



SS MICHAEL AND MARTIN

Roman Catholic Parish of Hounslow
Archdiocese of Westminster

This Parish is served by the Spiritans

PARISH NEWSLETTER

94 Bath Road, Hounslow TW3 3EH

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☐/ssmmhounslow ☐@ssmmhounslow

4th Sunday of Advent

24th December 2023

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Christmas is the celebration of our Lord's Nativity. The annual festival, commemorating the Ultimate gift of God, the birth of Jesus Christ. The Eternal Word of the Father, the Son of God took flesh and came to dwell among us. Christmas reminds Christians that following Christ means abandoning the life of self in one way or the other to embrace the life of God – life of Love. It is a time to deeply connect with God, with one another and with our local communities. Christmas is a time we carry the baby Jesus, whom we should make efforts to have Him born in our hearts, to our brethren.

It is a season of joy, love, peace, reconciliation, almsgiving and many other deeds of compassion and love. We need the new light of Christ in our world today which is becoming darker and more hostile. May God who is infinite in love and mercy grant us wholistic healing and renewed strength, and may the birth of Jesus Christ who is the light of the world dispel every darkness in our lives, homes, parish, society and the world at large, Amen

We are immensely grateful to all our parishioners for your selfless and generous support to the parish; especially your active and regular participation in the liturgical and para-liturgical activities of the parish. The parish active Service Team is amazing and vibrant: the Parish Office, the Parish Catechism Team, the Parish Youth Worker, the Parish Centre Manager, Parish Safeguarding Reps, Repository Managers, Sacristans, the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Finance Council, Projector Slides Team, Cleaners, Decorators, Counters,

Continued on page 2

SUNDAY

MASSES

Sat Vigil 6.15pm
7:30am, 9am,
10.30am,
12noon
6pm

WEEKDAY

MASSES

Mon – Sat 9am
Mon – Thu 6pm
Fri 7pm

CONFESSIONS

Please refer to
Christmas
schedule

PARISH

ROSARY

Mon – Fri at
8:15am

HOLY HOUR & BENEDICTION

Please refer to
Christmas
schedule

Parish Office is closed from Friday 22nd December 2023 till Monday 1st January 2024

Parish Priest: Fr Damian-Mary Moneke, CSSp.

damianmoneke@rcdow.org.uk (Day off: Mon)

1st Assistant Priest: Fr Ignatius Nguyen Quy Quan,
CSSp

guyquannnguyen@rcdow.org.uk (Day off: Wed)

2nd Assistant Priest & Chaplain at Heathrow

Airport: Fr Terkura Igbe, CSSp.

terkuraigbe@rcdow.org.uk (Day off: Thurs)

**PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL THE PRIEST
DIRECTLY FOR AN APPOINTMENT**

Parish Administrator: Priya Joseph

priyajoseph@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Catechist: Lionel Pereira

hounslowcat@rcdow.org.uk

Youth Worker: Ivan Čižmárik

ivancizmarik@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Centre Manager: Señorita Evans

senoritaevans@rcdow.org.uk – (07542 531 956)

(BOOKINGS TAKEN BY PHONE MON, THURS,

FRI 7.00-8.30AM TUES/WED 4.00-5.00PM, OR BY EMAIL)

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

hounslowsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk (Lorna – Admin)

hounslowsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk (Chinyere)

hounslowsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk (Areis)

hounslowsg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk (Mary Pierre-

Harvey)

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Lectors/Readers, Stewards/Ushers, Altar Servers, Choral Groups, Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM), Sport and Cultural Society (SCS), St Vincent de Paul Team (SVP); your services are highly esteemed. We are very proud of you.

Our Parish is blessed with people from different nationalities. Indeed the multicultural dimension of our parish is a valued and incomparable wealth. For this, we are eternally grateful to God for the gift of these different communities to our parish.

