



THE TRANSFIGURATION, KENSAL RISE

NEWSLETTER

5th September 2021

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Friends

This is my first newsletter piece as your new Parish Priest and an opportunity to introduce myself to you.

I thought it would be helpful if I gave you a brief biographical sketch. I was born in the old Westminster Hospital 48 years ago, baptised at the Church of Our Most Holy Redeemer and St Thomas More, in Chelsea and spent my first four years living in west London.

My father's work took our family to the West Country and so we swapped the streets of Notting Hill, for some gorgeous and very rural countryside on the edge of Exmoor. Our local parish, Dulverton, was very small – the westernmost outpost of the Clifton Diocese. I started serving soon after my First Holy Communion and at the age of 11, went to Downside, where I learned to live in a community bonded around by the very helpful virtues of order, stability and balance. In my last years in the school I became – and remain – a confrater in the monastery. I then went to University at Royal Holloway and read Classics, which has stood me well over the years.

I had started going to Lourdes with the OMV Pilgrimage in my final year at school and now, 30 years and 38 times to Lourdes later, I regard that as one of the key aspects in discerning my possible priestly vocation. The two aspects of prayer and service which underpin the Lourdes "experience" are also vital in discerning and living out the priestly vocation.

After university, I worked in the City in financial services, for 11 years, although all the while, the thought that maybe the priesthood, and not monastic life, might be for me. I continued my involvement with the Order of Malta and Lourdes, but it was a wise priest of this Diocese, who told me quite simply that it was time that I went to see the Vocations Director. After an initial discernment period of around 18 months, the Cardinal accepted me formation in 2014 and I was sent to the Pontifical Beda College in Rome for four years, being ordained Deacon in Rome in 2017, and Priest in Westminster Cathedral in 2018.

This is my third appointment after two curacies in two very different and rewarding parishes, Northfields and Feltham. I have learned a great deal from each of the Parish Priests I have served with, but I have learned even more from the wonderful people I have met over these past three years.

Ministering during a time of pandemic was something that none of us anticipated and yet it has allowed me to rely even more on God and His Loving Providence and to explore new and innovative ways, such as Zoom Masses, Lectio Divina and Sacramental Preparation, which if not quite the same as face to face interaction, has nevertheless, been a very helpful and encouraging way of maintaining and developing the parish community.

Change is often challenging, but it can be transformative too. I am aware that, as a parish, we are entering upon a new stage of this adventure in Christian living. We are doing so together and it is my privilege and joy to be asked to do this with you. I am looking forward to our getting to know each other and building up the Church here in Kensal Rise.

I will end with a phrase of St Benedict, which I think is very apt at this time "each day we begin again".

Let's pray for each other.

Father John

Sunday Masses: (Sat 6pm) Sun 9am & 11am, Italian: 12.30pm
Holydays: 10am & 7pm Holy Hour: Fri 6pm (not in Lent)
Weekday Masses: Mon & Fri 12noon. Tues, Wed, Thu & Sat 10am
Confession: Sat 10.30-11.15am & 5-5.45pm and on request

MASS INTENTIONS

4th September - 11th September

Date	Time	Intention
Sat 4th	6pm	Patrick & Mary Thornton RIP
Sun 5th	9am	Mary McKenna (Anniversary)
	11am	People of the Parish
Mon 6th	12noon	Neide Moraes (Birthday Intentions)
Tues 7th	10am	Eileen Murphy RIP
Wed 8th	10am	Tommy O'Malley RIP
Thurs 9th	10am	Sveva Gilardini Paterno RIP
Fri 10th	12 noon	James Carroll (Birthday Anniversary)
Sat 11th	10am	John Hannon RIP
	6pm	Paul O'Sullivan & Patricia O'Sullivan (6th Anniversary)

SANCTUARY LAMP AND SIDE ALTAR LAMPS

Main Altar: Kevlin Eurie (Birthday A)

Sacred Heart: Tommy O'Malley RIP

Our Lady: Fr John Tabor (Intentions)

Mass Availability

If you would like to book a Mass, here is the availability for the rest of the year.

October - 19 Masses left

November - 3 Masses left

December - 8 Masses left

Parish Priest: Fr John Tabor	Presbytery: 1 Wrentham Avenue, London, NW10 3HT
Parish Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays between 9:30am and 2:30pm	

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN THE PARISH WHO ARE SICK AND/OR HOUSEBOUND AND
ALSO THOSE WHO HAVE NOBODY ELSE TO PRAY FOR THEM**