 raised will help cover the cost of nurses and others who assist. The money will also be used to support pilgrims who otherwise could not afford to come.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY Thank you for your most generous donations. The amount raised was £593.56 For more information: www.cbcew.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday/

VOLUNTEER TO BE AN USHER Thank you so much to those parishioners who kindly volunteered to be an usher. But we are still looking for more volunteers. Ushers in a church play a vital role in creating a welcoming and reverent atmosphere for the celebration of Mass. Their responsibilities typically include:

Welcoming parishioners and visitors. They are the first person that people encounter when they come to Mass and they provide people with a sense of our parish community. **Providing** hymn books, missals and any other information that will help people participate in the celebration of Mass.

Serving as spiritual ambassadors, representing the church and promoting an atmosphere of reverence and worship.

Facilitating the offertory, the collection and assisting with any practical needs during the service.

Ushers are often seen as the first point of contact for parishioners and visitors, making their role essential for a positive experience of coming to the celebration of Mass. Thank you to our present ushers and thank you in advance to those who can volunteer.

Please contact the parish office if you are interested in serving our community in this way.

SUNDAY TEAS AND COFFEES are an enjoyable way to get to know fellow parishioners and play your part in building up our parish community. They run every fortnight and we're in need of additional volunteers to support the rota. To find out more, or to join the rota, please contact Stephanie on 07906 201880 or Katharine on 07468 872564

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT takes place every Friday from 9.30–11.00 a.m. and from 7.00–8.00 p.m.

“Jesus waits for us in this sacrament of love. Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith and ready to make reparation for the great faults and crimes of the world. May our adoration never cease.” St Pope John Paul II.

PARISH FINANCES PAYMENT METHOD

Contributions to the parish can be made online via the Diocesan website at www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?Parish=wanstead or by scanning the QR code shown here with your smartphone and selecting "General Offertory." You can also pay by standing order or bank transfer. If you are a taxpayer, *please* Gift Aid your donations. Any queries, please contact Bob Fox at wansteadfinancegiftaid@brcdt.org



DEVELOPMENT OFFICER FOR CARITAS DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD

A full time vacancy has arisen for a development officer to play a role in supporting, developing and growing the various projects of Caritas, Brentwood. If you would like to know more about the role, please email caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Pastoral Assistants

Carmel Docherty Tel: 07906 406938
Frank Adesegha adesegha@aol.com

Parish Secretary - Eileen Crotty
wanstead@brcdt.org Tel: 0208 989 2074

Chair of Parish Council - Fiona Christison
flumblefly@hotmail.com Tel: 07812 766082

LOLO Site Manager - Bernie Dando
BernadetteDando@brcdt.org

Pastoral Centre Caretaker - Camille Mouquet
Tel: 07464 313389 (Text messages preferred)

To register as a new parishioner - Tricia Webb
wansteadregistrar@brcdt.org

Headteacher OLOL School - Ruth Boon
admin@ourladyoflourdes.redbridge.sch.uk
Tel: 020 8989 9521

Finance and Gift Aid Queries - Bob Fox
wansteadfinancegiftaid@brcdt.org



WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 23rd February—7th Sunday Ordinary Time

6.30 p.m. Vigil Mass— Maria P Bautista Intentions

9.30 a.m. Mass— Timothy J Murphy RIP

11.30 a.m. Mass— Maria Keen RIP

6.30 p.m. Mass— People of the Parish

Monday 24th February St Scholastica

9.00 a.m. Mass— Rosemary O'Connor RIP

Tuesday 25th February

NO MORNING MASS

Wednesday 26th February

9.00 a.m. Mass— Cathriona O'Kelly RIP

Thursday 27th February

9.00 a.m. Mass— Judith & Steve Smith INT

5.00 p.m. Reception of the body of Mr John Scanlon

Friday 28th February

No Morning Mass

10.00 a.m. Funeral Mass of Mr John Scanlon

Saturday 1st March

NO MORNING MASS

9.00—10.00 a.m. Holy Communion Formation

CONFESSIONS 5.00 - 6.00 p.m.

6.30 p.m. Vigil Mass— David Reilly RIP

Sunday 2nd March

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Aid to the Church in Need Appeal

9.30 a.m. Mass— People of the Parish

11.30 a.m. Mass— Nigel Davies RIP

6.30 p.m. Mass— Kitty Kelly RIP

Monday 3rd March

No Morning Mass

10.30 a.m. Funeral Mass of Margaret “Peggy” Ludlow

Tuesday 4th March

NO MORNING MASS

Wednesday 5th March

ASH WEDNESDAY

9.15 a.m. Mass—Helen Conway INT

7.00 p.m. Mass—Cathy Francis INT

Thursday 6th March

9.00 a.m. Mass— John Crosse RIP

Friday 7th March

9.00 a.m. Mass— Annette Crowe INT

Saturday 8th March

NO MORNING MASS

9.00—10.30 a.m. Formation for new and old readers

5.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. **CONFESSIONS**

6.30 p.m. Vigil Mass— Olga Nunes RIP

Sunday 9th March—First Sunday of Lent

9.30 a.m. Mass— David Cote RIP

11.30 a.m. Mass— Leanne de Silva RIP

5.00 p.m. Mass— People of the Parish