

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

192, Nags Head Road, Ponders End, Enfield EN3 7AR

Tel: 020 8804 2149

Email: pondersend@rcdow.org.uk

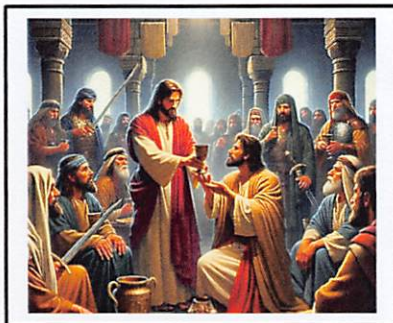
Parish Priest – Fr John Shewring

Parish Admin – Dorothy Eribankya

Catechetical Coordinator – Arianne Phagoo 020 8443 4069

or 07784186406

Live streaming: <https://www.churchservices.tv/enfield>



The Holy
Name of Jesus



January

Weekend Mass Intentions

Sat: - 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Intentions of Eileen Lacey

Followed by Confessions until 11.00am

5.00pm – Thomas Jules - Anniversary

Sun – The church opens at 7.00pm

8.00am – For the Intentions of Parishioners

9.30am – Fr Sean Carroll - RIP

11.00am – Peter Thorpe - RIP

5.00pm – Intentions of Gerald & Teresa Carberry

Mon – 8.15am - Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Fr Joseph Carter - RIP

No Exposition Today

Tues – 8.15am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – For the Repose of the Holy Souls

Followed by Exposition until 11.00am

Wed – 8.15am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Fr David Barnes - RIP

Followed by Exposition until 11.00am

Thu – 8.15am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Intentions of Shirley & Mark Rodway

Fri – 5.00pm – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

6.30pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary

7.30pm – For a Private Intention (MC)

Sat – 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer

8.15am – Morning Prayer & Rosary

9.30am – Intentions of Margaret & Roy Felgate

Followed by Confessions until 11.00am

5.00pm – For the Holy Father's Intentions

Sun – Church opens at 7.00am

8.00am – For the Intentions of Parishioners

9.30am – Fr Sean Carroll - RIP

11.00am – Vincent Basquil - Anniversary

5.00pm – Elvira Calsado - Anniversary

From 18th January until 25th January we will be following the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity.

25th Jan = Conversion of St Paul – Apostle – Feast

28th Jan – St Thomas Aquinas – Priest & Doctor

31st Jan – St John Bosco - Priest

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

'People generally serve the best wine first and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty; you have kept the best till now.'

Invited to Cana with his mother, Jesus came there as a friend, a neighbour, accompanied by his disciples. Did he know that he would start there, at the wedding, 'the first of the signs' to be given by him? For St John who opened the prologue of his gospel: 'In the beginning was the Word', the 'first of the signs' expresses the eternal glory of Jesus in time. The evangelist tells us of this sign that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and so believing have life in his name (John 20:30-31). It was not a chance happening that this village wedding occurred at the beginning of Jesus' public life. God in him had wedded humanity to himself: that is the good news, even if the guests who are present are unaware that the Son of God has sat at their table, and that he is the true bridegroom. The whole mystery of Cana turns on the presence of this bridegroom who is beginning to reveal himself. It is Jesus, in fact, who, unknown to the steward of the feast, had 'kept the good wine until now'. Wine is the drink at weddings, at once the fruit of the vine and of man's work. The earth had soaked up the sun, bringing forth the fruit of a whole year's work for the vinedresser. Drawn from the jars intended for ritual ablutions. the wine of Cana could not have been inferior.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION CONFESSION

Saturday 18th January from

after Mass until 11.00am

Saturday 25th January from

after Mass until 11.00am

Please do take advantage of these times. Always a very special time of the year and so good for us to put things right with God and with ourselves. Face to face or private confessions in the sacristy.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith that you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the power of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,

A yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the

Earth. To you our God eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.



Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

January 2025 – For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected. Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and join with many people worldwide for praying for this intention each month. The Holy Father has entrusted these intentions in a particular way to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network, an organisation that works to encourage Christians to respond to the Pope's appeal and to deepen their daily prayer

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE 2025 with trips to Mostar & Surmanci

29th April to 7th May 2025

9 days/8 nights – half-board

Price – Approx £850

Departing from Luton airport. Twin room sharing. Check in luggage 23kg + hand carry. Included are flights, transfer, entrance fees as per itinerary. Single room supplement £225. Not included – travel insurance, lunches; tips & gratuities will be added to invoice. **Prices will increase at the end of December so book early!**

Always a wonderful spiritual experience. Do join us for a very special time. Our first pilgrimage together for some time.



PARISH GIVING

If you use Planned Giving Envelopes please do try to keep up with your giving. The parish relies on a regular income from these envelopes each week. If you are away or do not attend church please make up your giving and that is what **Planned Giving** means. Please, if you can, take out a Standing Order to the parish. Our bank account details are **HSBC Bank plc.** To credit our account: WRCOT – Mary Mother of God Ponders End: 81308432, Sort Code: 40-05-20. Add surname and first name as a reference. Thanks.

REFLECTING ON THE EUCHARIST

Talk: 7.00pm – 16th January

Anna Dupelycz will be here to talk on understanding the Sacrament of the Eucharist on above date in the hall.

An Intro to Jubilee Year with CAFOD

2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik and Christine Allen (CAFOD director), for a lively start to the Jubilee – with a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse on Saturday 18th January, 10:30am to midday online. All are welcome. Register here for free: cafod.org.uk/jubilee

PEACE SUNDAY

Weekend 18/19th January 2025

PAX CHRISTI – are a Catholic charity that promote peace in the world. We support them every year. Please take their prayer card. There will also be a collection on their behalf their wonderful work.

MAGNIFICAT

Because of the change of translation the cost of Magnificat has increased in price from £4.99 to £6.50. Sorry!

YOUNG ADULTS DEANERY MEETINGS

Ages 18 – 35

The idea is for young adults (ages 18-35) to meet up once a month at one of the parishes in the Enfield deanery on a weekday evening for a time of prayer, worship (with a talk) and a social. This will allow young adults to grow and develop in their faith with mutual support and friendship. The venue for the next meeting has not yet been revealed, as soon as information becomes available we will let you know. For further details please contact: annamcmullan@rcdow.org.uk

THE PRICE OF VOTIVE CANDLES

For quite some time we have been subsidising the price of votive candles in our church. The cost of these candles has increased and so we going to have to raise the price of the candles. We cannot afford to lose income any more so the cost of these candles will increase to £1 each.

LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom

**Meeting on Sunday 9th February 2025
at 2.45pm in parish hall**

An opportunity to meet together and say our Legion prayers and to give our reports on the work we have achieved over the past few weeks or so.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The **CCS** are a charity providing young people and children with counselling and therapy, emergency grants for families and carers and adoption and aftercare. There will be a collection box in the church Crib for any offerings you might like to make

Parish Shop – open for statues, candles, rosaries, crucifixes, cards and more.

You can help your marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue – or have you just stopped because it only makes it worse? Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the next programme which will be presented on Zoom 27th February to 2nd March – Email: info@retrouvaille.org.uk
Call or text: 07887296983

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



Friday Evenings

from 5.00 – 7.15pm

Saturday Mornings

from 7.00 – 8.30am

*As we are now in the Jubilee
Year do try and give a
little more time to Our Lord*

MASS INTENTIONS

Wanting a Mass said for a person or occasion is good but a reminder that if you wish a special date then you must hand in your request well in advance if you do not want to be disappointed. Thanks

