

Christian Love

**MEMORARE
PRAYER FOR PEACE**

During this time of conflict in Central Europe we invite everyone to put the people of Ukraine under the protective mantle of Our Blessed Mother, Queen of Peace.

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that anyone who fled to thy
protection, implored thy help,
or sought thy intercession,
was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence
I fly unto thee, O Virgin of
virgins, my Mother.
To thee do I come,
before thee I stand,
sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word
Incarnate, despise not my
petitions, but in thy mercy
hear and answer me.
Amen.

**Our Lady, Queen of Peace,
pray for us.**

Today's Gospel speaks of love: God's love for us, and our response of love to Him. This love is not easy for it necessarily entails sacrifices on our part, just as God willingly sacrificed His own Son for us. Love means sacrifice; it is a very common word which we tend to use very loosely, often trivializing it. Seldom do we realize the grandeur and depth of its meaning and the seriousness of its challenge. In the Gospel, Jesus added a very important qualification to the love he is talking about: "Love one another as I have loved you." In other words, Jesus is urging us to follow his kind of love, that is, self-sacrificing love, even to the point of offering oneself for the beloved.

St Teresa of Calcutta said: "True love causes pain. Jesus, in order to give us the proof of his love, died on the cross. A mother, in order to give birth to her baby, has to suffer. If you really love one another, you will not be able to avoid making sacrifices." That is why, in our experience, true love hurts. But the hurt becomes bearable, and even meaningful and necessary because it is borne out of love. That is precisely the difference between a donation and a sacrifice. A donation is something that comes out of the pocket; a sacrifice comes out of the heart. God is not asking for our donation; rather, He is asking for our sacrifice, something painful because it is what we give from our hearts filled with love.

Fr Michael Donaghy

RETURNING TO MASS

Following the recent plenary meeting of the Bishops of England and Wales in Cardiff, all Catholics are invited to return to Mass at Pentecost. The invitation states that *"the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply... and that (...) "Virtual viewing" of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation."* (...) *It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded (...), because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.* "To read the entire document please go to: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/spring-plenary-2022-resolution-returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>

OREMUS

The May edition of *Oremus*, the Cathedral magazine, can be collected from the stand by the main doors of the Cathedral. *Oremus* continues to be free, but your donations help to keep it so.

TEA/COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 10am MASS

Please join us for tea and coffee after the 10am Sunday Mass in Cathedral Hall. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners. Everyone is welcome.

PRIEST TRAINING FUND

Thank you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund retiring collection last weekend. It is not too late to make a donation if you wish. Envelopes are available at the back of the Cathedral, or from Clergy House Reception. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood. For more information, or to make a donation, visit: www.rcdow.org.uk/donations.

GRAND ORGAN FESTIVAL

The next recital in the series will be given on **Wednesday 18 May** at 7.30pm by Simon Johnson, Master of Music at our Cathedral. He will be performing pieces by Messiaen, Franck, Liszt, J S Bach, Herschel and Holst. The Präludium and Fuge über den Namen BACH by Franz Liszt features on Simon's recent critically-acclaimed recording *B-A-C-H Anatomy of a Motif* on the organ of St Paul's Cathedral. Tickets are £15, or £12 concession, and are available on the door.

INTERFAITH GROUP

This group meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 2 to 3.30pm in the Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace. Our next meeting is on **18 May** when we will discuss chapters 2 and 3 of *Laudato Si'*. The document is available from St Paul's bookshop cost £4.95 or online https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html. All are welcome and there is no need to book. For further information contact: John Woodhouse at johnwoodhousecat@gmail.com.

UKRAINE HOSTING SCHEME

Everyone interested in supporting or hosting a Ukrainian family or others seeking sanctuary is invited to join Caritas Westminster for an information session on hosting refugee guests on **18 May, 6.30-8pm via Zoom**. 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. To sign up please visit: <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/ukraine-hosting-scheme-supporting-people-seeking-sanctuary-1340.php> or Caritas Westminster's Eventbrite Page.

MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS

HE Cardinal Vincent Nichols will celebrate the annual Mass for New Catholics on **Saturday 21 May** at 6pm in the Cathedral. All are welcome to attend.

RCIA

If you are an adult living in the Cathedral parish boundary, or come regularly to the Cathedral for Mass, and desire to become a Catholic or want to explore the Catholic faith you are welcome to join the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Course which will commence in September. This course is also for Catholics who were baptised young but did not receive their First Holy Communion and Confirmation. For further information and to enrol please contact Fr Vincent on chaplains@rcdow.org.uk or speak to him after the Sunday Mass.

12th NATIONAL DIVINE MERCY PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

This will take place on **Saturday 4 June**. A coach will leave from Westminster Cathedral at 6.45am, and also from Sacred Heart Church, Camberwell, at the same time. The cost is £25 per person. To book please contact Emmanuel on 07721 362000 or Caroline on 07960 466377.

