

ST LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH FELTHAM

The Green, Feltham, TW13 4AF



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Facebook Group: [St Lawrences RC Church, Feltham](https://www.facebook.com/StLawrencesRCChurchFeltham)

The First Sunday of Advent

27th/28th November 2021

Readings: Parish Mass Book Year C, Volume 1: (Page 82): Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 24; 1 Thessalonians 3:12, 4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Next Week: Second Sunday of Advent (Page 84): Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 125; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6



Parish Team

Parish Priest:

Fr. John Byrne

Mobile: 0787 905 8732

Email: johnbyrne@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest:

Fr Joseph Okoro

Email: josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk

Deacon:

Rev. Colin Macken

Email: colinmacken@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary:

Florie Fernandes

Parish Office Open: Mon & Wed 9am-12noon;
Tues 2-5pm; Thursday 9am-5pm

Safeguarding Officer:

Helen Abiegebe

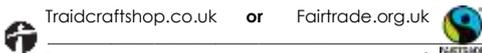
Email: felthamsg2@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Sisters:

Sr. Nora Gorman

Protecting your Privacy:

In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which became effective in May 2018, the Parish requires your permission to hold your data for Parish/Diocesan use. You can read our full privacy policy on www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy



Mass and other liturgies live streamed from Westminster Cathedral and other parishes are available at www.churchservices.tv

NEW MASS TIMES FROM SEPTEMBER

Sunday Masses: 8.00am, 9.30am and 11.00am

Monday to Friday: 10am Mass

Saturday Morning: 11.00am Mass

Saturday Morning: Confessions: 10.00am to 10.45am with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,

Saturday Evening: 5.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday

This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (WRCDT) Registered Charity No: 233699

“And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory ... stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.”

Today, the first Sunday of Advent, marks the beginning of the Church's liturgical calendar. Advent is a season of definitive hope that God will come to deliver his people in a manner like never before.

In this season of waiting, we see as part of the decoration in church the Advent wreath with one white, one pink and three purple candles. The three purple candles, – a liturgical colour for a time of penance, prayer and sacrifice – and which are each lit on the first, and subsequent second and fourth Sundays, symbolise hope, faith and peace. The pink candle, lit on the third Sunday symbolises joy. While the white candle, which is lit on the eve of or Christmas day symbolises Jesus Christ, our sinless and pure Saviour.

As these candles burn in churches around the world, (or even in our individual homes) it is hoped that their symbolisms also burn in our hearts. These symbolisms – hope, faith, joy and peace - are given to help focus our prayers as we progress week by week, with our preparation to receive our Lord, culminating as such in a renewed and purified life at Christmas. They are meant to amplify our reflections on the true meaning of the coming of the Lord, who had first come to us at his birth over two thousand years ago; but now, we await his second coming.

The character of the One who is coming, which the first reading of today explains will practise honesty and integrity in the land, will bring a great spiritual and moral transformation, not just in the land but in the lives of all who open their hearts to receive him. Having fulfilled in his life the prophecies of Old that God would come to dwell with and redeem his people, Jesus, in today's Gospel passage prepares his disciples minds about the end time and for his second coming. Like them, we are to prepare ourselves too for that Day of the Lord by standing erect in virtuous life of selfless love, forgiving spirit and reconciliation. We are to hold as our standards, not the world's, but of the One who practises honesty and integrity.

When the Lord comes with power and great glory, may he find us blameless, that we may stand with confidence to receive him. Amen

Fr Joseph

WESTMINSTER SYNODAL PATHWAY

As part of the Westminster Synodal Pathway we are invited to join Cardinal Vincent Nichols at an Area Listening Event on **Thursday 2nd December, 7pm-9pm at Ealing Abbey, Charlbury Grove, London W5 2DY**. Pope Francis has invited the worldwide Church to a time of listening – of listening deeply to each other as we walk side by side, telling our stories of faith. Here in our local Church, our Diocese, this is just what we are doing. This Area Listening Event is an opportunity to listen, to share, and to dream about the Church we are called to be. All are welcome, and places can be booked by emailing catadmin@rcdow.org.uk.

Cathy Early and Janet Danladi

Masks are recommended when in Church.

When in Church please use our phone app or sign in for track and trace. Please continue to sanitize your hands.

If you, your child or family member has a cold or cough, please do not come to Church until your cough has cleared as cases are rising again.

The Government guidelines states that you should not come to church if you have Covid-19 symptoms, or you are shielding or self-isolating. Masses continue to be available online for those who are vulnerable or shielding or self-isolating.

THE GIFT OF THE SUNDAY EUCHARIST

The Sunday Eucharist is a gift; as God's holy people we are called to praise and thank God in the most sublime way possible. When the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ's love.

At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass.

The above is an extract from the Bishop's Conference. The full statement "Honouring Sundays" is available at the back of Church. Please take a copy.

GENTLE REMINDER

From this weekend the Holy Eucharist will be distributed at the usual time rather than at the end of Mass. Bidding Prayers will resume as will Altar Servers. We understand from the Bishops Conference that the Covid guidelines issued in July this year remain with local discernment as to the needs of the parish.

