

Our Lady of Lourdes
Roman Catholic Parish of Acton
Archdiocese of Westminster



This parish is served by The Spiritans

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Parish Newsletter 4th December 2022

Second Sunday in Advent Year A

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-9 Gospel: Matthew Matthew 3:1-12

WELCOME everyone joining us today for Mass. If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to one of the priests after mass.

For Daily and Sunday Mass Readings, Morning Evening Prayer: <https://www.universalis.com>

The Angelus: Our reader will lead us in praying The Angelus before the start of Mass.

The Church will be open Tues to Fri, 9:00am to 4:00pm. Sat 10:00am to 8:00pm

Mass Times:

Monday: No Mass

Fr Patrick works at Heathrow—Fr Jude's day off

Tuesday – Friday: Mass 10:00am

Saturday: 7:00pm

Sunday : 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00

Parish Office: Mondays 9:00am – 1:00pm, Thursdays and Fridays 10:00am—2:00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 30 minutes before each weekday Mass and weekend Mass.

During the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament please join us in silent prayer and reflection showing complete reverence at all times.

Confessions: Priests will be available in the Confessional on Saturdays 6:20pm to 6:50pm. Weekdays: Tuesday to Friday from 9:15am to 9:55am. You can also book an appointment with the priest for confession for a time that is convenient to you.

Rosary: The Rosary will be said every Friday after the 10am mass.

Our Lady of Peace Prayer Group meets every Friday at 7pm in the church. All are welcome.

All Souls: Thank you to all those who attended the Mass on Wednesday evening. Please collect your photos from the sacristy.

Leo Timmens died peacefully on Thursday 24th November. Let us pray for his wife Mary Joe and all the family.

Second Sunday of Advent: The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth at Christmas. Today we light the second purple candle, which represents Faith. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" and reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

Acton Homeless Concern: A member of Acton Homeless Concern will be coming to make an appeal at all masses this weekend. The second collection on 10/11th December will be for Acton Homeless Concern.

Christmas Masses: There will be a Children's mass on Christmas Eve at 6pm—all children and families are welcome. There will also be a Midnight Mass with a Carol Service beforehand at 11.30pm. Sunday masses will remain the same at 9am, 10.30am and 12pm.

Please pray: We have 40 young people preparing for First Holy Communion and 60 teenagers preparing for Confirmation. Please keep all these young people in your prayers.

Flame 2023: Flame is the largest Catholic gathering of young people in England and Wales. Taking place on Saturday, 4 March 2023 at the OVO Arena, Wembley. We will be taking our Confirmation Candidates to the event. If you have any young people who would also like to attend (£25) please contact the office know this week as we will be purchasing tickets next Friday.

Christmas Raffle: We will continue to sell raffle tickets for £1 each for the Christmas Raffle which will take place on 17 & 18 December. We would like to ask for donations for great prizes: E.g. Wine bottles, Baileys, Chocolates, Gift cards/vouchers, hampers and any great prizes you can offer.

VOLUNTEER SECTION

If you would like to volunteer with any of our Church events please email the office acton@rcdow.org.uk.

Tea and Coffee: We are open for tea and coffee after the 9am and 10.30am Masses every Sunday.

Children's Liturgy Leaders: Our Children's Liturgy Team is in great need of your support. Please help us to grow our numbers in order to continue providing Children's Liturgy every Sunday of the school year. We welcome any form of help: regular or on an ad-hoc basis. You don't need to be a teacher to be a Children's Liturgy Leader and our existing members will be there to guide you and support you. Please find any of us after the service at 10:30am every Sunday.

Sacramental Programmes: We are looking for volunteers to help in preparing candidates for sacramental programs like First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA.

Acton Homeless Concern are looking for Volunteers on Saturday morning **11th December**. Please get in touch with them if you are able to help.

Football Jerseys: Thank you to those who have donated—we have raised £100. We still need to raise £300 for the Spiritan Seminary in Ghana to take part in the Inter-Seminary Games. They are in need of football jerseys, socks and shin pads. If you would like to make a contribution, please contact Fr. Patrick or the parish office.