CHORISTER OPPORTUNITIES AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOOL

Every September up to six boys join Westminster Cathedral Choir School (WCCS) in Year 4 as choristers. Becoming a chorister offers a boy the opportunity to sing in a world famous choir, and to join a thriving, inclusive, independent school for boys, age 4 – 13. All choristers receive generous scholarships supplemented by means-tested bursaries worth up to 100% of fees. Contact Lucy Auger to find out more. Telephone 020 7798 9081 or email lauger@choirschool.com.

COST OF LIVING HUB

The Mayor of London has launched a new Cost of Living Hub, which helps people access information, support and advice about claiming benefits, dealing with debt, financial management and mental health support. To explore the hub, please visit <https://www.london.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub>

THE PARADOX OF ABUNDANCE

Over 800 million people go hungry each day, yet the world produces over 4 billion tonnes of food and we only need 3.7 billion tonnes to feed everyone. From all this food produced, a third is wasted. St John Paul II called this 'the paradox of abundance.' Clearly the current global food system is not working but as Pope Francis said, "Each of us has a role to play in transforming food systems for the benefit of people and the planet." Let's respond to his call! CAFOD's new campaign is called Fix the Food System. See www.cafod.org.uk/food for more information, including an invitation for parish groups to learn about the impact of our food with our Fix the Food System: a 7-station journey resource.

CATHEDRAL GIFT SHOP

The Gift Shop is open: **Friday 11am-4pm, and Saturday and Sunday 10.30am-3.30pm**. We are currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help in the shop. Retail/customer service experience would be helpful but is not essential as full training will be given. To apply please contact petermcnulty@rcdow.org.uk.

CATHEDRAL CAFÉ

The Cathedral Café is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm for drinks, lunches and snacks. Please do pay a visit the next time you are in the Cathedral.

HOW TO CONTACT US

Postal address:

42 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QW

Clergy House Reception is open:
Monday to Friday 9.00am – 4.30pm
(closed 1.00pm-1.20pm for lunch)
and weekends 10am - 1pm

Telephone: 020 7798 9055

Email: chreception@rcdow.org.uk

The Chaplains can be contacted through Clergy House Reception if you wish to speak to them or are in need of assistance.

Cathedral website:

www.westminstercathedral.org.uk

In an emergency:

When someone is gravely ill or has died, and a priest is required outside Reception opening hours, please call 07340 288978.

REMEMBERING THE CATHEDRAL

When the time is right for you to remember a charity in your will, please remember the Cathedral. Every gift makes a difference. Simply add 'Westminster Cathedral – registered charity number 233699'. For more information, call Marie-Louise on 020 7798 9058 or email mlvanspyk@rcdow.org.uk.

This week's Diary

The Cathedral is open from 7.30am until after the evening Mass each day.

* Live streamed via the Cathedral website.

Monday to Friday

Morning Prayer: 7.35am, Sung Vespers (Choir, except Tuesday) 5pm

Mass: 8 and 10.30am (Latin), 12.30* and 5.30pm (Choir)

Confessions: 11.30am-12.30pm, 4.30-5.30pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel 1.15-4.30pm

Saturday

Morning Prayer: 7.35am, Sung Vespers (English) 5.30pm

Mass: 8 and 10.30am (Latin, Choir), 12.30* and 6pm (Vigil, Sung)

Confessions: 11.30am-12.30pm and 5-6pm

Sunday

Sung Morning Prayer (English) 9.30am, Solemn Vespers and Benediction (Choir), 4pm

Mass: 8 and 10am (Sung), 12 noon (Solemn, Choir)*, 5.30 (Sung) and 7pm

Confessions: 10am-12.30pm, 5-6.45pm

Sunday 15 May

1.30pm St Patrick's Chapel

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

Monday 16 May

1.30pm Hinsley Room

Easter feria

Legion of Mary

6.00pm Hinsley Room

Lectio Divina

6.15pm Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Guild of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 17 May

6.15pm Lady Chapel

Easter feria

Guild of St Anthony

Wednesday 18 May

12.00pm St Joseph's Chapel

Easter feria

Meditations

2.00pm Hinsley Room

Interfaith Group

7.30pm

Grand Organ Festival Recital: Simon Johnson

Thursday 19 May

Easter feria

Friday 20 May

7.00pm Cathedral Hall

Easter feria

Friday abstinence

Charismatic Prayer Group

Saturday 21 May

10.00am Lady Chapel

Easter feria

Rosary Group

2.30pm

Deanery Youth Confirmation Mass: Bp Sherrington

6.00pm

New Catholics Mass: Cardinal Nichols

Sunday 22 May

1.30pm St Patrick's Chapel

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

3.00pm

Organ Recital: Jonathan Stamp (Norwich)

