


# ST DAVID's RC CHURCH

**64, Everest Road, Stanwell,**
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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


## 33rd Sunday in OT

**15th November 2026**

***"You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."***

**Lawrencia grew up in West Point, Liberia, an area with serious challenges due to poverty. As Lawrencia herself says, 'If you are from West Point and you go into town… they can look down on you… they won't see you as somebody who will make an impact in the community.'**

**As a child, Lawrencia helped her mother dry and sell fish. With the money she earned, she saved to pay her school fees and to fund her university studies. She now works for an organisation which offers training to other women in West Point, to increase their profits so they can pay their children's school fees.**

**Iana lives in Kyiv, Ukraine. When the war started, she opened her home to displaced people. From there she went on to volunteer with a local church organisation, giving out aid, helping in children's centres and visiting the elderly. Many of the other volunteers Iana works alongside are displaced people themselves.**

**Wakera shared his skills for growing food in harsh climates with a group of women in Kenya who had lost everything during three years of drought. Through the organisation he works for, he provided them with seeds and tools to plant their own kitchen garden. He also gave them shade nets to protect the plants from the scorching sun. The women can now grow food to feed themselves and their families and sell their produce. They continue to work together, helping one another build shelters and collecting the firewood and water that they need.**

Our readings today remind us that faith is not just something personal between God and us. Faith also calls us to live differently.

**In the first reading, the 'good wife' reaches out to the poor and needy. In Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, he tells them that not knowing when the Lord will come again does not mean they should relax. They are called to stay awake, remain prepared, and show their love for the Lord through their actions.**

**In the parable of the talents, two of the servants make the most of the gift they have been given. The one who buries it in the ground—who does not share it, use it, or make something of it—incurs the wrath of his master.**

**We are all unique and special. We have all been given gifts from God, and we are all expected to use these 'talents' to become the person that God knows and *wants* us to be: the very best version of ourselves. God loves us and is merciful to us. We are called to share this love and mercy with others as part of our faith. In this way, his mercy multiplies, just like the talents in the parable we have heard today.**

This is what Lawrencia, Iana, Wakera, and the women in Kenya have been doing. On the World Day of the Poor, they show us that no matter our background, wealth or status, we can all do something to help one another. They have taken their God-given gifts and shared them onwards, multiplying them. Those they have helped also go on to support others, building a better future for their children and for the wider community, multiplying them even further.

So let us take time to look inside ourselves. What gifts, skills, and talents have we been given? How will we make sure we do not bury them, disappointing our Lord and Master, who has placed his trust in us?

**Making the most of our gifts can be challenging. It almost certainly requires hard work, but it is not impossible. As we hear in the Gospel, he gave to each servant 'according to his ability'. We are not to hide behind fear, false humility, or the idea that it is someone else's responsibility to do something. Instead, we consider how to use our talents for the good of all people, sharing God's compassion in our troubled world.**

**As Pope Leo reminded us this time last year: 'The poor are not a distraction for the Church, but our beloved brothers and sisters, for by their lives, their words and their wisdom, they put us in contact with the truth of the Gospel.'**

***We pray for the grace and courage to live out this truth.***

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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.

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***Offertory Collection*** - Thank you for your offertories last week.

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

Contactless **£0.00** *(Weekly collection of the* ***contactless*** *in the Church)*
Monthly standing order: ***£500.00.*** Thank you for your offerings to the Parish.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank you to everyone who donated to the Sick & Retired Priests' collection last weekend.**
Your generosity means our sick and retired priests will receive the care and support they need.

If you haven't had a chance to donate, there is still time. You will find envelopes at the back of the church, or you can donate online through the Diocese website—look out for the 'QR Code' on the envelopes and poster. Caring for priests in their old age, and during illness, is a priority of the Church. It is a wonderful way for us to come together and say 'Thank you' to the priests who have served us. May God bless you for your kindness.

