



SS MICHAEL AND MARTIN

Roman Catholic Parish of Hounslow
Archdiocese of Westminster

This Parish is served by the Spiritans

PARISH NEWSLETTER

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ssmmhounslow @ssmmhounslow

3rd Sunday of Advent

14th December 2025

ADVENT

Advent Season is a sacred season set apart in the Church that reminds us of the twofold coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ. On the one hand, Advent informs us of the first coming of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity into the world, in the Flesh, through the instrumentality of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On the other hand, Advent points to the Parousia, second and final coming of Christ. Essentially, the primary characteristics of advent are preparation & expectation. During Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. The word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (John 1:14). In a sense, it is right to argue that Advent evokes a deep sense of expectation & yearning in us. The world longs for the birth of the child Jesus. Similarly, we yearn for the peace, love and joy that his birth brings to the world.

Advent reminds us of our incompleteness without God. As much as our world tries very hard to remove God from the scheme of things, we can testify from the standpoint of faith profession and existential realities that God is still very relevant in our lives. Jesus Christ offers us peace and love which are capable of calming the troubled waters of life if we are open to his grace. In this regard, Advent encourages us to be pilgrims of hope in the midst of the uncertainties of life. This hope is not deceptive. It is rather proactive to the extent that it introduces a certain level of reassurance in our lives. Advent motivates us to be witnesses of hope and joy in our world that is increasingly filled with hatred, ignorance, bitterness, wickedness and scandals of various kinds. Advent beckons on us to stay awake and to be shining light in the midst of darkness that is enveloping our world. Advent equally urges us to renew our faith and commitment in the service of God and humanity. Advent provokes a sense of awareness in us that despite the unfolding challenges, tensions and uncertainties of life, faith, hope and love will triumph.

Best wishes for a transformative Advent season.

SUNDAY MASSES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon – Sat 9am
Mon – Thu 6pm
Fri 7pm

CONFESSIONS

Friday 6pm –
6:30pm
Saturday 9:30am
– 10:15am &
4:30pm –
5:15pm

PARISH ROSARY

Mon – Sat at
8:15am

THE ANGELUS

Before every
evening Mass

HOLY HOUR & BENEDICTION

Saturday 4.30-
5.30pm

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – THURSDAY 9:30AM – 1PM (FRIDAY THE OFFICE IS CLOSED)

Parish Priest: Fr Damian-Mary Moneke, CSSp.
damianmoneke@rcdow.org.uk (Day off: Mon)

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

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

2nd Assistant Priest & Chaplain at Heathrow

Airport: Fr Paul Ibekwe, CSSp.

paulibekwe@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
(BOOKINGS TAKEN BY EMAIL MON, THURS,
FRI 7.00-8.30AM TUES/WED 4.00-5.00PM)

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:
hounslowsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk (Lorna – Admin)
hounslowsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk (Chinyere)

MISSION STATEMENT

Building a united and peaceful family of Jesus Christ's disciples, where everyone is welcome, respected, have a sense of belonging, grow spiritually, feel free to participate and feel the need to contribute.



We congratulate all those who are celebrating their birthdays & wedding anniversaries this month. We also welcome all our new parishioners.



PARISH NOTICES

ST MARK'S END OF TERM MASSES

On Friday, 19th December St Mark's Catholic School will celebrate End of Term Masses at 9.15am and 11.05am. Parish morning Mass will be at 8:00am on that day.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR NOVENA

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour novena, will not be held from 17th December 2025 until 07th January 2026. We will resume from the 14th January 2026.

MASS DIARY 2026

The parish Mass diary for 2026 is open! 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.**

VOLUNTEERS FOR COUNTING & BANKING

We are currently looking for volunteers who can help with counting/banking. If you are interested to help, please email the parish office hounslow@rcdow.org.uk.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS COLLECTION

We raised a total of £1,098.92 from the collect which took place last weekend. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

CHRISTMAS/END OF YEAR RETREAT

Our Parish Christmas/End of Year Retreat will take place on Sunday 21st December at 7:30pm till 9:30pm. Fr Joseph Edatu will be conducting this retreat. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS DONATION

Annually, as a parish, we prepare Christmas Hampers to assist the families in need during the festive

season. This kind gesture provides a lot of relief to such families, and they rely on us to make their Christmas celebration a happy one. We therefore appeal to everyone to kindly donate some food items which will be distributed to the families in need. **Please do not bring perishable/fresh food items.** Please kindly place the items in the red container placed in Mother Mary chapel marked '**Christmas Hampers Donation**'. Thank you very much for your anticipated kindness and generosity.

ANNUAL CAROL SINGING AND ADVENT PLAY

The Sports and Cultural Society (SCS) team invites everyone to join us for our Annual Carol singing and Advent play "PILGRIMS OF HOPE: THE ADVENT JOURNEY" on Sunday 14th December at 7:15pm in the Church (followed by tea & coffee in the parish centre). All are welcome.

SVP ADVENT CALENDAR 2025

The St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Team have prepared the SVP Advent calendar that gives a suggestion for items to be donated to our SVP foodbank for each day leading to Christmas. This initiative has been successful in previous years, helping us collect essential food items for families while minimising food waste. Kindly see the poster in the Porch area. Thank you for your continued support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

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.