Our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service & individual confessions will take place on Thursday 15th December at 7pm. We will be joined by other priests to help with individual confessions.

Be Aware: Please be aware that people are being targeted and watched by thieves in and around Ealing. Several people have been robbed on the street of their belongings. Keep your things with you at all times and close to your body and preferably out of sight.

Giving Tree: Thank you to everyone who has already donated to the Giving Tree. Please do take a tag, buy the items on the tag and drop it into the parish office. Gift/care packages will be put together for the homeless and those in need by volunteers and Acton Homeless Concern.

Lost Property: A Reolut card was left in the church. If this belongs to you please get in touch with the parish office.

World Youth Day 25th July— 9th August 2023 Lisbon: It brings together millions of young Catholics from all over the world with the Holy Father, to be inspired in their faith and experience a deeper sense of the great communion that is the Church. There are only 50 spaces so early sign up preferably by 16 December 2022 when applications will close. <https://dowym.com/events/world-youth-day-lisbon/>

New Parish Registration we are creating a new database for the parish. It is important that you register yourself/your family on the Parish New Database, by filling in a Database Form and returning it to the parish office. Forms are available in the church or pick one up from the parish office.

Upcoming short courses for all our Parish Catechists

5th Dec at 7pm: For all the Catechists

12th Dec at 7pm: For Confirmation Catechists

19th Dec at 7pm: For First Holy Communion Catechists

7th Jan at 10am-1pm: For Children's Liturgy Catechists.

All meetings will take place in the Parish Hall.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Journey in Faith: Are You Interested in Becoming a Catholic? If you have never been baptized, if you were baptized in another Christian denomination and would like to become Catholic, or if you were baptized Catholic, but never received the Sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation, you are welcome to join the RCIA programme, the process by which adults become Catholic. Likewise, if you are Catholic and interested in learning more about the Faith.

Marriage Preparation Group and Marriage Support: Any couple preparing for marriage, or any married couple who would need support, please contact parish office.

Marriage Paperwork Progress You are required to give 6 MONTHS NOTICE of MARRIAGE – whether it is taking place HERE or ABROAD. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE IT TO THE LAST MINUTE. Couples or individuals should speak to a Priest VERY EARLY IN THE PROCESS – so that there is no last-minute rush. Marriage Preparation Courses are NOT offered EVERY MONTH.

Sycamore marriage enrichment: Growing in Faith Together: A four-week course for engaged couples who have completed their marriage preparation course and want to continue exploring their faith together, and for married couples to enrich their friendship and love. <https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/b-formation-pathways/growing-in-faith-together/>

ACTON HOMELESS CONCERN

0208 992 5768 admin@actonhomelessconcern.org

Acton Homeless Concern is our parish's local charity that provides basic needs, services, support and advice for homeless and disadvantaged people and anyone in need. **All are welcome.** As well as providing hot meals and groceries, services available include housing, medical support, counselling, legal advice and referral services for drug and alcohol misuse. If you, or anyone you know needs help please do get in touch or - or just drop into one of the centres.

Emmaus House (1-3 Berrymead Gardens)

Emmaus House serves lunch from 11.45am, Monday - Friday.

The Damien Centre (Church Street)

The Damien Centre serves breakfast from 9am and a light meal available between 2-6pm, Monday - Friday.

How you can help: We are always in need of volunteers to help and serve food and clothes. Or if you have another skill or area of expertise to help our clients then please do get in touch. Clothing and financial donations are always gratefully received.

STREET COLLECTION HELP SATURDAY 10th DECEMBER

Acton Homeless Concern is holding its annual street collection on Saturday 10th December and we're looking for helpers. We'll be collecting locally between 9am and 5.30pm so if you can volunteer for a shift, please get in touch.

Baptism for babies and infants Please attend one of the weekend Masses and speak with Fr. Patrick/Fr Jude afterwards. He will advise you on how to proceed.

