

# Our Ladye Star of the Sea (Crooms Hill)

West Greenwich



[www.greenwichcatholic.org](http://www.greenwichcatholic.org)

Email: [kevinrobinson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:kevinrobinson@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr. Kevin Robinson BD MA AKC

Facebook: Our Ladye Star of the Sea



30<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ord Time Year A

October 29<sup>th</sup> 2023

Mustard Book Page 145

Just at the moment when we were anticipating a happy pilgrimage to the “*Holy Land*” the most terrible conflict has erupted, perhaps since the refoundation of Israel in 1948. I fear that it will not be possible to visit those sacred sites again in our lifetime. My Dad is now aged 97+. As a British Paratrooper, he was stationed in Israel/Palestine at the end of WW2, tasked with the job of trying to keep the peace. 80 years on he looks on in disbelief and despair that matters are now worse than ever. One of the first things that commanded his attention when we arrived at OLSS, was the inscription beneath the familiar *John Trinick* window to the left of the *Sacred Heart Chapel*. It features Christ as a child in the carpenter’s shop and asks us to:

*Pray for the soul of Allan Ford aged 18!*

Here is his story...

*Allan John Ford* lived in Royal Hill. His mother died when he was a baby and he was raised by his paternal grandmother Mary-Ann. Alan attended our own St Ann’s primary school and later St Joseph’s Academy. He enjoyed Rugby and took an interest in the church. He left school in 1946 and went to work as a Clerk in a Wine & Spirit firm in Bermondsey. The family had a long history of naval and military service.

His Father John had served in the RN for 20 years and hoped his son would follow. Allan had been a member of the Sea Cadets and enjoyed great success in the *Greenwich Regatta* (!) but instead of the Navy, in May 1947, he joined the Palestinian Police signing up for Three Years. Within 10 weeks he was hospitalised. The armoured car in which he was travelling hit a land mine. He spent 12 days recovering from his wounds. On the day of his death, a large sum

of money was being transferred in a GMC armoured car from Barclays bank in Tel Aviv to the head office in Jerusalem. A strong party of terrorists had carefully planned a raid. A bank employee placed one sack of money in the vehicle, guarded by British Policemen. He was about to put a second when the gang converged on the scene from three directions and opened fire. Four British constables were killed and other police and civilians were injured. The machine gun in the turret was stolen from the armoured car. Smoke bombs were thrown and the attackers escaped leaving most of the cash. Four men were later interrogated. Allan and his 3 colleagues were buried the day after the attack with full honours, at *Ramleh* 12km Sth of *Jaffa*.

Shortly before the outbreak of these dreadful new hostilities, *Maeve & Clive Paine* made a quiet visit to Israel. They researched the story and went to find his grave at the Ramleh cemetery (above) leaving flowers on our behalf as well as theirs. The grave is marked with the emblem of the Palestine Police and is inscribed:



1019 ALLAN JOHN FORD

– PALESTINE POLICE –

KILLED IN THE GALLANT

EXECUTION OF DUTY ON

26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 1947 AGE 18.

ETERNAL REST GIVE TO HIM

O LORD AND LET PERPETUAL

LIGHT SHINE UPON HIM

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

This is the month of the *Holy Souls*.

This boy was just 18, today he

would be on his “Gap Year”!

*“Lest we forget and all that”*

*God Bless Fr Kevin*



### **Entrance Antiphon**

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.

### **Collect**

Almighty ever-living God,  
increase our faith, hope and charity,  
and make us love what you command,  
so that we may merit what you promise...

### **First Reading**

#### **Exodus 22:20-26**

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this: You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.’”

### **Responsorial Psalm**

#### **17:2-4,47,51**

*I love you, Lord, my strength.*

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise,  
when I call I am saved from my foes. (R)

Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me,  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. (R)

### **Second reading**

#### **1 Thessalonians 1:5-10**

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy

Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

#### **cf.Ac16:14**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.

### **Gospel**

#### **Matthew 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

### **Prayer Over the Offerings**

Look, we pray, O Lord,  
on the offerings we make to your majesty,  
that whatever is done by us in your service  
may be directed above all to your glory.