Our sincere gratitude to all those who donated to the parish Food Bank, Jacob's Angel and the Christmas Hampers initiatives. Thank you for the Christmas gifts and for your love, support and encouragement! We hold in our thoughts and prayers everyone dedicated to improving our parish and communal worship. We are committed to enhance love, peace and unity in our parish. We wish you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas celebration and a blissful New Year! - **Pastoral Team**

PARISH NOTICES

ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS

Please we kindly requests all volunteers to attend a meeting with Parish clergy on Wednesday 3rd January at 7pm in the Church to present the new volunteers policy. All volunteers are endeavored to attend.

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING

The starting date of the Training is on Saturday 13th of January 2024 at 10.00am in the Church. Altar Servers Training is divided into three groups based on the first letter of their surnames.

(The date of Training is the 13th of January 2024 in the Church)

Group 1: ACDGL (28) and Time: 10 am-11 am

Group 2: FTV (27) and Time: 11 am- 12 pm

Group 3: MNOPRS (29) and Time: 12 pm-13 pm

Registered children must attend all 3 sessions to complete the training.

CHURCH CARK PARK ACCESS

Please note the Church car park will NOT be in use from the 23rd December till the 2nd January. There

will be a marquee in the Church car park to support the large crowd expected for Christmas and New Year Masses. The school car park will be open for cars to park, and entry and exit will be via St Mark's school car park.

NOTIFICATIONS FOR PARISH EVENT PLANNER 2024

As 2023 ends, we must anticipate the parish's plans for 2024. We call associations and groups to forward their significant events to the Parish Calendar. The goal is to avoid events clashes and cloistering. The regular Masses of the ethnic chaplaincies are already registered and will continue, but they will have to indicate celebrations outside their ordinary hours.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME CARDS

Our December Christmas Season programme cards are now available. In the cards you will find the schedule of Masses for the season and the timetable for Christmas confessions. Please collect a copy.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT GIGGLES

We are looking for a cleaner Monday - Friday either 8am-9.00am or 5pm-6pm. Also, a person to help set up the nursery / move furniture Monday 7am -8am and Friday 4.00pm-5.00pm.

Please contact Giggles Day Nursery

020 8577 1815 giggleshounslow@googlemail.com

NEWCOMERS WELCOME SUNDAYS/COFFEE MORNINGS: CALL FOR SOCIETIES HOST

The third Sunday of each month is the Parish Coffee/Tea Morning, which occurs after 9am and 10.30am Masses in the Parish Centre. To this, we have added the welcoming of those who are new to the Parish since the preceding month. Societies or groups hosting the Morning will host the new and old members at the center and make leaflets with parish information available to the new members. Societies are hereby called upon to indicate which month(s), between January and December, they wish to anchor the Coffee/Tea Mornings. The Parish Office will give the hosting groups all the supports they need with refreshments and information materials. To book a place, please email hounslow@rcdow.org.uk.

MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS AND STICKERS

This Card will be requested by the Priest before signing of the *Certificate of Catholic Practise (CCP)* for

Catholic Schools. Stickers will be given when you **ENTER THE CHURCH BEFORE MASS BEGINS.**

- Please ensure your card has a recent PHOTO of your child and their FULL NAME.
- All parents are reminded that a sticker will only be issued if the child is present for the Mass.
- Stickers will not be given if the card is not presented. We will stop issuing stickers once the First Reading starts.

IMPORTANT REMINDER – THE TOILETS

The Church toilets are open only during Mass times when we have volunteers to assist with their use. While the toilet at the main entrance of the Church is for both males and females, **the toilet by the side of Our Lady's Chapel, inside the church is for females only.** Please avail yourself of other public toilets when our toilets are closed.

REGULAR NOTICES

HOW TO REGISTER IN THIS PARISH?

The first thing to do is to complete the **PARISH REGISTRATION FORM (GREEN FORM)** which is available in the parish office and also in the porch area of the church. Thereafter, you are requested to slip the completed parish registration form into the **MAILBOX in the Presbytery door.** Please allow at least two weeks for the Parish Registration forms to be processed. To obtain your family ID number, please send an email to the parish office **hounslow@rcdow.org.uk**, providing your full name and date of birth. If you are a visitor or worshipping with us for the first time, you are very welcome to our parish family. We welcome all new parishioners to St Michael and St Martin Catholic Church Hounslow. We want you to feel at home in the parish.

