

# St. Raphael's Catholic Church, Yeading

St Raphael's House, Morrison Road, Yeading, UB4 9JP

Tel: 020 8845 1919 <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/yeading/>

**Sunday Mass:** Sat 7pm (Vigil), Sun 9am, 10:30am (Sung) and 12 noon

**Weekday Mass:** Monday-Wednesday and Friday- Saturday at 9:30am

**Rosary:** 9am before morning daily mass

**Church Closed on Thursdays**

**Confessions:** Saturday 6.30pm– 6.45pm & on request

**Exposition:** First Friday only 7pm– 8pm

All services are live streamed via <https://churchservices.tv/yeading>

**Please note:** If you are seated in the front rows of the church, you may appear on our livestream

**Parish Priest**

Rev Fr. John Welsh

[yeading@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:yeading@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator**

Maria Gonsalves

[mariagonsalves@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:mariagonsalves@rcdow.org.uk)

**Catechetical Coordinator**

Ben Cassidy

[yeadingcat@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:yeadingcat@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Safeguarding Rep**

Melvin Coelho

[yeadingsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:yeadingsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)



## 8th March 2026 - Third Sunday of Lent, Cycle A

### First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

God tells Moses to bring forth water from the rock.

### Responsorial Psalm: 95:1-2,6-9

Sing joyfully in the presence of the Lord.

### Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

### Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

Jesus reveals himself to the Samaritan woman at the well.

*but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.*

*John 4:14*

### PRAYER

*"Lord Jesus, my soul thirsts for you. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may always find joy in your presence and take delight in doing your will."*

### Would you do a favour for someone who snubbed you or treated you like an enemy?

Jesus did just that and more! He treated the Samaritans, the sworn enemies of the Jews, with great kindness and respect. The Samaritans who lived in middle region of Israel between Galilee and Judaea and the Jews who lived in the rest of the land of Israel had been divided for centuries. They had no dealings with one another, avoiding all social contact, even trade, and inter-marriage. If their paths crossed it would not be unusual for hostility to break out.

When Jesus decided to pass through Samaria he stopped at Jacob's well because it was mid-day and he was both tired from the journey and thirsty. Jacob's well was a good mile and a half from the nearest town, called Sychar. It wasn't easy to draw water from this well since it was over a hundred

feet deep. Jesus had neither rope nor bucket to fetch the water.

When a Samaritan woman showed up at the well, both were caught by surprise. Why would a Samaritan woman walk a mile and a half in the mid-day heat to fetch her water at a remote well rather than in her local town? She was an outcast and not welcomed among her own townspeople. Jesus then did something no respectable Jew would think of doing. He reached out to her, thus risking ritual impurity and scorn from his fellow Jews. He also did something no strict Rabbi would dare to do in public without loss to his reputation. He treated the woman like he would treat one of his friends - he greeted her and spoke at length with her. Jesus' welcoming approach to her was scandalous to both Jews and Samaritans because this woman was an adulteress

and public sinner as well. No decent Jew or Samaritan would even think of being seen with such a woman, let alone exchanging a word with her!

### The kind of water which Jesus spoke about was living, running, fresh, pure water.

Fresh water from a cool running stream was always preferred to the still water one might find in a pool or reservoir. When the Israelites complained about lack of water in the wilderness, God instructed Moses to strike the rock and a stream of fresh living water gushed out (Exodus 17:6). Even though the Israelites did not trust God to care for them in the wilderness, God, nonetheless gave them abundant water and provision through the intercession of his servant Moses.



### Saint Frances of Rome- Feast Day March 9

Saint Frances of Rome offers a powerful example of listening to God's call in every season of life. Born in 1384 to a noble Roman family, she longed to become a nun, but at 13 obeyed her father's wish and married Lorenzo Ponziani. Though the adjustment was difficult, she surrendered her life to God's will and grew into a devoted wife, mother, and servant of the poor.

With her sister-in-law Vannoza, Frances visited the sick, fed the hungry, and prayed in a hidden chapel. During famine and war, she opened her home to anyone in need, and miracles of replenished grain and wine strengthened her family's faith. She endured the loss of two children and nursed her husband back to health after the civil war left him broken. Supported by Lorenzo, she founded the Oblates of Mary, a group of laywomen dedicated to prayer and service. After his death, she joined the community and became its leader, finally living the religious life she had desired since childhood. She died at 56, known for her holiness and for the archangel who, tradition says, guided her for 23 years. She is now the patron saint of motorists.

**Prayer:** Saint Frances of Rome, help us to choose God's will above our own and to recognize His call in our daily lives. Amen.

**Pope Leo Prayer Intention for March For disarmament and peace-** Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

**Welcome to our parish, whether you are a visitor, a new member, or an established member of our faith community, we hope that you will experience a warm welcome and a true feeling of community. Thank you for joining us in today's liturgy.**

# Parish and Sacramental Programme News

**Legacies; Gifts in Wills-** Please consider a legacy in your will; a legacy is not what you give away it's what you pass on. Legacies come in all shapes and sizes but are essential for the medium to long term good of the parish. Please contact the parish office for help with the right wording and any other support you need.