### **Communion Antiphon**

#### **Cf. Ps 19: 6**

We will ring out our joy at your saving help  
and exult in the name of our God.

### **Prayer After Communion**

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray,  
perfect in us what lies within them,  
that what we now celebrate in signs  
we may one day possess in truth.

-----



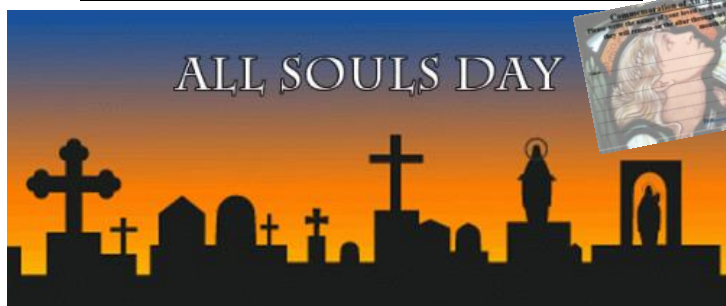
*Don't forget to set your clocks from  
sunshine and happiness back to dark nights  
and comfort eating this weekend!*

### **60+ Group This Thursday 2.00pm**

The Dominican Sisters welcome you this Thursday for the 60+ group with tea, company and a little time for prayer. It will be *All Souls Day*. Sr Veronica O.P. invites you to bring a photograph and share some happy and healing thoughts remembering a special loved one.

### **Church Cleaning OLSS**

**Please come to help after the 9.30 Mass on  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November (All Souls)**



### **This Wednesday Nov1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints Day**

This is an obligation day for Catholic People. There are Masses throughout the day at 9.30, 11.00am & 2.00pm with the Ursuline School. You are welcome at any of these celebrations, and in the Evening a Sung Mass at 8.00pm.

### **Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Commemoration of All Souls**

On this day we gather to remember our departed loved ones, especially those who have died within the last year. It is impossible to read all the names of those who are being remembered but we distribute cards today that you can place on the Alter throughout the  
***"Month of the Holy Souls"***

You may like to request a special Mass for a loved one during this month.  
Please find envelopes in church.

### **Saying Goodbye Services**

The *Mariposa Trust* supports people who have lost babies at any stage of pregnancy, birth, or infancy. With over 258,000 babies lost yearly in the UK, the charity offers a comprehensive package of befriending & support but also national *baby loss remembrance services*.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> November at 3.30pm in Central Hall, Westminster, we will be hosting one of our *Saying Goodbye Services*.

To read more on the charity, please see the website at: [www.sayinggoodbye.org](http://www.sayinggoodbye.org)

### **Passing On The Faith As Grandparents**

Four online sessions starting Wednesday eves November 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 – 9pm.  
Email Lisette on [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk)

### **Passing On The Faith For Parents**

Four online sessions starting Thurs eves November 9<sup>th</sup>, 8pm – 9:30pm.  
Email Lisette on [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk)

### **Thinking of becoming a Catholic? Catholic Instruction for Adults**

I realise that we were going to begin the Adult Formation group for anybody on the periphery of the Catholic Faith beginning in the First week of November. This will clash with *ALL Souls* night so we will delay starting until Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are on the periphery of the Catholic faith. Wondering if you should become a Catholic or simply interested in revisiting the foundations of your faith as a Catholic Person come and join us in a group that will run between now and next Easter (with appropriate breaks) beginning in November. Fill in the form or drop me a line on [kevinrobinson@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:kevinrobinson@rcaos.org.uk)

### **Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion**

Preparation will take place every Saturday from 2<sup>nd</sup> December 10.45 to 12 noon with breaks for school and public holidays with the *First Holy Communion Mass* mid/late June 2024. We are pleased to welcome children 7 years & over (Year 3 at school) and ***part of a family who are worshipping regularly at Sunday Mass.***