CATECHETICAL PROGRAMMES

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION ON PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES:

Type **parish.rcdow.org/Hounslow** in your browser. Then navigate to PARISH WEBSITE → PARISH LIFE → SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION; it has general information on the various programs. The next place to check is the Parish Newsletter. If the information you seek is not found on either of these then email the Parish Catechist Lionel Pereira on

hounslowcat@rcdow.org.uk. Please reserve phone calls for urgent matters.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Parents of infants and those seeking Baptism may register for the course using the online form available on the Baptism page of the Parish website. The next course will be run in January 2024. Read the Baptism webpage for requirements & other details.

2023-24 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMMES

This year we have approx. 140 candidates preparing for the First Holy Communion and another approx. 140 candidates preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This year we also have 6 catechumen discerning joining the Catholic Church and 9 Catholic adults preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep them all in your prayers.

FAMILY BLESSING SERVICE

For the feast of The Holy Family, all families are welcome to the **Family Blessing Service on Saturday 30th December at 3pm in the church.** This is not a Mass, but a service where a priest will pray over each family and confer a blessing. Biscuits and tea/coffee will be served in the Parish Centre afterwards



TEXTS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

4th Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 – Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me

Psalms Response – *I will sing forever of your love, O Lord*

Romans 16:25-27 – The mystery is revealed that was kept secret for endless ages

Luke 1:26-38 – 'I am the handmaid of the Lord'

NEXT SUNDAY'S MASS

THE HOLY FAMILY

Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3 – Your heir shall be your own flesh and blood

Psalms Response – *He, the Lord, is our God. He remembers his covenant for ever.*

Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19 – The faith of Abraham and of Sarah

Luke 2:22-40 – My eyes have seen your salvation

PARISH GROUP MEETINGS

SYRO-MALABAR CHAPLAINCY MASS

Will resume from January 2024.

SINHALESE CHAPLAINCY MASS

Sunday 14th January 4pm

GOAN CHAPLAINCY MASS

Sunday, 21st January at 4pm

ST ANTHONY NOVENAS

St Anthony Novenas will resume from Tuesday 9th January onwards at 7pm in Church.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

There will be no Novena's held from 13th December 2023 until 10th January 2024. From 17th January 2024 will resume as normal.

CHURCH CLEANING

Thursdays after 9am Mass. Thank you

DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Thursdays from 5pm.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

First Friday of each month at 3pm

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

16th/17th Dec 2023

Envelopes: £1,434.60

Loose: £3,157.17

TOTAL: £4,591.77

May God bless your generosity!

IN YOUR PRAYERS – REMEMBER

OUR SICK: Nizelle Soares, Peter Newton, Hubert Teles, Andrew Logadasan, Steve, Sandra, Carson Javier Dabasia, Amy & Denzil Burns, Terry Lynch, Igor Sitarska, and Don Lynch.

DECEASED: Rosaria Castro, Remy Vaz, Marie Lynch, Baby Nyssa, Roque Antonio Wellington Vaz, Emmanuel Dankyi, Maria Viegas, Gina Coreixas (Mazzaschi), Lewis Barallon, Malcolm Rose and John Lynch.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP) MEETINGS

Weekend: 2nd & 4th Saturday at 10am in the presbytery.

LIVING WORD CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PRAYER GROUP

Invites parishioners to our weekly prayer meeting/fellowship every Friday evening in the Parish Centre. Time: 7pm - 9pm. All are welcome. Email us at livingwordccr@gmail.com; contact Sam (447450355567), Graham (+447908287917) for other enquiries.

MASS DIARY 2024

The parish Mass diary for 2024 is open. Please note **from January** we can accept more than two intentions. Kindly note that the **stipend** per Mass intention is a **minimum of £10** (Diocesan Guidelines). **Payment can be made either by cash, online transfer or card payment**

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 the sick and housebound of our parish. 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, the peace and healing of your presence. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.