Parish Singer and Harpist: Our parishioner Gina Mackey, provides beautiful harp music and vocals for Wedding Ceremonies and Funeral Masses. For further information please visit www.ginamackey.co.uk or email gina.mackey@btinternet.com

#ST.VINCENTS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL Nursery & Reception Application 2023

Visit www.st-vincents.ealing.sch.uk/admissions
Deadline 13th January 2023.

Faith



KID'S CORNER

CAFOD World Gifts: Give a gift of hope this Christmas

In Advent, let's share the promise of hope that has been made to us with our sisters and brothers around the world. You can buy CAFOD's World Gifts for family and friends this Christmas online at <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/> or pick up a catalogue from the table at the back of church. World Gifts such as "super soup kitchens", "trees for life", or "water for a family" will help transform lives in a world filled with challenges.



If you or a loved one are celebrating a Special Occasion, Birthday, or Anniversary, please let the priests know so we can pray for you as a community.

Visitation If you or someone in your family is housebound and would like a priest to visit, please speak with the parish priest or contact the parish office, thank you.

Mass Intentions If you would like someone to be prayed for please write the details with your donation, put it in an envelope and submit it. All Mass intentions are published in the Newsletter.

Prayer for the sick and housebound

Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son in the Eucharist. We now place before you all our sick parishioners, at home or in hospital, and for bereaved families. As they share in this Eucharist with us, we pray that they may come to know the depth of your love for them and the joy, peace, and healing, of your presence. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Safeguarding: If you are concerned that a child or vulnerable adult has been harmed or is at risk of harm, in the first instance, please dial 999, otherwise contact our **Parish Safeguarding Representative Geraldine Allen** (RCDOW Safeguarding Co-ordinator) geraldineallen@rcdow.org.uk / 020 7798 9196

The church is open for the following Services and for private prayer and Confessions

Saturday 3rd December

St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Memorial

No Morning Mass.

6:20—6:50pm Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Mass of Sunday

7.00pm Mass Int.: Colm Tully—Death Anniv. Fr. John Leahy—R.I.P.
David Hardie—Death Anniv.

Sunday 4th December

2nd Sunday of Advent Year A

08.30-08.55am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & private prayer

09.00am Mass Int.: Dan Sullivan—Health, Michelle & Lorraine Byrne—R.I.P.

10.30am CHILDREN'S MASS

Mass Int.: Deceased member of the Lawlor family

Colm O'Sullivan—R.I.P.

12.00noon Mass Int.: Christy & Mary Coughlan—R.I.P.

Monday 5th December

No Mass

Tuesday 6th December

09.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & private prayer

10.00am Mass Int.: The Maguire Family—R.I.P.,
Antoun & Samir Narouz—Private Intention
Eddie O'Reilly—Birthday Anniv.

Wednesday 7th December

St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor
Memorial

9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & private prayer

10.00am Mass Int.: Mariano De Almeida—R.I.P.

Thursday 8th December

The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Mary Virgin
Solemnity

9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & private prayer

10.00am Mass Int. Madonia Rosalia—R.I.P.

Giovanni Pontearso—R.I.P., Conception Bigay Fajardo—R.I.P.

Friday 9th December

09.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & private prayer

10.00am Funeral Mass: Gregory Ongboon Chua

Saturday 10th December

Mass of Sunday

No Morning Mass.

12.00noon Baptism of Connor Downes

6:20—6:50pm Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

7.00pm Mass Int.: Maureen Nolan—RIP

Sunday 11th December

3rd Sunday of Advent Year A

08.30-08.55am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & private prayer

09.00am Mass Int.: .

10.30am Mass Int.:

12.00noon Mass Int.:

For a newsletter emailed weekly, or to suggest articles/additions, contact the parish secretary: acton@rcdow.org.uk.

Newsletter items received after 12 noon Thursday may not be included that week.

Editor reserves the right to edit articles.