Parish Office: 020 8888 5518 4 Vincent Road, London N15 3QH E-mail: westgreen@rcdow.org.uk

Website: http://stjohnvianneywestgreen.co.uk

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY -26TH /27TH AUGUST 2023

Dear Parishioners,

We would like to share some experiences of WORLD YOUTH DAY in Lisbon. We went with a group of 60 young people from different Universities and Parishes. it has been a great

experience for all of US. Thank you for your support and prayers.

Have a blessed week. Anabel Gonzalez, FMVD

The theme for the World Youth Day 2023 was 'Mary arose and went with haste'. When I look back, I realised that I certainly did not go with haste! In fact, I was concerned about sleeping on a school floor and sharing toilets with



hundreds of other people and my pre-trip planning wasn't exactly a model of swift decision-making - right down to the toilet roll calculations. However, at the very first welcome ceremony, I remember seeing all the flags of the world and hearing everyone chanting 'esta es la juventud del papa' and it was that moment I truly grasped the significance of this event. Seeing Pope Francis from three feet away was the highlight! Strangers greeted each other as friends and we signed each other's flags and took photos with anyone and everyone. The main event was the Vigil on the Saturday night. On our final stretch of the 19km walk to the field – we were walking along the motorway which they had closed for this event – I glanced behind me and saw a parade of people which is a sight I will never forget. At the Adoration, the silence was remarkable, 1.5 million people and you could hear a pin drop. Oh, and did I mention sleeping on the rocks in the field that night? Suddenly, the school floor felt like a five-star suite.

So, in a nutshell, World Youth Day 2023 was a concoction of delayed haste, flag graffiti, Pope stalking, toilet queuing and an incredible display of faith and unity. And that's precisely what made it unforgettable! Dinithi

WYD was amazing, one of the best things I've done in my life. I wasn't too sure of what to expect, apart from sleeping on the floor and queuing for showers (things I had considered negative)! But of course, it was so much more than that Being with so many



of course, it was so much more than that. Being with so many people sharing the same faith, and just being able to see the Pope and be in his presence (a personal highlight for me), the feeling of togetherness and belonging, it was just so amazing to experience. The things I had considered negative, looking back, I didn't actually end up feeling that way about them at all whilst there. I learnt a lot and I would definitely do it all again, every single minute of it! Alisha

I believe that everything happens for a reason. When I was invited to WYD I'd say that I was at my lowest point in regards to my belief in the Church and my faith. When I accepted the invitation, I didn't know what to expect. I had never heard of WYD, I had never been to Portugal and I hadn't left the UK in years. When I went, the first thing that struck me was the large number of young people from all over the world that believed in God and in the Catholic Church. There were people like me who were questioning and they were all welcomed and embraced. A few days into WYD, I went to the Vocational Fair at

the City of Joy and my friend and I saw a nun at one of the stalls. We ended up having a very meaningful conversation with her. It amazed me to see the pure joy she had in her faith, to see her content with her life and the path she chose. Another moment that struck me was at the Stations of the Cross when I saw Pope Francis. For me, that moment really made me aware of where I was and it made me believe that coming to WYD was the right thing to do. I believe that this is just the beginning of my faith journey. I don't know where my path will lead me but being surrounded by a supportive group made me believe that it is the right thing to do and I hope that by God's grace and guidance I'll be able to continue that and not feel alone anymore. Cheriese

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTIONS

PARISH ACTIVITY -TEAS /COFFEE MORNING TEAS/COFFEE

In the Parish Hall on Sundays, after 9am and 11am Masses.

Tea & Coffee after Sunday Masses:

We need more volunteers to help out in this Parish activity which people have found most helpful.

Please contact the Parish Office westgreen@rcdow.org.uk

We also welcome parishioners and newcomers on Thursday after the 9.15am Mass. But we also need more volunteers to help out in this parish Activity.

Please note, after Mass on Thursdays there will be no teas and coffees available until we resume on 7th September.

CATECHETICAL PROGRAMMES 2023-2024

For any enquiries, please contact Sr. Anabel or the Parish Office.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

Application Form at the back of the Church
It will start in Feb 2024

RECONCILIATION PROGRAMME

It will start in October 2023

CONFRMATION PROGRAMME

Application Form at the back of the Church
It will start in Feb 2024

RITE OF CHISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

A programme for adults who are interested in receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. Application Form at the back of the Church

BAPTISM FOR INFANTS

Application Forms at the back of the Church. Please contact the Parish Office or Sr. Anabel.