**Baptism Preparation– Wednesday 8th April 10.30am**, please email or call to enrol for the course.

**Hall Hire-** For hall hire enquiries please contact parish office during the office hours.

**Stations of the Cross** Throughout Lent, the Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday at 7pm in the church.



**Flowers– No flowers to be left in the church during the lent.**

**St Patrick Day 17th March–** Mass will be celebrated at **12 noon** thereafter followed by refreshment in the parish centre.

**Need the loo?** The parish centre is always open during Sunday and Feast day masses. also whenever the school comes to the church. **Please use the toilets in the parish centre during the services as the toilet in the presbytery is a staff toilet and the one in the sacristy is for altar servers under 18 years of age.**

**First Communion Families and Confirmation Candidates-** First Communion families are helping with the welcoming at Sunday masses and the offertory at the 9.00am and 10.30am mass. The confirmation candidates are supporting our foodbank donations. Please remember to bring a foodbank donation each Sunday.

**Lucky 100 Club**



**Draw**  
**Mary Smith**  
**Number 61**



*The Rosary is recited every day 30mins before daily Mass.*



**£994.66**  
*May the Lord reward your generosity*

### Funeral in the Parish



**Barbara Lewis RIP** Funeral will take place on **Wednesday 18th March at 11:00am** in St Raphael's Church, followed by the short service at Breakspear Crematorium at **1.00pm**.



May her soul rest in peace.

Funeral will be live streamed on Church Services Tv <https://www.churchservices.tv/yeading>

**Church Cleaning Volunteers needed** Could you spare an hour to help clean the church? Next cleaning day is on **12th March 8am to 9am**. A heartfelt thank you to all our wonderful cleaning volunteers.



### Church Roof Repair Fund- Total March Collection £785 Second collection every 1st weekend of month

A second collection takes place every first weekend of the month to help repay the loan. If you're a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aiding your donation it makes a big difference. **Please pick up a white Roof Fund envelope and return it with your Gift Aid details.** Suggested donation: **£5/month per family** (if affordable). You can also donate via contactless or BACS

**HSBC Bank – WRCDT Yeading Sort Code: 40-05-20 Account No: 01094963 Reference: Roof Donation**

For information on legacies, (gifts in wills), please contact the parish office.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day Collection THIS WEEKEND** This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.



**FOREIGN CURRENCY, Cash & Notes -** The Saint Vincent De Paul Society collect all Foreign Coins and Bank Notes either current or old in a Box on the table at the back of the Church and would appreciate any currency donated. The Currency is then exchanged for sterling and donated to the Parish Conference.

**Hillingdon Deanery Lent Retreat 21st March 2026 9.30 to 3pm-** A Day of Reflection illustrated by Sacred Art with Caroline Farey. Please bring packed lunch. RSVP to [uxbridge@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:uxbridge@rcdow.org.uk) or **01895 233193**. Pield Heath House School, Pield Heath Road, UB8 3NW

**The Great Tutoring Co – Now Open at St Raphael's Parish Centre, Yeading-** English and Maths tutoring for primary and secondary pupils, supporting children to learn with confidence. We offer small group sessions, personalised support, and confidence-building teaching from experienced, qualified teachers and tutors. Starting **Wed 25th February 2026, 3.30pm to 5.30pm. KS1–KS4 support available, including 11+ and GCSE preparation.** Call or WhatsApp: **07961 496763** to enrol or for further information. **Spaces are limited- enquire today!**

### The Knights of St Columba - St Raphael Catholic Church - The Easter Egg Fund Raising

for this year it will begin from **28th February 2026**. Tickets will be sold after every mass **£1.00 per ticket strip** - Please support the cause. Grand Knight - **Melvin Coelho on 0772 720 4649** and **Denise Sellu 07737161530**



**Repository-** A wide variety of religious items is available in our repository including cards, religious statues, religious frames, rosaries, calendars, and spiritual books. If you are looking for something specific please contact parish office.

**Planned giving - envelopes** We are currently updating our planned giving records, please let the parish office know if there are any changes, e.g. change of address, tax status ( taxpayer or non-taxpayer).

**Marriage Preparation Course in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church (Botwell Church)** - is inviting all the couples planning to get married in the church whether in UK or abroad, to participate in the catholic marriage preparation course taking place on **28th March 2026**. Please scan the QR code to sign up for more information.



### Annual Mass for Matrimony Saturday, 23rd May 2026 at 2:30pm.

The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th** (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email).



**Praise and Worship in the Parish centre or via zoom**  
**20th March 7.30pm**

**First Friday Holy Adoration on Friday 1st May at 7.30pm**

**Goan Chaplaincy Mass– 2nd May**  
**Every First Saturday 4pm**

**Syro Malabar Mass–22nd March**  
**Every fourth Sunday 3pm**