

ST DAVID's RC CHURCH

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This parish is part of the Westminster Catholic Diocese Trustee Charity No: 233699

Parish Priest: Fr. Sidon Sagar
Parish Secretary: Mrs Shenda Holmes
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

29th Sunday in the OT

18th October 2026

"***Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's***." – Matthew 22:21

Two hundred years ago, a young woman in Lyon, France, was moved to found an organisation known to us today as the Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF), which forms part of Missio. This initiative grew from humble beginnings: small groups of ordinary people meeting regularly to pray for missionaries, to share information about their efforts, and to offer a few coins to support their work.

Following an intense religious conversion experience, Blessed Pauline Jaricot's story is one of struggle with sickness, rejection, misunderstanding and being cheated by those with evil intent. She died officially registered as a pauper. Yet her legacy, the APF, blossomed and flourished across Catholic Europe, reaching us here, in the UK, shortly after the Restoration of the Hierarchy in 1850, when APF grants from Rome helped Catholics to rebuild the post-Reformation Church.

In 1922, Pope Pius XI designated APF as the official mission-funding body for the entire Church, and four years later he established World Mission Sunday to be celebrated every year by every Catholic community in the world.

Ninety years ago, the Mill Hill Missionaries, founded by Cardinal Herbert Vaughan, joined forces with APF on the recommendation of the Bishops' Conference. The Red Box network was born and lives on wherever the Church is present.

Men with evil intent tried to trick Jesus into saying something that would compromise him with the authorities and weaken his mission. They met their match in Jesus, whose gentle strength and disarming wisdom sent them away even more focused on working towards his downfall.

We do not need to be reminded in these troubled times that many powerful men of this world are threatened by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, perhaps even by Jesus himself. The 'Caesars' of our world demand unconditional obedience to their will, tolerating no dissension. They lie, cheat, squander, exploit, wage war, sow division and happily flout God's most basic commandments.

When Jesus responded that we should give to Caesar what is Caesar's, he surely did not mean we should submit without question to those who clearly act contrary to the Gospel. The Gospel arms us with the truth that we are one in Christ, who leads us to the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit. St Paul reminds us in today's second reading that we are chosen and loved by God. This gift carries with it the responsibility to share our faith in word and action, that is, to be missionaries where we are and support the global mission of the Church. By giving to God what is God's, we will challenge those values that are contrary to the Gospel, and welcome God's kingdom into our world.

On this occasion, the centenary of World Mission Sunday, Pope Leo has chosen the theme 'One in Christ, united in mission'. Thus he calls us to keep our gaze fixed on the Lord, so that he may truly be at the centre of our lives and communities, the centre of every word, action and relationship, leading us to echo the amazing words of St Paul to the Galatians: 'It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.'

There is an adage that says, 'A church that does not send is very near its end.' Baptism makes us all missionaries. There is no essential distinction between those wonderful men and women who have, over the centuries, carried the Gospel to the peoples of this world, and most of us, who bear witness to Christ at home.

Popes Benedict XVI, Francis and our present missionary, Pope Leo XIV, all repeat the truth that 'The Church does not engage in proselytism. Instead, she grows by attraction.' We will attract people to Christ by the love we show them, our respect for life, the inner joy we manifest, our willingness to forgive, and our reaching out to those in need. We reject violence in all its forms; we choose life, not death.

We will also support missionaries working abroad, young Churches too small or too poor to support themselves, and especially those Christians living with persecution and in the many war-torn areas of the world. We will love our enemies and pray for those who reject and despise us, and we will do this together as 'one in Christ', drawing strength from one another and from Christ.

If Christ is the sun, then we, the Church, are the moon, reflecting God's love to the world, enlightening all with the truth of the Gospel.

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PRAYER LIFE IN THE PARISH

First Friday of the Month - Holy Hour from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm, followed by Holy Mass.

First and Third Sundays of the Month: We have the Siro-Malankara Mass at 2.30 pm.

ACTIVE LIFE OF THE PARISH

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays, we serve tea and coffee in the parish hall. Remember, the joy of tea and coffee lies not just in the beverages themselves, *but in the shared moments and conversations. Cheers to building beautiful connections over* ***a cup of coffee!*** ☕

Every 2nd Saturday: Garden Cleaning. Every 4th Sunday: Church Cleaning.

Dear Parents/Elders: Please note **STRICTLY NO FOOD** in the Church, and please give the Children **SOFT TOYS ONLY**

Dear All, please note that ***NAPPIES must not be put in the TOILET BINS;*** take them with you and dispose of them in the bins at home.

