

# Holy Trinity Catholic Church

41 Brook Green, London W6 7BL

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Parish Centre website with details re hire: [www.trinityfocus.org](http://www.trinityfocus.org)

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## Twenty-ninth Sunday of the Year 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Today's Readings p.592-595

Is 45:1.4-6; Paul 1:1-5; Mt 22:15-21



### Service Times

**Saturday Vigil Mass 6 pm, Sunday at 8.30 am, 10 am, 11.30 and 6pm**

**Sunday at 1 pm Syriac Rite, in Arabic and Aramaic**

**Mass daily 9.30 am & 6 pm Benediction: Sat. 5-5.40 pm**

**Rosary: prayed in church Mon-Fri at 6.30pm, after Mass**

**Confession: Saturday 10-10.30 am and 5.15-5.40pm**

**First Friday Adoration: 6.30-7.30pm**

**OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 10am-1pm and 2pm-4pm**

**In Today's Gospel** the Pharisees are trying to set a trap for Jesus, so that he will be discredited. They sent their disciples to Jesus along with the supporters of King Herod Antipas. They begin by seeming to praise Jesus as they say. 'Master we know that you are an honest man,' but in the words of a psalm, 'The words they spoke were mere flattery.' In fact, they are tricking Jesus into giving a straight answer to their question, 'Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' The tax in question is a poll tax, (costing a full day's work for a labourer,) payable by every man and woman and needing to be paid in Roman coinage. Ardent Jewish nationalists opposed the tax, and made it the reason for rebellion. Those hostile to Jesus are trying to put him into a no-win situation. If he says the tax should not be paid, he will be seen as setting himself up against the Roman occupying power, and if he says it should be paid, he will make himself the enemy of the Jewish nationalists. Jesus refuses to be caught up in this controversy, and raises the discussion to a higher level. He indicates the head and inscription on the coin – his interlocutors have to agree it is that of Tiberius Caesar, the Roman Emperor. Jesus says that as it clearly belongs to Caesar, it should be paid to him, but makes the deeper point that what belongs to God must be paid to him. The coin bears the image of Caesar: we human beings are made in the image of God, which is inscribed deep within our hearts, and therefore we belong to him – we must give back to God what belongs to God. This is far more important than the debate about the necessity to pay a particular worldly tax.

### **Father Mark receives a new appointment**

Father Mark moves to his new appointment as Assistant Priest in the Parish of St Mary Magdalen Willesden Green in the last week of October. He has shown himself to be a devoted pastor and priest in our parish, and we shall be sad to see him move. Any further donations towards a presentation to Fr Mark can be put through the presbytery letterbox in an envelope marked 'Father Mark Presentation.' Cheques should be made payable to Holy Trinity Brook Green, with 'Father Mark Presentation' written on the back of the cheque. We will make a presentation to Fr Mark at the Masses next weekend - on Saturday evening/Sunday morning 24th/25th October, Fr Mark's last weekend with us. Due to coronavirus restrictions we are unable to have a social gathering, but hope to invite him back to a parish party when such events are again possible! The Cardinal has appointed Father Rajiv Michael, currently a Chaplain of Westminster Cathedral, as our new Assistant Priest here at Holy Trinity, and we shall welcome him at the beginning of November.

**October is the Month of the Holy Rosary.** There is a display of the mysteries of the Rosary on the porch noticeboard. This week it will feature the Sorrowful Mysteries.

The Rosary will be recited at the end of the 6.00 pm Mass this Tuesday.

**There will be no 9.00 am Mass and no 6.00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament this Wednesday, 21st October.**

### **Pope's Prayer Intention for October**

The Laity's mission in the Church. We pray that by the virtue of Baptism, the Laity, especially Women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

### **November is the Month of the Holy Souls**

As usual, a book containing the names of our dear departed will be placed near the altar, and each week several Masses will be offered for the repose of their souls. We invite you to submit the names of those you wish to be prayed for on a sheet of A4 (if possible) paper, which should be placed in an envelope marked Holy Souls, along with a donation towards the Masses, and put through the presbytery letterbox. (We are unable this year to leave special sheets of paper and envelopes in church for you to take for this purpose, as this would infringe the coronavirus regulations.)

