



1. This weekend we celebrate the **Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time**. The readings can be found on page 111 of the Parish Mass Books.
2. Father Richard begins his summer holiday on July 16<sup>th</sup>, and Father Giovanni will go away later in the summer. **Due to this, we will begin our summer timetable on July 17<sup>th</sup>. PLEASE NOTE – there will be no 8.00 am Mass from July 17<sup>th</sup> until September 4<sup>th</sup> inclusive – the 8.00 am Mass resumes on September 11<sup>th</sup>.** Likewise, there is no Eucharistic Adoration during this period, however, the Friday morning Adoration will continue as usual. Apart from the above, all other services continue as normal.
3. **Similarly, there will be no weekly email for the next few weeks – these will resume once Fr Richard returns from his break in August.**
4. Looking ahead – considerably! – to Christmas, **we hope to hold a parish Christmas Fair again this year**, after an absence of several years caused by Covid. **There will be a meeting for everyone interested on Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup> at 8.00 pm in the Parish Centre.** More details to follow – but please note the date now!
5. **The Backpack programme** helps build human and spiritual development. It has been run in schools, parishes, youth groups, and used with addiction recovery. The backpack program is a resilience initiative. The contemporary formation provided is described by participants as a life-changing. The lessons offer skills in emotional self-regulation, with practical tools for mind and body calming. People flourish as they develop increased self-awareness and learn

to instil boundaries for healthier relationships. Contemplative prayer cultivates their choice to make their relationship with God both private and personal. A virtue-based approach in contemporary society builds resilience and peace, which are more essential than ever before. **The backpack for adults is available from September in our parish!** 11 sessions of 2 hours in the Plunkett room, starting the last week of September, day and time to be confirmed.

6. **The annual 'March for Life' takes place in London on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**, praying for an end to abortion and a new respect for the sanctity of human life. There will be a Mass at St George's Cathedral, Southwark at 11.00 am, as well as morning events at the Emmanuel Centre Westminster, before the March itself begins at 2.00 pm (ending in Parliament Square at 4.30 pm). More details to follow.
7. **We wish all our parishioners a very happy summer** – for those of you who are travelling, we wish you a safe journey and we look forward very much to seeing you again in the new term.



With our prayers and best wishes,

Fr. Richard and Fr. Giovanni