Introductory Sessions for Parishioners

Anna Dupelycz from the Agency will be visiting the parish talking on 3 subjects

5th Dec – A look at Liturgy

Understanding the Liturgical year

16th Jan – Reflecting on the Eucharist

Understanding the Sacrament of the Eucharist

13th Feb – Reflecting on Reconciliation

Understanding the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Evenings will run from 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Prayers please:

Sick: Mary Lovett, Agnes Robinson, Peter Thorpe, Joe Harper, Mary Conway. Suzi Modi, Agnes Guveya, Liz Freeman, Adreina Sifari, Margaret Felgate, Mark Keighrey, Marilyn Theodore. Sara Malaki, John Keighrey, Dan Heath, Geoffry Nwachukwu. Maureen Walker, Eamon Fitzpatrick. Eileen Lacey, Jacqueline O'Donovan.

Recently Dead: Agatha Durowaa, Angelo D'Vito, Daphne Sullivan. Thomas Lawlor. Brid McGonagle, Kathleen Fitzsimmons, Phyllis Robinson, Jennifer Browne, Liam Sullivan, Fr David Williamson. Anne Rutland, Frank Seabagala, Fr , Elvera Nardone, Fr Joseph Carter, Fr David Barnes, Patrick Mukasa. Eileen Kerrigan, Peter Thorpe, Fernando Iannelli, John Charlery, John Gerard Pender, Fr Sean Carroll

Anniversaries: Yvette Simon, Solomis & Eleni Djerikallis, Pat Molloy, Debbie Dirwin, Theresa Ragbir, Marie Mendy, Vermeil Joson, Alice Audu, John Baptist Yaweh, Margaret Paul, Diane Bunker. Peggy Power, Cyril Ibekwe.

Morning Prayer & Rosary – is said before all weekday Masses. Monday to Thursday and Saturday mornings at 8.30am and Friday evening at 6.30pm before Mass.

Legion of Mary – the next meeting of the Legion of Mary is on Thursday 9th January at 7.00pm in the hall.

Friday Lunch – is served every Friday in the hall from 11.30am onwards – open to all comers – no cost!

Contactless Offerings to the Parish – you can find the Dona Contactless Terminal in the porch of the church for any donations you may wish to make to the parish and for payment for any purchases from the parish Repository. Not for special collections
Please remember: Please take advantage of the times of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our church. So important as a help to building a relationship with Jesus.

Nightingale Hospice & School of Joy: These are two charities that we support every year at this time – the **NH** a local charity, and the **S of J** a school for children with learning difficulties in Bethlehem – a special collection this Sunday at all Masses.

Finance Committee Meeting – the Finance Committee will meet on Monday 6th January at 2.00pm in the Sacristy

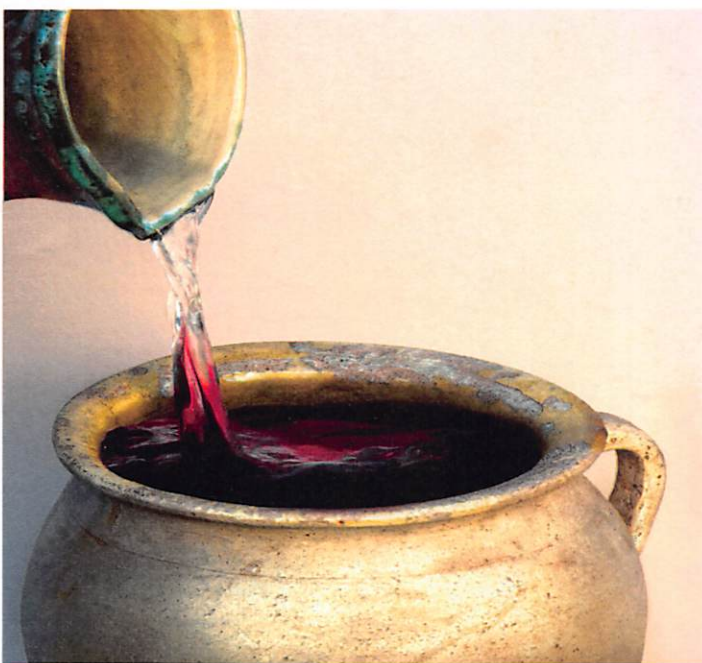
Parish Council Meeting – the Parish Council will meet together on Tuesday 14th January at 7.15pm in the Parish Hall. All parishioners are invited.