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## 🎄 St David's Parish Christmas Fair – Come One, Come All! 🎄

St David's Parish warmly invites everyone to join us for our Christmas Fair on **Saturday, 5th December, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at St David's Parish Hall.**

Come together as one parish family to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas – a time of faith, love, generosity and togetherness.

🎟️ **Entry: Just £1 per person – Children under 12 go FREE!**

All parishioners are warmly invited to book a stall and showcase their homemade Christmas treats, handmade crafts, games or other festive creations. Spaces are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment. Scan the QR code on the event poster to register your stall.

## 🎄 St David's Parish Christmas Nativity & Children's Performance 🎄

Join us on **Saturday, 19th December 2026, from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm** for a joyful evening celebrating the true spirit of Christmas!
A Christmas Nativity in the church, followed by singing, dancing and wonderful performances by the children of our parish and wider community in the Hall. ***Children who are interested in taking part in the Nativity and other performances, please contact Rejy or Pelazia***

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**November List.** Envelopes for the names of your departed loved ones are now available in the narthex. Please place the completed envelopes in the wooden box at the back of the church. *We will offer two Masses per week in November for the souls of your departed family and friends on the November list.*

**Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP)** signing for Reception 2027 entry will be held in the Presbytery on ***Wednesday 25th November, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm***, and on ***Friday 27th November, 6.45 to 7.45pm***. ***Please bring your child's Baptism Certificate (no photo on your phone; bring the original paperwork).***

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## FUNDRAISING

After reviewing quotes to replace the church windows and identifying further essential roof repairs, we have launched a fundraising campaign targeting **£50,000** over the coming months. To make giving easier, ***we have placed a collection box for Fund Envelopes 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.

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**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/***

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**PLEASE PRAY**

**For all the sick and housebound in our parish.**

**For Canon Peter Newby and the parishioners of St James, Twickenham in the Upper Thames Deanery, and for staff and students at St Mary's College, Twickenham.**

**For the Holy Father's Prayer Intention for the proper use of wealth: that, not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less.**

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# Mass Intentions 15th – 22nd Nov 2026

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| **Sun** | **15th** | **33rd Sunday in the OT** | |
| | | **(Sat Vigil) 06.00 pm** | Thanksgiving Mass – Fr John Promise Umrozuru |
| | | **10.30 am** | |
| **Mon** | **16th** | **St Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop** | |
| | | **06.00 pm** | Holy Souls – November List |
| **Tues** | **17th** | **06.00 am** | Mr Mareelo Cabral & Mrs Luizhina Camelo – RIP |
| **Wed** | **18th** | **09.30 am** | Holy Souls – November List |
| **Fri** | **20th** | **06.00 pm** | Mass offered for the safe delivery - Gleis Dias |
| **Sat** | **21st** | **06.00 pm** | Thanksgiving Mass - Shanelle Fernandes |
| **Sun** | **22nd** | **Christ the King Sunday** | |
| | | **10.30 am** | |

**This Sunday's readings, 15th Nov – 33rd Sunday in the OT**

Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6; Matthew 25: 14-30

**Next Sunday's readings, 22nd Nov – Christ the King Sunday**

Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28; Matthew 25: 31-46

**Pope Leo XIV's Tweet Message:** "*Mission cannot be improvised. Indeed, we proclaim what we have encountered, the salvation we have experienced, the forgiveness of sins granted to us, and the discovery of the true meaning of life, because "every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus." **#ApostolicJourney #Peru**.*"

**13th November 2026**

The month of November is dedicated to
**THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY**



The Church commemorates all her faithful children who have departed from this life but have not yet attained the joys of heaven. St. Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, nor sorrowful, "even as others who have no hope ... For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... and the dead who are in Christ shall rise.

The Church has always taught us to pray for those who have gone into eternity. Even in the Old Testament, people offered prayers and alms for the souls of the dead, thinking "well and religiously concerning the resurrection." It was believed that "they who had fallen asleep with godliness had great grace laid up for them" and that "it is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." We know that a defiled soul cannot enter into heaven.

*- Excerpted from Liturgical Meditations, The Sisters of St. Dominic*