## **Certificate of Catholic Practice for Secondary School Applications**

Our priests are available for interviews with parents requesting the signing of such a certificate. You can book an appointment by contacting the parish office, and you will need to obtain and complete an information form to bring with you to the interview.

To comply with Covid safety guidelines, we will allocate 20 minutes for each appointment and will expect you to be on time. If you miss your slot your appointment will have to be rebooked. Parents should ring the office door bell and sanitise their hands before coming to the office. Should a queue develop, only one person at a time will be able to wait inside, hence the importance of arriving on time.

Appointments for interviews concerning **nursery or primary school** applications cannot be made until after half term.

### **Times of Mass for the Week beginning Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October**

*(The Church opens 15 minutes before Mass  
and closes 15 minutes after Mass)*

<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	6.00 pm	First Mass of Sunday
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	8.30 am	Mass
<i>29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Year</i>	10.00 am	Mass
	11.30 am	Mass
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October</b>	6.00 pm	Mass
<i>SS John de Brebeuf &amp; Isaac Jogues</i>		
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	6.00 pm	Mass <i>followed by Rosary till 6.45 pm</i>
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>no Mass or Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	9.00 am	Mass
<i>St John Paul II</i>		
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	9.00am	Mass
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	6.00 pm	First Mass of Sunday
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	8.30 am	Mass
<i>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Year</i>	10.00 am	Mass
	11.30 am	Mass

### **Confessions**

Saturday 6.30 pm

Sunday 12 noon

***We are only allowed to open the church for Mass if volunteer stewards are kindly available to ensure the required hygienic and social distancing arrangements are observed, and to clean thoroughly or sanitise***

*the church after each Mass. If you would like to enquire about volunteering for this ministry, please contact the parish office.*

**Thank you to the children who** come to Sunday or weekday Mass in their Communion outfits.  
**Congratulations** to you and your families on your **First Holy Communion**.

**Congratulations also to our young people** Confirmed on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.  
Please pray for them, for our families, children and young people.

**The new registration** for Confirmation continues this Sunday morning.  
Please leave your details with Sr. Jenefer.

**Adult Initiation:** Kilian Frensch and Ewa Jackson celebrated the Sacraments of Initiation at the end of September. They missed the beautiful Easter Vigil Liturgy, but we are happy to welcome them into the Catholic Church and wish them every happiness and fulfilment in their life as Catholics.  
Joao, who is also part of the RCIA group, will be confirmed at 11.30 Mass on 1<sup>st</sup>. November.

**New enquirers** are always welcome.

The new group of those interested in the Catholic Faith has begun.

For more details speak to Sr. Jenefer or one of the priests, or email [srjenefer@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:srjenefer@rcdow.org.uk)

**Don't miss the online Children's Liturgy** on our Facebook page as well as the reflection with the saint of the day.

Look out for contributions from the new Confirmation candidates, soon.

**Catechists** are invited to register for a **30-minute Zoom reflection on the Saints:**

**LIVE STREAMED FREE OF CHARGE** - A 7-session course on Wednesdays, starting on **Wed 4th November, 2020 @7pm**

Course info: [www.comeandsee.org](http://www.comeandsee.org)

To register for the course: <https://comeandsee.org/registration.html>

**Preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism:** If you have a child for **Baptism** under 5 years old please email us for an application form. You will be contacted once the form has been received. A copy of one of the Catholic parents' baptism certificate will be required. Baptisms can only take place on Saturdays at 11am with special Covid safety measures in place.