FUNDRAISING EVENT - SJV NIGERIAN COMMUNITY

Are holding a fundraising dance today, **Sunday 27th August 2023 from 2pm-8pm** in the Parish Hall.

Ticket £5 per person and Raffle Tickets £1 per ticket will be on sale at the back of the church.

"CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF VAILANKANNI!

Novenas of Our Lady will begin on

Wednesday the 30th August for 9 days at 6.15pm followed by the Feast (Birthday)
Of Our Lady on the 8th September - Service at 6.00pm, Mass, Healing, Procession,
Fellowship.

At the Shrine of Our Lady of Vailankanni, Goan Community Centre, Apple Tree Road, off Keston Road N17 6PW.

For details contact Candy 07961044079"

MARCH FOR LIFE UK 2023

On **Saturday 2nd September** Bishop John Sherrington will celebrate the 10.30am Mass here at Westminster Cathedral marking the beginning of the March for Life UK day.

LECTIO DIVINA PRAYER GROUP

Meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month after 9.15am Mass, at Verbum Dei Spirituality Centre. All welcome! Next session **5th September**, **2023**

"THE LONDON CATHOLIC WORKER

Our next newsletter is almost ready to go, and we'd be very grateful for your help in getting it sent out. We'll be doing it from 5pm on Tuesdays and it will take a few hours. We would love to welcome you to an ecumenical Lectio Divina prayer meeting - slow, prayerful, meditative reflection and discussion of a passage of Scripture - at 7:30pm on Thursday evenings.

It will be held in our chapel, the former Church of St Augustine of Canterbury on Mattison Road, Green Lanes, and will take about an hour.

"No experience with Lectio Divina is necessary, and refreshments will be provided afterwards."

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Sat,16th & Sun, 17th September After all Masses in the Parish Hall

All parishioners are invited to bring and buy cakes as part of our efforts to fund raise and support the wonderful work the MacMillan Nurses do.

INVITATION TO OUR MEMORIAL PRAYER VIGIL

For those who suffer and died trying to reach safety in Europe and the UK on the third Monday of the month. Next Vigil **Monday 18th September, 2023** Opposite Home Office, Marsham Street, SW1P 4DF from 12.30-1.30pm

For further information contact johanmaertens@hotmail.com or barbarakentish@talktalk.net

Please check the notice board at the back of the church for other events we are unable to publish in the newsletter

Please Pray for the Soul of

KATHLEEN KIM CUMMINS

whose funeral will take place here at **10:00am on Monday 4th September**

followed by cremation.

(Please note there will be no 9:15am Mass on that day)

May her soul rest in peace.
We remember her family and friends in our prayers.

MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday at 9.15am

Saturday 6pm - Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday 9:00am and 11:00am

ROSARY

Weekdays at 8.45am (before Mass)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesdays after Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5-5:30pm

NEXT SUNDAY: 22nd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIMES

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

Psalm: Psalm 62

2nd Reading: Romans 12:1-2 Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

PARISH TEAM

Fr Joe Ryan, Parish Priest (Retired) Sr. Anabel Gonzalez, Parish Sister Germaine Ng Ying, Parish Adm/Secretary

In Residence: Fr Marcel Kofon

THIS WEEK WE PRAY FOR The repose of the soul:

Tony Bann
Christina Ryan
Eulyn Hutchinson
Dave Flaherty
John Newell (Fr Martin's Dad)
Kathleen Kim Cummins
Bernadette Golly Basdeo

RIP Anniversary

John Carroll
Taslim Ahmed
Oliver Bernard Connor
Maria Hussein
Julia O'Donnell
Bridget Mary Bridie Dillane
Juanita De Jesus

Special Intentions:

Fr Joe Ryan
Antonio Cruz
Brian Waters
Christina Danaher
Janice Leckie
Miguel Domenech
Seema Chandwani

And for the sick and those in our parish

Angela Ann Eduardo Elsa Emmanuel Gabriel Helen Ivy A Joan John D Kathy F Kitty Michael J Monica Pantaleone Patricia Phil Pierina Sheila Rose Veronica Walter Yollie Yvonne

NAMES NOT LISTED ABOVE ARE LISTED IN OUR BOOK OF INTENTIONS

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon to Fri: 9am-5pm To make an appointment Phone: 0208 888 5518 or email westgreen@rcdow.org.uk

We cannot guarantee to have anyone available outside of these hours.