SUNDAY PLUS

Spread hope

"From his fulness..."

By Fr Denis McBride C.Ss.R.



The world tells us to seek success, power and money; God tells us to seek humility, service and love.

Pope Francis

Bountiful generosity

By Neil Foley

The story of the wedding feast at Cana is so familiar to most of us that we can be at risk of glossing over it. We hear the words of a miracle taking place and of Mary prompting her son into action. But maybe we see this in a different time or for other people. Sometimes we miss the most important part of this miracle – the sheer generosity of God. There were

six stone water jars holding up to thirty gallons each. Jesus created what today would be 900 bottles of wine! Can you imagine holding a party and having 900 bottles of wine? It would be completely over the top! Yet this is God's creative and redeeming power, a power that is so over the top it provides everything we need and a love that has no end. And this is what is at the heart of a Jubilee Year, where faith, hope and love abound.

Neil Foley is from Wexford, Ireland, where he lives with his wife, Helen, and twin girls, Zélie and Martha. He works full-time as an environmental scientist but is also a lay missionary with the Redemptorists, a retreat facilitator and a spiritual writer.

I recently officiated at the wedding of a young couple who felt they somehow knew me better than they knew the new parish priest. I readily obliged and the service went exactly as planned. The trouble started at the reception when, after much wine had been consumed, a fight broke out involving several people from both families and was only stopped when the mothers of the bride and groom stood on a table together and screamed for quiet. In the silence that followed, they jauntily descended and ordered drinks for everyone.

The danger at this wedding was not that the group were running out of wine but some guests were running out of respect and courtesy.

This was reversed, thanks to the authority of two brave mothers. At the wedding feast in Cana, it is the authority of the mother of Jesus that leads towards the solution of the lack of wine when she instructs the servants: "Do whatever he tells you." The steward is astonished at the quality of the water turned into wine – not the plonk you might suspect to be served at this point, but gallons of the choicest wine.

This illustrates a beautiful point in John's Prologue: "From his fulness we have all received, grace upon grace." That includes all of us.

Fr Denis McBride's many books, CDs and DVDs are available from Redemptorist Publications, www.rpbooks.co.uk.



Jubilee 2025

Friday 24 – Sunday 26 January: Jubilee of the World of Communication

"Emails, text messages, social networks and chats can also be fully human forms of communication. It is not technology which determines whether or not communication is authentic, but rather the human heart and our capacity to use wisely the means at our disposal. Social networks can facilitate relationships and promote the good of society, but they can also lead to further polarisation and division between individuals and groups. The digital world is a public square, a meeting-place

where we can either encourage or demean one another, engage in a meaningful discussion or unfair attacks. I pray that this Jubilee Year, lived in mercy, may open us to even more fervent dialogue so that we might know and understand one another better; and that it may eliminate every form of closed-mindedness and disrespect, and drive out every form of violence and discriminations (Misericordiae Vultus, 23)."

Pope Francis, Message for the 50th World Communications Day, 2016

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. ✚ Amen.

Today:
Isaiah 62:1-5
1 Corinthians 12:4-11
John 2:1-11

Monday:
1 Samuel 1:1-8
Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday:
1 Samuel 1:9-20
Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday:
1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20
Mark 1:29-39

Thursday:
1 Samuel 4:1-11
Mark 1:40-45

Friday:
1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22
Mark 2:1-12

Saturday:
Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22
Mark 16:15-18

Next Sunday:
Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10
1 Corinthians 12:12-30
Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

redemptorist
publications

Sunday Plus, Edited by Denis McBride C.Ss.R. and Sr Janet Fearn FMDM. Copyright © Redemptorist Publications, Chawton, Hampshire, GU34 3HQ, A registered charity limited by guarantee. Registered in England 03261721. www.rpbooks.co.uk.



www.facebook.com/sundayplus



THE Wednesday WORD



Encountering Christ The Wednesday Prayer Custom for Homes, Schools & Parishes

Prayerfully preparing for Sunday Mass with special prayers for our school families



Set aside 10-15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross and remain still for a minute of settling silence.



Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Read the Gospel, aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.

1

Read The Gospel for Sunday 19th January 2025 THE WEDDING-FEAST AT CANA

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." Jesus said, "Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water," and they filled them to the brim. "Draw some out now," he told them, "and take it to the steward." They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, "People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink; but you have kept the best wine till now." This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

Taken from John 2:1-11 The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

2

Reflect

After reading the Gospel, did any words stand out? If they did, ponder or discuss them before proceeding with the reflection.

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Year C is the year of Luke's gospel, but we start with this reading from John which recounts the symbolic beginning of Jesus' ministry. It is full of riches. After the first reading from Isaiah it is impossible not to see this 'sign' (as John calls it) as a sign of that final wedding-feast of God and his people. Furthermore, in Jewish thought, water represents the Law: in an arid land water is the sign of life and is precious – just so, the Law of God is precious and gives life. Jesus transforms this water of the Law into the wine of the New Covenant – and in such generous quantities: over one hundred gallons of wine! Then there is Mary's part: Jesus says his Hour has not yet come (and the reader knows that the Hour of Jesus will be the moment of his exaltation at the Cross and Resurrection), but Mary's confident plea is a reminder to us of the power of her intercession. She will be mentioned no more in this gospel till she is present at the Cross, sharing the passion of her Son and joined to the Beloved Disciple to form the first Christian community.

Why did Jesus choose to do this as his first miracle?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

3

Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Thank God for any insight you may have received.

Then ask God to bless you with a spiritual gift to help you act on any resolution you have made. Perhaps: love, hope, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, patience, humility, joy, forgiveness, self-control, courage, generosity, faith or something else.

4

Pray for Families

This Wednesday's word for our school families is JOY!

After praying for your loved ones, please remember to pray for our present and future Church, particularly for the families connected to our schools. You may want to conclude this special weekly time with a simple prayer such as:

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**The Jubilee
Year of Hope**

Share the Prayer: Why not forward a digital copy of this Parish Version to your friends? Also, to see a sample of your primary school's *Family Version*, visit: wednesdayword.org

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS +

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of **Sunday 19th January 2025**



1st Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

The Wedding-Feast of the Lord

About Zion I will not be silent; about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch. The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

.....

The marriage relationship is perhaps the most intimate of the personal relationships we know, designed to become ever deeper and more absorbing. Even the relationship of mother to child cannot equal it. So in the Bible the relationship of the Lord to his people is likened to the relationship in marriage. But, like many human marriage relationships, it went through bad patches. Israel was so persistently unfaithful to the Lord that eventually it seemed that the Lord abandoned her to those with whom she had 'prostituted' herself. This could not be permanent; Israel could not go on being called 'Abandoned' and 'Forsaken'; the past would be forgotten. After the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, Isaiah prophesies the final wedding in terms of the unalloyed joy of a freshly wedded couple. So in the gospels, Jesus uses the figure of the final wedding-feast, and the image of himself as the bridegroom in the joy of the festival. The Lord always gives us another chance, an unalloyed welcome to his feast.

What does it mean to liken our relationship with God to the relationship between a couple in marriage?



I can rejoice in gifts which God has given to me, but only if simultaneously I think of all the gifts which others have and I lack.



2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Gifts of the Spirit

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

.....

