

Our Ladye Star of the Sea
(Crooms Hill) West Greenwich
ourladyestaroftheseagreenwich.church
Email: greenwichwest@rcaos.org.uk
Fr. Kevin Robinson BD MA AKC
Facebook: Our Ladye Star of the Sea



Eighteenth Ordinary Sunday

3rd August 2025 Year C

Red Book page 117

Dear Friends,

Sincere thanks to you all for so many cards, gifts & kind messages as I reluctantly prepare to leave this ministry in Greenwich. It has been nothing less than an exhausting and joyful privilege to serve these two parishes for nearly 14 years. It is gratifying to know that the task I undertook in 2011 with two churches, will now occupy three resident priests! And so, it was great to welcome more than 200 people to the *Clarendon* last week. Truthfully so many that I don't know who was there and who wasn't. I am very touched by all your affection, & even that there were grown men in tears! But that perturbs me: Our purpose collectively is to build up the ***Body of Christ*** as a community where people know that they are embraced with the love of God and reach out to receive Christ in the palm of their hands. *That ministry belongs to everybody!* In some respects, I am more conscious of my failures than successes. If there is anybody I have neglected or hurt please forgive me. I am often too casual or careless with my use of words & language. I am mindful that I should have done more to develop lay ministry especially at *the Star of the Sea*. More than anything I am conscious that in these years I have failed to get the ***Star of the Sea*** towards a proper state of restoration. After several false starts, I applaud the initiative that **Brian** is taking, biting the bullet with the appointment of a conservation architect & all the related professional expenses. Back in my early years our church did not generate sufficient income to support such initiative. Whether we do today is still a fragile proposition? Hopefully once the project is rolling it will generate its own momentum. The communal



drive of removing the old floor tiles is a significant step in that direction.

From September you should welcome ***Fr Tom Lynch***. I know that you will be as generous and supportive to him as you have been to me. He is a good & cheerful man who clearly loves his people, some of whom have phoned to say how distressed they are to lose him from Strood. Aged just 40, I now soberly realise that he is nearly 30 years younger than me. He will be able to devote himself exclusively to OLSS without charging across the park on a bicycle. It is already more than 30 years since we left the CofE. Every week I would drive, in my home made Mini, with my old mate *Fr Graham Preston*, all the way to Guildford to spend two nights at the seminary. We would always get stuck in traffic beside the famous - ***Holy Trinity Wandsworth***. Here is a thriving evangelical CofE church, but I fear very different to what we might be familiar with as Catholics. We would look at the notice board by the road with bemused curiosity. Under the name of the "**Minister**" was written: "***The Whole Congregation***". We used to speculate how that might work for weddings? Nevertheless, they were onto something: "***Every Member Ministry***" should equally be a maxim for Catholics! St Paul warns us to consider how we contribute to the building up of God's church...

"If anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire". ICor3v12 It is part of the purgatorial test. I may not have built with silver & gold but you are all the "***Precious Stones***" and I have done my level best!

God Bless you all Fr Kevin

Entrance Antiphon**Ps 69: 2, 6**

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord,
make haste to help me! You are my rescuer,
my help; O Lord, do not delay.

Collect

Draw near to your servants, O Lord,
and answer their prayers with unceasing
kindness, that, for those who glory
in you as their Creator and guide,
you may restore what you have created
and keep safe what you have restored...

First reading Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of
vanities! All is vanity. Sometimes a person who
has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill
must leave everything to be enjoyed by
someone who did not toil for it. This also is
vanity and a great evil. What has a man from all
the toil and striving of heart with which he toils
beneath the sun? For all his days are full of
sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the
night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

Responsorial verses from Psalm 90(89):

*O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.*

You turn man back to dust,
and say, 'Return, O children of Adam.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
or like a watch in the night. (R)

You sweep them away like a dream,
like grass which is fresh in the morning.
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;
by evening it withers and fades. (R)

Then teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Turn back, O LORD! How long?
Show pity to your servants. (R)

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let
the favour of the LORD our God be upon
us; give success to the work of our hands.
O give success to the work of our hands. (R)

Second reading Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Brothers and Sisters: If you have been raised
with Christ, seek the things that are above,
where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Set your minds on things that are above, not on
things that are on earth. For you have died, and
your life is hidden with Christ in God. When
Christ who is your life appears, then you also
will appear with him in glory. Put to death,
therefore, what is earthly in you: sexual
immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and
covetousness, which is idolatry. Do not lie to
one another, seeing that you have put off the old
self with its practices and have put on the new
self, which is being renewed in knowledge after
the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek
and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised,
barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all,
and in all.

Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Gospel**Luke 12:13-21**

At that time: Someone in the crowd said to
Jesus, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the
inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Man,
who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?'
And he said to them, 'Take care, and be on your
guard against all covetousness, for one's life
does not consist in the abundance of one's
possessions.' And he told them a parable,
saying, 'The land of a rich man produced
plentifully, and he thought to himself, "What
shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my
crops?"' And he said, "I will do this: I will tear
down my barns and build larger ones, and there
I will store all my grain and my goods. And I
will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample
goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink,
be merry.' But God said to him, "Fool! This
night your soul is required of you, and the
things you have prepared, whose will they be?"
So is the one who lays up treasure for himself,
and is not rich towards God.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Graciously sanctify these gifts,
O Lord, we pray, and, accepting
the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice,
make of us an eternal offering to you...

Communion Antiphon**Jn 6: 35**

I am the bread of life, says the Lord;
whoever comes to me will not hunger
and whoever believes in me will not thirst.

Prayer after Communion

Accompany with constant protection, O Lord,
those you renew with these heavenly gifts
and, in your never-failing care for them,
make them worthy of eternal redemption...

***“One day, when it’s safe, when there’s no
personal downside to calling a thing
what it is, when it’s too late to hold
anyone accountable, everyone will
have always been against this.”***

— Omar El Akkad

“One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This”

...is an urgent and necessary book about what it means to live in the West today. As an immigrant in Canada, *Omar El Akkad* believed the West offered freedom and justice for all. Over the past twenty years he reported on the various Wars on Terror, climate change, Black Lives Matter protests, and more. He won awards for his journalism and his fiction. But now, watching the unmitigated slaughter in Gaza, he comes to the conclusion that much of what the West promises is a lie. The British people are not taught the dark history of our responsibility for this mess. Instead we as a country still provide diplomatic cover, arms and personnel to contribute to the extermination. We watch on as a nation is being purposely starved to death. This is a book for those that have tired of moral emptiness. Our present government is facilitating this horror by repeating empty platitudes, making those that speak out, criminals and still no sanctions on those carrying out these atrocities. So for everyone who feels helpless and wants this to change, speak out and look to an alternative.

www.yourparty.uk

For those thinking of catechesis and nurturing young people in the Catholic faith

Every parishioner, as well as teachers & parents has free & unlimited access to the workshops created by the world-renowned Catechetical Institute. From Scripture to parenting workshops, catechetical training & mentoring, there is something for everyone. For info on how to register your free account visit:

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/franciscan>



This is diocesan-wide FREE access to these remarkable workshops This FREE facility expires on 30 Sept, then you have to pay for it.

1. <https://franciscanathome.com/southwark> and click on the second blue button 'My parish is already registered...'
 2. Click on the green button 'Create new account' and complete the form (red asterisks denote mandatory fields)
 3. Select your parish from the dropdown menu.
- Please encourage your parishioners & teachers to sign up while the CI provision is free to all.*

Sarah Walsh RiP

Sarah was once well known at OLSS and still has many friends here. She has struggled with MND for several years. Devotedly cared for at home by husband Stephen & their daughter.