ADVENT 2021 BIBLE SERIES

Mauro Iannicelli will break-open the forthcoming Advent Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. As a result, you will experience Sunday Mass in a new way! **Five Wednesdays: 24 Nov | 1 Dec | 8 Dec | 15 Dec | 22 Dec** (7-8pm UK Time). Free of Charge | LIVE sessions on YouTube. Info & Registration: <https://comeandsee.org/advent>. Highly recommended.

ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR

The Caritas Westminster team are sharing an Advent Giving Calendar again this year. The Calendar gives suggestions for items which we can put in our box for Storehouse. The important thing about the calendar is that it is also a way for families to find out where they can get some help if they are struggling to buy the food they need.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2022

Florie will be available to take Mass Bookings for next year on **Monday 29th November and Thursday 2nd December from 10.30am-11.30am in the Church Porch**. Please remember that it is initially only 3 intentions per family, giving everybody a chance, later on if there are spaces you can book extra Masses. Please think carefully about your intentions and bring the correct money with you - £10 per Mass intention.

CHRISTMAS CARDS, GIFTS....

The Church Repository (Shop) has a good selection of Christmas Cards, 2022 calendars, gifts and other items on sale.

WESTMINSTER YEAR BOOK 2022

The Yearbook is available for sale in the Repository £4.50 for a bound copy £5.00 for a ringbound copy.

MISSIO RED BOXES

If anyone has a box at home, please bring it to Church in the next two weeks so that it can be emptied and the monies sent to Missio.

ENROLMENT FOR CONFIRMATION (2ND GROUP)

If you would like your child enrolled for the Confirmation Programme please email Theresa Fernandes on theresafernandes@aol.com. The enrolment process ends on 1st Sunday of December (5th December).

FR GERRY'S GRAVE

Following the request a month ago not to put anything on the grave the little lawn begins to grow. Unfortunately, three large candle holders and some flowers have now been left on the grave and have had to be removed. It is Fr Gerry's family, not St Lawrence's parish, who own the burial rights and want the grave to be plain and easily maintained by the authorities. Plants, candles, etc. will, it is said, be thrown in the rubbish bin if they interfere with mowing the grass. Whatever our own preferences we must respect the wishes of Fr Gerry's family and leave the grave bare. Better therefore, to follow his own wishes inscribed on the headstone, "Pray for me sometimes". Thank you.

CODE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – RECEPTION CLASS

Please phone Fr John on 0787 905 8732 to arrange an appointment for the required Certificate of Catholic Practice.

A CALL FOR READERS

If anyone would like to read at the 8am Mass on Sundays, please speak to a member of the Pastoral Team.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION IN ADULTS (RCIA)

Would you like to find out more about the Catholic Faith? Have you been searching for a deeper meaning for your life? Do you share your life with a Catholic, perhaps you are supporting your husband or wife bringing up your children in the Catholic Faith. If you are interested in learning more or thinking about becoming a Catholic, please call Fr John or Fr Joseph.

ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

is looking for an Admin and Welfare Officer, please contact Adele Colombo at the school, 01932 7858396, or visit their website for more information go to www.st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk/vacancies.

THE PASSAGE

A Catholic charity working with homeless people is raising funds through the Big Give a matched giving scheme from 12.00 noon. Every £1 donated online between 12.00 noon on **Tuesday 30 November and 12.00 noon on Tuesday 7 December** makes £2 and £2.25 if you are a taxpayer through Gift Aid. At a time when The Passage's finances are stretched and they are helping more homeless people please consider supporting this charity through the link <https://bit.ly/PassageBG2021>

DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS ILL OR HOUSEBOUND?

If you know of someone who is ill in hospital or at home, or elderly or housebound, please ask them if they would like someone from the parish to visit them for a chat or with Communion, so that we can offer them and their family the support of our prayers and be a tangible sign of Christ's love for them in their need. Please call Fr John, Fr Joseph or Deacon Colin.

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the repose of the souls of **Martin Adu-Kwanin RIP** and **Baby Carlo Anthony Fernandes RIP** who died recently. Please also keep their families and loved ones in your prayers at this time.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 27	11am	Samuel Pereira – Birthday Thanksgiving
	5pm	Patrick Keaveney RIP (Anniversary)
Sun 28	8am	Rosie Bragança RIP
	9.30am	Eric Fernandes and Family in Thanksgiving
	11am	The Wilson Family in Thanksgiving
Mon 29	10am	Godinho Family in Thanksgiving
Tues 30	10am	Lourdinho Soares RIP (Anniversary)
Wed 1	10am	George D'Mello RIP
Thurs 2	10am	Negredo Family in Thanksgiving
Fri 3	10am	Delphina & Lawrence Furtado RIP
Sat 4	11am	Carmina Costa in Thanksgiving
	5pm	Barbara Ann Adams (Intention)
Sun 5	8am	Logarta Family in Thanksgiving
	9.30am	For the intentions of Fr John, Sr Mary & Sr Nora
	11am	Timothy Cahalane RIP
Sanctuary Lamp:		Gabriel D'Souza RIP

Thank you for your generous contributions during these times. The contactless machine is available in the Church or you can use the link below <https://portal.myдона.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=262>

HSBC Bank: WRCDT Feltham Sort code: 40-05-20 – Account No: 71095528

THE PRAYER OF THE SYNOD

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity

so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

