

SUNDAY

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time **Divine Office Week I** Year A

26 JULY 2019

Plus 
World Day of Prayer

**World Day of Prayer to
Grandparents & the Elderly**

God is thrillingly present



Our affection for our loved ones – for the wife or husband with whom we have spent so much of our lives, for our children, for our grandchildren who brighten our days – does not fade when our strength wanes.

Pope Leo XIV

Becoming a grandmother

What was your first response [to the birth of your first grandchild] and how did you feel at that first meeting? You probably, like so many grandmothers, felt a renewed sense of wonder and overwhelming love and peace at the reality of the birth. That moment marks a deep change in you, as well as your newborn grandchild. There are now three generations instead of two, and you have shifted to a new

place in the family tree. As your status changes from mother to grandmotherhood, you are presented with a whole new set of challenges, unique to your individual circumstances... Therefore, go easy on yourself. Recognise the enormity of what has happened and its impact on you, then give this new experience time to settle into your heart, your daily life and your faith life. Above all, pray – and keep praying – for God’s guidance over the coming days, weeks, months and years.

Catherine Wiley,
Being a Catholic Grandmother

Most of us could draw up a list of experiences which have led us to believe vividly in the presence of God. Everyone would have his own personal testimony, though it is well to remember that in the last analysis these experiences are incommunicable. My own list would consist in grand experiences like the sight of the Alps one winter's morning from an aeroplane, 20,000 feet up – silent and fast, majestically independent of humanity; but also in the sight of tiny delicate things like a newborn baby's fingernails. Both the huge, panoramic exposure and the immensely delicate "workmanship" of the fingernail thrill me with God's presence.

God is even more thrillingly present in human relationships, and like most people, my list of positive experiences of God would chiefly consist in the experiences I have been given of human trust and friendship. Inevitably we take love's existence for granted, but it is, in fact, an almost miraculous experience. This ability to enter into someone else's life and become an accepted partner there, coupled with the ability to let the other person enter into our life and share our inner life with us – all this seems to be something divine because it seems to come from a different centre from the rest of life on this planet. Love can totally transform a life from the inside while the external circumstances remain the same. There is a presence of God in that, one which it is not difficult to recognise and adore.

John Dalrymple, *Costing Not Less Than Everything*: notes on holiness today



Feast of the week
Sunday 26 July

Ss Joachim and Anne

Ss Joachim and Anne are honoured as the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the grandparents of Jesus Christ. Though not mentioned in the Bible, their story is rooted in ancient Christian tradition and apocryphal writings, particularly the *Protoevangelium* of James. According to tradition, Joachim and Anne were a devout, elderly couple who longed for a child. After years of prayer and faith, they were blessed with Mary, whom they dedicated to God from an early age. Their role in salvation history is significant, as they nurtured and raised Mary in a household rooted in faith, preparing her for her unique vocation as the Mother of God. Ss Joachim and Anne are revered for their example of piety, perseverance, and trust in God's plan. Together, they embody the quiet strength and love of grandparents and the importance of family in the life of the Church.

READINGS

Today:
1 Kings 3:5. 7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

Monday:
Jeremiah 13:1-11
Matthew 13:31-35

Tuesday:
Jeremiah 14:17-22
Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday:
Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21
John 11:19-27
or Luke 10:38-42

Thursday:
Jeremiah 18:1-6
Matthew 13:47-53

Friday:
Jeremiah 26:1-9
Matthew 13:54-58

Saturday:
Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24
Matthew 14:1-12

Next Sunday:
Isaiah 55:1-3
Romans 8:35, 37-39
Matthew 14:13-21

Lord of hidden treasure, bless our elders, the keepers of wisdom and faith. May we cherish our grandparents and the lasting richness they have brought into our lives. ☪ Amen.



St Cecilia's Church

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Parochial Administrator: Fr Benedict Fadoju

Confessions: 5:00pm – 6:00pm Saturdays or please contact Fr Benedict on request

Hospital Chaplain: Fr Philip Pak Telephone: St Helier: 0208 296 2917

Useful information can be found by visiting the Diocesan Website
at www.rcsouthwark.co.uk and the Sutton Deanery Website at www.suttondeanery.weebly.com

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sat. 25th July 6:30pm. Damian Brookes
(Birthday Special Intentions)

Sun. 26th July 9:30am. Joaquim & Santana Robello (RIP)
11:00am. Rita Desa (Recently Deceased RIP)

Mon. 27th July 10:00am. NO MASS

Tues. 28th July 10:00am. Francis Easton (RIP)
Martin George (Birthday RIP)
6:00pm FUNERAL MASS
John James Healy (RIP)

Wed. 29th July 10:00am. Joan Gray (13th Anniversary RIP)

Thur. 30th July 10.00am. Thomas McHugh (Anniversary RIP)

Fri. 31st July 6:00pm. Adoration and Benediction
7:00pm. Polina (Healing and Recovery)

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sat. 1st Aug 6:30pm. Eren Anderson (Sixth Anniversary RIP)

Sun. 2nd Aug 9:30am. Special Intentions of E.U.
11:00am. Alf & Maria Oliva (RIP)
Daniel Gilhooly (Anniversary RIP)
Florencia Batista Dos Dantos Filho &
Lucieny Soares Moreira
31st Wedding Anniversary Blessing

Parish Life

Second Offering this weekend is for our Parish Ministries.

Parish Surgery and Office is open as usual until 31st July. Both will be closed from the 1st August to the 31st August, except in cases of emergency.

Winning raffle tickets numbers are posted in the narthex. There are prizes waiting to be claimed.

First Holy Communion Registration will open 5th September to 31st October. Please do not register until then. If you have submitted a form for 2027 you will need to resubmit at the appropriate time. Priority will be given to registered members of the parish on a first come first served basis.

Catholic Fundraiser for Cancer. Sunday 26th July at St Mark's Church, St Marks Place SW19 7ND 6pm to 7pm. Donations at the door (no tickets) for London preview performance of 'Breathe' a story of survival, the last showing before heading to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. All are welcome.

Parish donations and offerings can be made via the QR code.



The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field.

Matthew 44



Saints of the Week

26th SS Joachim and Anne;
29th SS Mary, Martha and Lazarus;
30th St Peter Chrysologus;
31st St Ignatius of Loyla
1st St Alphonsus Liguori

Prayers for the Sick and Housebound:

Please pray for the wellbeing of:
D.H. Adelaide Cotter; Paul Fairhall; E.K.U.;
Amy Bradbury; Marie Goti; Michael Christou;
John Rosenow; Mary Silva; Michael Hoskins;

Upcoming Mass Intentions

6th Mick Ryan (Recently Deceased)
8th Mary and Kevin Brady

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of three members of the Cornwall family: Jayden Cornwall; Vibert Cornwell and Matteo Winder.

Gerald Ani, the son of Theresa Anipou.

John James Healy, brother of Mary O'Brien.
Also for Francis Kim Tang Lam, husband of Amy Lam, who left this world on 14th July.

Lord Jesus, may they rejoice in Your Heavenly Kingdom, where all tears are wiped away and we will be united as one

Have a great summer everyone!