Died at St Christopher's Hospice

Funeral at “St Mary” Blackheath Aug 14th

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies

This course presents the basic foundational teachings of the Catholic Church in a manner that is captivating, inspiring, & applicable. The CCRS is designed and intended to support the Archbishop's vision of missionary parishes and schools by cultivating an evangelistic spirit. Participants will be equipped to make informed and practical contributions to their chosen field of ministry within the Church. Please visit

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs>



A few big kids getting down at the party. Special thanks to Maggie for all the preparations

and for another extraordinary cake, enough for 200! Front Page Last week 35 Nigerian ladies reunited after 40 years as school friends from all parts of the world at OLSS. See new website:

<https://ourladyestarofteseagreenwich.church/>



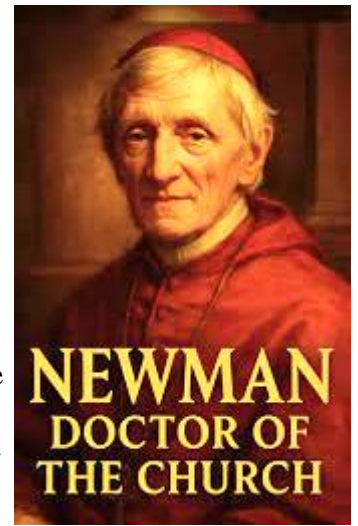
OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA
CATHOLIC CHURCH • GREENWICH

The EIGHTEENTH Ordinary Sunday August 3rd 2025

Satd 2nd 6.00pm Int: Parish & People
Sund 3rd 9.00am Int: Thg To St Ignatius Loyola
18th Ord 11.00am Int: Baby Micah Cato Tsang (Thg)
Inc Baptm of George Swainton (Valerie's Child)
Tues 5th 7.00pm Int: Nikki O'Neil (W/B)
Wed 6th 9.30am Int:
Thrs 7th 9.30am Int: The Archangels
Frid 8th 9.30am Int:
Satd 9th 6.00pm Int: In Thanksgiving
Sunday 9.00am Int:
19th Ord 11.00am Int: Sarah Walsh (RiP)

Holy Mass continues
every Saturday at the
Queen Elisabeth
Cottage Chapel
at 4.30

JH Newman 1801-1890 was declared
a Saint by Pp Francis in 2019.
A great English intellectual in 1845 he
famously blazed the trail (in which so
many others have trod) from the CofE
to the Catholic faith now declared by
Pp Leo a "*Doctor of the Church*"



Can You Help Us Identify Your Standing Order?

Over the past few years, we have been blessed
to receive a number of new standing orders into
our parish bank account – thank you! These
regular donations are vital in supporting the
mission and ministry of our parish.

**However, we're currently unable to identify
some of these standing orders.**

If you give by Standing Order to our
parish, and can Gift Aid, please renew
your Gift Aid declaration online via:

<https://forms.rcaos.org.uk/giftaid/>



Or by scanning the QR code with your phone:

**Alternatively, if you are NOT a Gift Aider, but
ARE supporting our parish via Standing
Order**, you can let us know by emailing the
parish on: greenwichwest@rcaos.org.uk

Thank you for your ongoing support, it truly
makes a difference to the life and mission of
our parish.

Ashley's graduation concert

August 6th at 7:30pm, Conway Hall WC1,
tickets available at ashleysolano.com/gala
Ashley has been worshipping at OLSS

The Charlton Society

"Celebrating the past, embracing the future"
Saturday September 20th 2025

2.30pm at St Luke's Church, Charlton Village

Join us in welcoming Jane Lawson
who will present her talk

'Urban Plants – weeds or wonders?'



Times of Mass and OTHER Services

DONA card payment system. To make an online gift via BACS Please use

Nat West – RCAS Greenwich Sort Code; 60-09-16 AccNo 25240676 OLSS

Saturday Vigil at 6.00pm at the Star of the Sea **Twitter:** Stella Maris@MarisCrooms

Sunday Masses at 9.00 am & 11.00am

benchandpew@yahoo.com

Weekday Masses: Tuesday NB at 7.00pm Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9.30 am

Saturday at 10.00am Tuesday from 18.15 at the Star of the Sea or by appointment

The Presbytery 68 Crooms Hill London SE10 8HG Tel: 020 8858 0662

Confessions:

BAPTISM

Preparation & Arrangement commences again in September.

Dominican Conv: 38 Hyde Vale SE10 8QH Tel: 020 8692 3382

St Joseph's RC Primary School Tel: 020 8858 4182 Commerell Str SE10 9AN H/T: Suzanne Long

St Ursula's Girls Convent School Tel: 020 8858 4613 Crooms Hill, SE10 8HN H/T: Mark O'Shaughnessy