MARRIAGE PAPERWORK PROCESS

You must give 6 MONTHS' NOTICE of MARRIAGE – whether it is happening 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 there is no last-minute rush. Marriage

Preparation Courses are NOT offered EVERY MONTH. All couples who want to do their marriage paperwork in the parish **should contact** Fr Damian-Mary Moneke, CSSp (contact details are available on page 1).

PARISH MASS LIVE STREAMING

Every Sunday 12noon Mass will be live streamed, including special occasion Masses. Please find the link <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOQzCJ9b0grzoLwx49cpdpg> and channel name:

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 programmes. 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.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

in our parish is held once every two months. Parents are advised to register for the preparation course even before the delivery. Use the online form available on the Baptism page of the Parish website to sign up. Please read the Baptism webpage for requirements & other details.

JACOB'S ANGELS

As we do every year, angels bearing the name, age and gift idea for a child/person, is now displayed on the notice boards in the Mary chapel. Parishioners are invited to choose an angel and purchase the Christmas gift written on it. This will be presented to that child or person by one of the five charities that serves them. The requirements and ages are specific to actual persons; however, the names have been changed to protect their privacy.

JACOB'S ANGELS DROP-OFF

Kindly place your gift **unwrapped** in a paper gift bag along with the paper angel so that your gift reaches the right person/child. Please bring your gift bags to church for the evening Mass on Sat 13th Dec and any Mass on Sun 14th Dec and leave them at the Mary Chapel. This year's Confirmation candidates will help

collect and put these away. **NOTE: Gifts delivered after 14th Dec may be donated to other charities.**

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

We are seeking people with cars to help take the Christmas gifts from the Jacob's Angels project to the local charities on a weekday from Mon 15th Dec between 10am & 4pm. Please email Lionel hounslowcat@rcdow.org.uk your name and hours available if you can help. Thank you!

Leave a legacy

Please consider including our parish in your will or leaving a legacy for the parish. For further details please email us on hounslow@rcdow.org.uk

Online Giving/ Standing Order

To make your donation online, please visit: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hounslow/donate/other-ways-to-give/>

Bank Transfer

To make a one-off donation please use the parish bank account details:

Account Name: **WRCDT Hounslow**

Sort Code: **40-05-20**

Account Number: **11095463**

Reference: **Surname and First Initial**

QR Code

Scan on the QR code below to donate



*If you are a UK taxpayer, please Gift Aid your donation. The government will top up your gift by 25 percent, meaning a £20 offering becomes £25, at **NO** cost to you.*

PRAYER FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

God our Father, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness, or disease realize that they have been chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sts Michael and Martin, Pray for us.

TEXTS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S MASS

3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-6a,10 – 'God himself will come and save you.'

Psalm Response – *Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

James 5:7-10 – 'Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.'

Matthew 11:2-11 – 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'

NEXT SUNDAY'S MASS

4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14 – 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive.'

Psalm Response – *Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.*

Romans 1:1-7 – Jesus Christ, descended from David, Son of God.

Matthew 1:18-24 – Jesus was born of Mary, who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

06th/07th Dec 2025

Loose: £3,645.51

Envelopes: £1,302.90

TOTAL: £4,948.41

Thank you very much for your generosity. May God continue to bless you as you support our parish.

NB: On average, it costs £50,000+ monthly to run our parish.

IN YOUR PRAYERS – REMEMBER

OUR SICK: Sarah Asher, Joaquim De Souza, Fr Derek McGuire, Jennita Aluan, Nizelle Soares, Peter Newton, Hubert Teles, Amy Burns, Steve, Sandra, Carson Javier Dabasia, Igor Sitarska and Don Lynch.

DECEASED: Leo Machado, Bella Felix, Cynthia Souza, Clifton Dominic Colaco, Elcina Alpesh Makwana, Tadeusz Z Wolanski, Heather Philomena Marklew, António José Visitação da Cruz Barreto, Fr Bernard Scholes, Sybil Knox, Carlos D'Silva, Mary Maher, Emma Noronha.

PARISH/PRAYER GROUP MEETINGS

SYRO-MALABAR CHAPLAINCY MASS

1st Sunday of the month at 3pm

SINHALESE CHAPLAINCY MASS

2nd Sunday of the month at 4pm

GOAN CHAPLAINCY MASS

3rd Sunday of the month at 4pm

MASS OF THE SICK

Last Tuesday of the month at 12noon.

ST ANTHONY NOVENAS

Tuesday at 7pm in the Church.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Please refer to announcement on page 2.

DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS &

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Every Thursday 5pm in the Church

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

First Friday of each month at 3pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every 2nd Thursday of the month after evening Mass.

FIRST FRIDAYS EXPOSITION

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on every first Friday of the month for adoration and silent prayers after the morning Mass and end at 5pm.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP) MEETINGS

Weekend: 2nd Saturday after the Foodbank at 12pm in the Parish Centre.

GHANAIAN COMMUNITY- MEETING DAY

1st Sunday of every month after the 12.00 noon Mass in the Parish Centre.

UCM MEETINGS

2nd Tuesday of the month after 9am Mass and 4th Tuesday of the month after 6pm Mass in the Parish Centre.

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.