Offertory Collection - Thank you for your offertories last week.

FUNDRAISING 2026 – Collection gathered to date: **£18,098.38**

Contactless **£40.00** *(Weekly collection of the* ***contactless*** *in the Church)*
Monthly standing order ***£500.00.*** Thank you for your offerings to the Parish.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Mission Sunday, 18th October. Today, parishes worldwide celebrate Mission Sunday. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. *To donate, please use the Missio envelope in the narthex. The donations box is at the back of the church by the book trolleys.*

This Sunday is Teas and Coffees; do not forget to join in.

This Sunday: Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP) for Secondary School Admission. Certificates will be issued in the Parish Hall on **Sunday 18th October from 11:30 am.** *Join us for a cup of tea and the certificate. Do not forget to bring your child's baptism and First Holy Communion certificates.*

All Saints, Sunday 1st November. Children are invited to dress up as their favourite Saint for the 9.15am and 11.30am Sunday Masses on 1st November.

Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP) signing for Reception 2027 entry will be held on **Wednesday 25th November, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm,** and on **Friday 27th November, 6.45 to 7.45pm,** *in the Presbytery.* ***Please bring your child's Baptism Certificate with you.***

First Holy Communion 2027. Application Forms are available on the parish website. ***The closing date for submission is 31st October 2026****. You will also find the* ***Application Form QR code*** *in the* ***Narthex****. No Application will be accepted after the closing date.*

Confirmation 2027. Application forms are available on the Parish Website from 15th September.

FUNDRAISING

Following a review of quotes for replacing the church windows and the identification of further essential roof repairs, we have launched a fundraising campaign with **a target of £50,000** over the coming months. To make giving easier, ***a collection box for Fund Envelopes has now been placed under the Divine Mercy Photo Frame.*** We will also offer contactless giving options and host various parish events to support the appeal. ***A progress poster is displayed at the church entrance and will be updated every two weeks.*** We are grateful for your continued prayers and goodwill as we work together to preserve our church. **Thank you for helping us care for this sacred space for future generations.**

Thank you for your continued support and care for our church.

Safeguarding: If you have any concerns or require advice regarding the safety or well-being of a child or vulnerable adult, please contact our parish safeguarding representative, Pelazia Rodrigues. You can also contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 020 7798 9356 or safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk

For Jobs, please visit the diocese job site at: https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/

PLEASE PRAY

For all the sick and housebound in our parish.

For Fr Stephen Beale and the parishioners of The Sacred Heart, Teddington, and the Sons of Divine Providence of Hampton Wick in the Upper Thames Deanery.

For the Holy Father's Prayer Intention that the mental health ministry, be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses. .

Mass Intentions 18th – 25th Oct 2026

Sun	**18th**	**29th Sunday in the OT**	
		(Sat Vigil) 06.00 pm	
		10.30 am	Perpetua Lobo – Thanksgiving Mass *(Fr Sidon's personal Intention – Arlita Sampayo)*
Mon	**19th**	**06.00 pm**	
Tues	**20th**	**06.00 am**	
Wed	**21st**	**09.30 am**	
Fri	**23rd**	**06.00 pm**	
Sat	**24th**	**06.00 pm**	Thanksgiving Mass – Starlon & Evelyn Pereira
Sun	**25th**	**30th Sunday in the OT**	
		10.30 am	Thanksgiving Mass – 3rd Annual Fundraising: Frank & Margaret Sequiera, Parish Council and Social Team.

This Sunday's readings, 18th Oct – 29th Sunday in the OT
Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6; 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5b; Matthew 22: 15-21
Next Sunday's readings, 25th Oct – 30th Sunday in the OT
Exodus 22: 21-27; 1 Thessalonians 1: 5c-10; Matthew 22: 34-40

Pope Leo XIV's Tweet Message: *"Prayer becomes effective when it reaches out to others. The charity born of the Holy Spirit is God's love poured into our hearts: a love that takes shape in a commitment to life and service. This love must become the goal, the way, and the meaning of our lives."*
12th October 2026

The month of October is dedicated to
THE MOST HOLY ROSARY OF THE BL. VIRGIN MARY



"Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources — from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church — it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven. "If we consider the power of the Rosary as seen in its effects, we find a great abundance of proofs of its wonderful value. Many are the favours granted to private individuals through its devout recitation: few devoted users of the Rosary cannot testify to experiencing its power in their own lives. If we turn to history, we see many great triumphs of the Rosary.