## FOUR HOURS ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



**'The Gospel is the Body of Christ'**  
**(St Jerome, Patron of the Year of the Word, 'The God Who Speaks')**  
**Saturday 21st November**  
**Vigil of the Feast of Christ the King**  
**1.00pm – 5.00 pm**

- Every year for the last eight years, we have had the Forty Hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the Thursday – Saturday leading up to the Feast of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the Christian Year.
- This year we cannot hold the full Forty Hours, because of the pandemic.
- But we can keep Four Hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 10% of 40 Hours!
- Our two main intentions will be:
  - All suffering the results of the coronavirus, whether in physical/mental health or economic terms, and all supporting them, and for wisdom for our leaders.
  - For lasting blessings from the special events of 2020: The Year of the Word, and the Year England was Rededicated as the Dowry of Mary, that like her all the people of our parish may hear the Word of God and keep it, including Fr Richard as he prepares to mark the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on 4th December.
- For the Four Hours Adoration to bear fruit, we all need to commit to spending time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament between 1.00 and 5.00 pm on Saturday 21st November.
- Because of the pandemic we cannot display a rota in the porch for you to sign to commit yourself to spending half an hour in church. Instead, **please e mail or contact the parish office** to let us know when you can do this for one of these periods of time: 1.00 -1.30, 1.30 – 2.00, 2.00 – 2.30, 2.30 – 3.00, 3.00 – 3.30, 3.30 – 4.00, 4.00 – 4.30, 4.30 – 5.00 pm.

### **Two Reflections as we Prepare to Celebrate the Four Hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

*Pope Francis reflects on St Jerome, the Patron Saint of the Year of the Word:*

Saint Jerome speaks of the way we ought to approach both the Eucharist and the word of God: 'We are reading the sacred Scriptures. For me, the Gospel is the body of Christ; for me, the holy Scriptures are his teaching. And when he says: whoever does not eat my flesh and drink my blood (Jn 6:53), even though these words can also be understood of the Eucharistic Mystery, Christ's body and blood are really the word of Scripture, God's teaching.'

How can we not heed, in our day, the advice that Jerome unceasingly gave to his contemporaries: “Read the divine Scriptures constantly; never let the sacred volume fall from your hand”? A radiant example of this is the Virgin Mary, evoked by Jerome above all as Virgin and Mother, but also as a model of prayerful reading of the Scriptures. Mary pondered these things in her heart (cf. Lk 2:19.51) “because she was a holy woman, had read the sacred Scriptures, knew the prophets, and recalled that the angel Gabriel had said to her the same things that the prophets had foretold... She looked at her new born child, her only son, lying in the manger and crying. What she saw was, in fact, the Son of God; she compared what she saw with all that she had read and heard”. Let us, then, entrust ourselves to Our Lady who, more than anyone, can teach us how to read, meditate, contemplate and pray to God, who tirelessly makes himself present in our lives.

*From the Apostolic Letter 'Devotion to Sacred Scripture' of Pope Francis, on the 1600th Anniversary of the Death of St Jerome, 30th September, 2020.*

**Thank you to all who have been able to continue giving** in these difficult times. If you wish to make a one-off donation, please use the link on our website: [holytrinityw6.org](http://holytrinityw6.org). We have installed a **Virgin Money Giving** button which allows you to donate by debit or credit card. This is a mobile friendly button. Please make sure to label your donation as Planned Giving (when you normally use envelopes) or simply donation (if not gift aiding).

Alternatively, you may make any offering via bank transfer to:

**HSBC**

**Acc Name:** Westminster Roman Catholic Diocese Trustee, Brook Green Holy Trinity

**Acc no:** 01308173

**Sort Code:** 40-05-20

**Thank you** for remembering that without your donations the parish cannot run. A lot of expenses remain whilst our income has been drastically reduced. We are very grateful for your continued support.

**Planned Giving Envelopes**

Parishioners who are donating by envelopes are kindly requested to come and collect their boxes from the parish office during office hours. Boxes have accumulated in the office and no donations have been received since March. If you are financially able, please contact us to change your planned giving to a standing order. Thank you.