Registration forms are available at the 11am Mass. If you attend the 6pm or 9am Mass contact: [elisabethsteward92@gmail.com](mailto:elisabethsteward92@gmail.com)



## Have You Already Watched

THE LETTER? Go to: [www.theletterfilm.org/](http://www.theletterfilm.org/)



You are invited to join a new online *Laudato Si'* circle based in Hampton & Tooting. We will study a chapter of *Laudato Si'* each month beginning on Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. on zoom. Contact [johnwoodhousecat@gmail.com](mailto:johnwoodhousecat@gmail.com)

### *From a Melkite Companion...*

Eastern Rite Bishops in Jerusalem  
ask for TWO state solution

**Appeal to His Holiness Pope Francis,  
to the General Assembly of the  
Synod of Bishops in Rome,  
and to the Nations of the World**

We ask His Holiness, the Patriarchs, the Cardinals, the Bishops of all Churches and of all nations to issue a statement calling on the whole world - the European Union, the United States and all countries of the world – to work

towards the two-state solution in the Holy Land in accordance with the oft-repeated UN resolutions on the Holy Land. We ask you to advocate energetically and by all available means for this international resolution on the two states of Israel and Palestine to be implemented.

Just, universal and lasting peace is the greatest good for all the inhabitants of the Holy Land, which is the land of peace and the homeland of Jesus Christ, the King of Peace. If the Holy Land experiences a war of annihilation, by Palestinians against Israelis and Israelis against Palestinians, as is currently the case, this war will bring destruction to the entire Middle East. Nations of the world, stand together for peace in the Middle East, which is peace for the Holy Land and for all of us.

Peace, peace, peace is the future for the Middle East and for the whole world.

**Patriarch Emeritus Gregorios III**

17.10.2023

### OLSS Calendar for the 29<sup>th</sup> Week of Ord Time Oct 29<sup>th</sup> – Nov 5<sup>th</sup>

Satrdy 28<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm OLSS Int: Terry Jeffrey (RiP 2<sup>nd</sup> Ann)

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> 9.00am OLSS Int: Resolution of Conflict Israel/Palestine  
11.00am OLSS Int: Anna Maria (RiP)

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> **NB 7.00pm OLSS** Int: Patricia McFadden (RiP Ann)

Wnsdy 1<sup>st</sup> **All Saints Day**

Masses with the School at 9.30 – 11.00am & 2.00pm  
8.00pm Sung Mass OLSS Int: Baby James Gillespie

Thrsdy 2<sup>nd</sup> **Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls)**

Masses at 9.30am & **Sung Requiem** 8.00pm Int; Andrew David Jurksaitis (RiP)

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> 9.30am OLSS: Bill McFadden (RiP/B-day)

Satrdy 4<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm OLSS Int: In Thanksgiving (Ken & Frances Morgan)

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 9.00am OLSS Int:

11.00am OLSS Int: In Thanksgiving Norman & Dawn

Thankyou to all those who took part in the day of Prayer last Friday for Peace in Israel-Palestine which saw a continuous stream of people. Sp Thanks to **Paul Udugo** for his vigilance & care during the day & Dcn Duncan.



### Times of Mass and OTHER Services

**Saturday Vigil at 6.00pm** at The Star of the Sea (For Livestreams cf: Facebook: Our Ladye Star of the Sea)

**Sunday Masses** at 9.00 am & 11.00am **Twitter:** Stella Maris@MarisCrooms benchandpew@yahoo.com

To make an online gift via BACS Please use Nat West – RCAS Greenwich Sort Code; 60-09-16 AccNo 25240676 OLSS

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

**Confessions:** 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

**BAPTISM** Preparation & Arrangement evenings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at OLSS 7.00pm (Check this N/L)

**Ursuline Conv:** 66 Crooms Hill SE10 8HG Tel: 020 8858 0779

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

**St Joseph's RC primary school** Tel: 020 8858 4182 Commerell Street SE10 9AN H/T: Suzanne Long

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