At the beginning of each year the Church gives us some six Sundays of readings from Paul's first letter to that troubled community, the Corinthians. Corinth was a thriving port-town of southern Greece, with a very varied community, rich and poor, academics and dockers. There were no clear human leaders in the Church community, and reliance on the Spirit for guidance in the problems of living as Christians did not always seem to provide a solution. The readings on these three Sundays show Paul trying to help. Yes, the Spirit is at work in the community in many different ways. There are many different gifts, all necessary for this varied community. The trouble seems to have been that each person valued their own contribution so much that the gifts of others seemed insignificant. Paul's stress on the variety of ways in which the Spirit works to build up a community gives us the occasion to reflect on the variety of gifts which the Spirit has poured out on our own Christian community, and on every individual member of it. I can rejoice in gifts which God has given to me, but only if simultaneously I think of all the gifts which others have and I lack.

What gifts do we need in a Christian community for its full flourishing under God? How do we help all in the community realise the diversity of gifts?

The Wednesday Word Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God

**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**

Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Medjugorje 2025

with excursions to Mostar and Surmanci



29th Apr - 7th May 2025

Departing from:
London Luton

only **£838**
per person; 4* hotel

9 days/8 nights
*Half-board – breakfast
and evening dinner*

Led by Fr John Shewring

For details contact All Saints Travel 01793 881166

PRICE INCLUDES

Twin room sharing; return flights from London Luton with easyJet; check-in luggage 23kg + hand carry; 8 nights in our 4 star hotel in Medjugorje, or hotel of similar standard; half-board (breakfast & evening dinner); airport-hotel transfers; entrance fees as per itinerary; UK airport taxes; travel pack 2 weeks prior to departure; ATOL protection contribution.

NOT INCLUDED

Single room supplement £245 (limited availability); travel insurance (compulsory); lunches, snack and beverages, in-flight meals; tips & gratuities of £10 will be added to your invoice automatically for our guide, driver and hotel staff.

INFORMATION

Submit a booking form via our website by **10th Jan. '25** (www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/MJ1025). Deposit of £300 will confirm your booking. Final balance to be paid 2 months prior to travel.



All Saints Travel Ltd

Tel. 01793 8811664

Visit our website: www.allsaintstravel.co.uk



Day 1, Tuesday 29th April

UK – Medjugorje

We fly from London to Split. Upon arrival your guide and driver will be waiting to take you to your hotel in Medjugorje. The journey takes approximately two and a half hours, so sit back and relax and enjoy the beautiful panoramic view of the countryside and the Adriatic Sea. If time permits, we celebrate Mass in Vepric Holy Shrine - a small Shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes, or St Peter's church in Slano (depending on which airport we are arriving at). Continue our journey to Medjugorje and then dinner at the hotel.

Day 2, Wednesday 30th April

Medjugorje - Apparition Hill

After breakfast, we meet with our guide and walk to St James Church where we will have our concelebrated Mass in English. Afterwards, we will have a guided walking tour of the Sanctuary and the surrounding area. We will have lunch and afterwards we go to the Apparition Hill where our guide will explain all the information you long to hear on Our Blessed Mother's Apparitions. On our way down, we visit Vicka's old family house. She is one of the 6 visionaries and received many apparitions during her years here. Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 3, Thursday 1st May

Medjugorje – Free day

Breakfast at the hotel. At 10am we attend concelebrated Mass in English at St James church. **Special Note:** Please note that there are many Spiritual activities in Medjugorje and around the Sanctuary you can attend daily. Confessions are conducted throughout the day in many languages (Medjugorje is well known for this). Talks from one of the visionaries could be arranged if they are available, Divine Mercy Prayer at 3pm will be in St James church, visit Risen Christ located at the back of the church and pray the Stations of the Cross here if you wish. We can also revisit the Apparition Hill and the Blue Cross where many of Our Lady's apparitions and healings have taken place. Daily Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held at the open altar at the back of the church (we can attend this daily). There are many restaurants to choose from, all very reasonably priced as well as shops to browse through. Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 4, Friday 2nd May