**Mass Intentions**

Requests for Mass intentions can be made by email, by phone or in person. It is customary to make an offering when requesting a Mass intention. This has always been a contribution to the support of the priests of the particular parish where the Mass is being said. The Diocese of Westminster suggests the figure of £10 as a guideline, but it is of course entirely the free choice of the donor to decide this.

**Each Thursday Mass is being offered for all working in the NHS and all Hospital Chaplains**

**Please pray for the sick, especially:** John O’Neill, Noeline Mooney, Peggy Gilroy, Hannah Gallis, Agnes Walopo,

Margaret Carney, Mary Scherer, Charley O'Neill, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Marie Duffy, Irene Macneil, Ethan Hollyman, Francis Brady, Heather Marcille, Breda Moloney, Ray Collins, Christina Sweeney, Jenny Majumdar, Claudia Jaksch, Lyda Franco and Eddie Hughes. **We commend to God those who died recently:** Edward Atkinson, Christopher McSweeney **and those with anniversaries around this time:** Timothy Benn, Helyett Odone and Christine Gastrein.

### **Proposed New Heating System and Nave Floor in Holy Trinity Church**

The present heating system in our church is run by four gas fired boilers, which are in a room high up in the tower. They are over 30 years old and are coming to the end of their life: in fact, we are now reliant on only two of them. They are just about kept going by our supportive heating engineer finding spare parts from old boilers elsewhere, as new spares are no longer manufactured. The heat comes from radiators around the walls of the church which blow hot air, and themselves are old, as well as being unsightly and marking the walls above them. As well as the necessity of new boilers, a better heating system needs to be found. The solution seems to be underfloor heating, which would more effectively heat the church and be more economical to run. The four boilers would be reduced to just one new gas boiler, which would be sited in a former confessional, just off the nave, now used as a store, rather than being inaccessible up in the tower. Underfloor heating would also solve another problem we have: the carpet covering the nave is now understandably wearing out after thirty years of service. At the time it was put down, the wooden floor of the church was in a bad state: the economical solution then was to board it over and carpet it. However, this is not a solution which would be adopted nowadays: a carpet is unhygienic as there is a constant concern as to what could be spilled on it and not easily cleaned. Also it is not the appropriate flooring for a Victorian Gothic church, of which ours is a notable example. Most in keeping with our church building would be that the main and side aisles are tiled, in keeping with the Victorian encaustic tiles in the sanctuary, chapels, and baptistry areas, though of a simpler design, and that the area under the pews be a soft light-coloured stone. Of course, the floor would have 'friendly' feel, as it would be warm from the heating. The Westminster diocesan building surveyor has guided us in recommending the above solutions to our heating and floor covering problems, and has enabled us to conclude there is no more satisfactory or economical alternative.

As this is such a major project, it is understandable and necessary that activating it is a slow and careful process. Because we are a grade two listed building, any new heating or flooring requires the approval of the Westminster Diocese Historic Churches Committee, to whom detailed plans and designs have now been submitted for their consideration. This is why for the next few weeks you will find a notice on the church door headed: 'Application for Permission to Carry out works to a listed ecclesiastical building.' If approved in principle, the Parish and Diocesan Finance Committees can then consider the financial acceptability of the proposals. Final alternative quotes for the different aspects of the work are currently being sought, in which process we are assisted by the diocese. We have in recent years been the recipient of a couple of bequests which would go some way towards financing the project. If both planning and financial approval are granted, the work would best be carried out in the quieter summer period next next summer, as it would necessitate the church being closed for some weeks, and the parish centre could be used for worship.

Finally, it would be desirable to redecorate the church, which again has not been done for thirty years, though this would be additional to the heating/floor scheme. You may have seen that two wall areas high up at the back of the church have in recent months been replastered due to (now cured) water penetration: this and the marking of the walls of the church by the radiators, and general wear and tear, mean that redecoration of the church is necessary. Redecoration, with a new floor and better heating system, would mean that our church building is restored to its full beauty, is worthy of the worship of God, and is a lovely gathering place for our parish community's corporate prayer.