



Our Lady  
of Victories  
\*  
Kensington

# OUR LADY OF VICTORIES Summer News 2024

**If you are a visitor, welcome to Our Lady of Victories.**

**If you are returning from your holiday, we hope you had an enjoyable and restful time.**

### Summer Mass Schedule

There will be no e-parish newsletter during August. The website will be updated.

Summer Sunday Mass schedule:

Weekday Mass Mon– Fri 10am

6pm Saturday Vigil/anticipated.

Sunday: 9.00, 10.30 & 1200. **No 6pm** In August.

This week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> August:

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August:** Funeral Mass at 10.00am of Margaret Mangan RIP

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August:** Funeral Mass at 11.00am of Michael Latham RIP. **No 10.00am Mass**

Mass will be available at 6pm on Sundays at the Carmelite Church 41 Kensington Church Street W8 4BB.

### Sacraments

**Baptism:** Please enquire with the Parish Office.

**Marriage:** Six months' notice is required for paperwork.

**Confirmation:** Registration for those in year 9 begins in September/October

### Eucharistic Festival In The Cathedral

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September, the Feast of the Holy Cross, Cardinal Nichols invites everyone to a Eucharistic Festival in the Cathedral, starting at 2pm and finishing around 4pm.

The afternoon will include Adoration, Rosary, Confessions and Procession of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as sermons from Fr Alan Robinson, Rector of the Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament in Maiden Lane, and Bishop Nicholas Hudson, who will impart Pontifical Benediction at the end of the Procession.

### Becoming Catholic?

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or are you an adult who has not yet been confirmed? Contact the Parish office or Fr Francis for more information.

### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, led by Cardinal Vincent and the Auxiliary Bishops is on Saturday **21st September**.

The theme of the Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage is 'Be it done unto me according to thy word'.

### Prayer

Loving Father, during this time of rest and relaxation, please repair in me whatever is broken, and revive my drooping spirit.

Let this vacation be a graced time of recollection and rejuvenation, of deeper self-awareness and eager self-giving.  
Amen

### Lost Property

If you believe you have left something in the Church, please check with the parish office.

### Parish Office

Please be patient when you contact the parish office. The parish team will be taking their holidays. We appreciate your patience.

### Pauline Books and Media

The Sisters of the Pauline run their shop in the repository at Our Lady of Victories Church on Friday and Sunday from 9am to 1pm. The contact number is 07561456074.

### Useful Websites

**OLOV:** <http://www.ourladyofvictories.net/>

**RCDOW:** <http://rcdow.org.uk>

## A brief history of our parish

Fr James Foley, who became parish priest in 1860, bought this plot in 1866 for £5,125. The architect, George Goldie, was well known for his love of the Gothic style. The foundation stone was laid on 14 May 1867. The site was large but awkward, extending 300 feet back from the high street with a very narrow frontage of only 33 feet, compared to the far end of 65 feet.

The church was opened on the Feast of the Visitation--2 July 1869. Bishop Tray celebrated pontifical High Mass, and Archbishop Manning (later Cardinal) preached the sermon. On the night of 13 September 1940, during a large-scale air raid, the church was destroyed, as was the Carmelite church in Kensington Church Street. Worship continued in a local cinema, the Cavendish Furnishing Co store, the Assumption Chapel in Kensington Square, and the Congregational Chapel in Allen Street.

On 31 October 1958, the doors of the current building were opened, with the official opening led by Cardinal Godfrey on 6 April 1959. Fr Charles Cox, one of the curates at the time, composed the music of the favourite Catholic hymn "*Sweet Sacrament Divine.*"

In 1921, GK Chesterton was received into the Catholic Church and made his first communion at OLV. In 1869, Cardinal Manning named OLV as his pro Cathedral. It remained so till the opening of Westminster Cathedral in 1903.

We celebrate the faith of our predecessors, brothers and sisters, the people, religious and clergy who have worshipped, served, and cherished this place as their spiritual home. In 2019 we welcomed our present Archbishop, His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols, who presided and celebrated this Solemn Mass to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Church on this site. Our preacher was the Revd Canon Michael Brockie, Provost of the Cathedral Chapter of Westminster.

We welcomed, too, Fr Patrick Ryall OSM, Dean of the Kensington and Chelsea Deanery. We have so much for which to thank God. We have a lively, multicultural parish with so many faithful people who are the living stones of the Church of Jesus Christ.

1794: The mission is re-established

1813: Holland Street Chapel opens

1869: The Church opens

1940: The Church is destroyed

1994: The parish celebrates 200 years

2019: 150th anniversary of the first Church on this site