Medjugorje - Mt Krizevac - Cross Mountain

After breakfast, we meet with our guide at the hotel and we walk to the foot of Mount Krizevac or take a taxi (cost not included £2 each way based on 4 people in a taxi), a kilometre away from the church and 520 metres above sea level. We pray the Stations of the Cross on the way up to the mountain. Please note that to go up the mountain you must be reasonably fit and be very careful as the mountain has rough rocks and stones to tackle. The Gigantic Cross you see up here was erected by local people in 1933 to commemorate the 1900th anniversary of our Jesus' Crucifixion. Enjoy the view at the summit and relax before the descent. You can choose to walk or take a taxi back to the hotel. To participate in daily activities in the Sanctuary please read Day 3. Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 5, Saturday 3rd May

Medjugorje – Mostar

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we explore outside Medjugorje and visit the Old City of Mostar, a Medieval City. The highlight is the famous Old Bridge of Mostar built in the 17th century and sadly destroyed during the Bosnia and Herzegovina war between 1992 and 1995. It is now being restored to its former glory. We celebrate Mass in St Paul/Peter church here. We stay here for the rest of the day we have lunch and do some shopping here (there are plenty of things you can buy here). Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 6, Sunday 4th May

Medjugorje – Surmanci

At 10am we attend concelebrated Mass in English at St James church. After lunch, we drive to the village of Surmanci where we celebrate Mass in the Church of the Merciful Jesus. In the church there is a miraculous icon of Jesus of Mercy. This icon was in the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Trento where Ugo Festa was miraculously healed when he prayed before it. It also has a small relic of St Faustina. We return to Medjugorje and have lunch here. Free for the remainder of the day. Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 7, Monday 5th May

Medjugorje – Cenacolo

Breakfast at the hotel. Mass at 10am in St James Church. Free time for the rest of morning and after lunch visit the community of Cenacolo. This was founded by Sister Elvera Petrozzi in 1991 to support young people recovering from addictions and to teach them the simple way of life, with faith in Jesus, and to straighten their paths in life. Taxi to Cenacolo not included approximately £2 each way (4 people sharing). Return to the hotel and evening dinner.

Day 8, Tuesday 6th May

Medjugorje – Free day

Breakfast at the hotel. At 10am we attend concelebrated Mass in English at St James church. Free day for the rest of the day. Dinner at the hotel and your last night in Medjugorje.

Day 9, Wednesday 7th May

Medjugorje – UK

After breakfast, we check-out of the hotel and leave Medjugorje. Proceed to the airport for our flight back to the UK. Depending on the flight time, we may be able to celebrate Mass in Slano or at Vepric Shrine beforehand.

Note: evening dinner is your first meal on the day we arrive, breakfast is your last meal on the day we leave. Itinerary is subject to change. E&OE.

Note: this price is based on 20 paying pilgrims travelling.

LOVE, LISTEN AND LEARN

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

Due to the fact that there are now fewer pupils in London (there is a continued decrease in the population of children) and the issues with finding affordable housing we currently have some places in our Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 2024/2025 year groups.

Please contact the school if you wish to apply for a place for your child.



**THANK YOU PARENTS AND PARISHIONERS FOR
RECOMMENDING OUR SCHOOL AND HELPING TO BUILD
UP OUR PUPIL NUMBERS.**

Phone Number: 020 88042396

E-mail: office@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

'Pupils are eager to come to school each morning because their teachers do their best to help them learn...Pupils learn in a calm environment. This is because the school has high expectations for pupils...Pupils conduct themselves well because they know what is right and have been taught how to behave well. Pupils achieve well across a range of subjects. They are proud to talk about their work which is presented with pride...Warm, caring relationships permeate the school... Pupils are confident that adults will listen to their worries and help them. This means they feel happy and safe...The curriculum is ambitious and well structured...Adults have secure subject knowledge...Leaders have high expectations and are ambitious for pupils...Safeguarding is a priority here.'
(OFSTED Inspection, November 2023).