

# St. William of York Catholic Church



PARISH PRIEST  
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MASS TIMES  
**Sunday**  
8.00 am & 10.00 am  
**Weekdays**  
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.30am  
Thursday No Mass  
Friday 7.00 pm  
Saturday 5.30 pm (Vigil of Sunday)  
**Confessions on Saturdays 4.30-5.15pm** in church or by personal arrangement with Fr Jonathan

First Sunday of Advent

26/27 November 2022

**Saturday 26 November**

4.30-5.15 **Confessions**  
5.30 **Vigil Mass** of Sunday  
Mrs Elaine Desouza RIP (Anniv)

**SUNDAY 27 November**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** (Year A)  
[Daily Office Psalter week 1]  
8.00 **Mass** Patrick Shields RIP  
10.00 **Parish Mass** and **Angelus**  
People of the Parish  
5.00 Ecumenical **Advent Prayer Service** *St John's Anglican Parish Church*

**Monday 28 November**

*Feria of Advent 1*  
9.30 **Mass** For the Faithful Departed

**Tuesday 29 November**

*Feria of Advent 1*  
9.30 **Mass** For the Faithful Departed

**Wednesday 30 November**

**St Andrew the Apostle**  
9.30 **Mass** For the Faithful Departed  
11.00 **Funeral Mass** for  
Kevin D'Souza

**Thursday 1 December**

*Feria of Advent 1*  
**No Mass day**

**Friday 2 December**

*Feria of Advent 1*  
7.00pm **Mass** Kevin D'Souza RIP

**Saturday 3 December**

*St Francis Xavier, Memorial*  
No morning Mass  
[11am to 2.30pm  
Parish **Christmas Fayre**]  
4.30-5.15 **Confessions**  
5.30 **Vigil Mass** of Sunday  
People of the Parish

**SUNDAY 4 December**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT** (Yr A)  
[Daily Office Psalter week 2]  
8.00 **Mass** David Cullen RIP  
10.00 **Parish Mass** and **Angelus**  
David Mullins RIP (Anniv)

**WELCOME** to all at Mass today and a big welcome back if you have not been to Mass for a while due to the Covid restrictions. You are very welcome, and we are pleased to see you.

**PREPARATION BEFORE MASS – ALMIGHTY GOD**, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen. *Until the bell at the start of Mass, please keep silent prayer.*

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSES** From today, Advent Sunday, we shall begin to use other congregational responses provided for in the Roman Missal, through until Easter.

At the Greeting:

*Priest* Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
*All* And with your spirit.

**During the Eucharistic Prayer:** *Priest* The mystery of faith.

*All* Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free!

**At the Dismissal:** *Priest* Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

*All* Thanks be to God

**AFTER THE 10am MASS** ... refreshments (often cakes!) and chance to connect in the Parish Hall. Everyone is very welcome.

**ADVENT SUNDAY**

*The Order of Mass can be followed in the red Parish Mass Book – first from p.7; then, after the Bidding Prayers – from p.15; then, from the Lord's Prayer – p.56.* (New Mass cards, far simpler to follow, are in preparation.)

*The Readings for today's Mass are to be found in the gold Parish Mass Book on pp.82–84.* The psalm response is: **I rejoiced when I heard them say, 'Let us go to God's house.'**

**Today the Church begins** the three-year cycle of Sunday readings again – with year A, focussing on the Gospel of St Matthew until next Advent.

During the season of Advent the Church invites us to look at the future. We are all aware how fast the pace of change and instability is affecting every aspect of our lives. What we take for granted today will have disappeared tomorrow. Increasing numbers of people are experiencing anxiety about the future as well as boredom with our culture. Coping with change on the scale we are witnessing today may be unprecedented, yet concern about the future is not a new trend. The author of the psalm in today's liturgy had supreme

confidence in God and in the securities that the heavenly Jerusalem of the future offered. No one who places her or his hopes in God will ever be disappointed. When space is provided to God, He can work. The German late medieval mystic Meister Eckhart (1260 – 1327) put it this way: “When God is carried in our souls, then the source of divine life works as a spring in our soul, it carries us back to God and endows us with spiritual gifts.” Divine life and love in our souls is a secure bridge, when the time comes, by which to cross from this changing world to the next.

**First Reading (OT): Isaiah 2.1–5** In the garden of the UN Headquarters in New York there is a bronze sculpture by a Russian artist depicting a man hammering a sword into a plough. It seems odd that at the height of the Cold War a Soviet artist should chose a prophecy from Isaiah for a gift from the Soviet Union to the UN! And yet it is an expression of the hope in every human heart that war might be abandoned in pursuit of peace and the welfare of all.

**Second Reading (NT): Romans 13.11–14** “Maranatha -come Lord, come!” was a frequent prayer of the early Christians. They focused on being ready for the Lord when He comes. The dawn of a new age has been promised. It was no time to sleep! It is important therefore to stand upright, to be ready. Those who fail to do this neglect an essential dimension of human existence. Being watchful for the Lord!

**Gospel: Matthew 24.37–44** Many in late Judaism and early Christianity were sure about one thing: the present world would pass. Its time was up. This gospel extract dates from the climax of the First Jewish Revolt, and the consequent destruction of Jerusalem and its Temple by the Romans in AD 70. Hope lies elsewhere and we need to be alert for it.

**An Ecumenical Advent Prayer Service** will take place **at 5pm** today, at St John's Anglican Church. All invited.

**Holy Souls envelopes** continue to be available at the back of church. Please use the box provided.

**The Parish's Christmas Fayre** will be held **NEXT SATURDAY 3rd December (11am to 2.30pm)**.

- **Calling all bakers** - please let Tim Goodger or Daniela know if you would like to make/bake **cakes, pastries, breads, biscuits etc** for the cake stall.
- We are asking for donations of **good saleable items/gifts, bric-a-brac and toys**—but no jumble please—as well as boxes of biscuits, all type of **bottles/cans for our tombola**. As ever, thank you for your support and generous donations, which can be left in the narthex after Mass this weekend.
- **Raffle tickets will be on sale** after Mass this weekend.

**Preparing the Way for the Lord** Step straight into Advent with a Morning of Recollection on 3 December at St Luke's Church, Pinner HA5 3EE. Fr John Hemer will present a series of three talks from 10.30am to about 1.30pm with a time for Confessions also. Fr John, a Mill Hill priest from Liverpool and missionary in Pakistan, Kenya and Uganda, is a very engaging speaker. He lectures full-time on Sacred Scripture at the seminary in Chelsea. You will be very welcome for all or part of the morning. And come back to St William's for the Christmas Fayre!

**Sing-along Christmas concert** On **Sunday 11th December at 3pm** our popular **sing-along Christmas Concert** will be back after Covid! We would like to invite any musicians, young or old, to join us in music-making for our Christmas Tea. You may only have just started with your instrument but you are still welcome.

**So you can plan your Christmas** the pattern of services will be

Saturday 24th Dec **Christmas Eve 9.30am** Christmas Eve Morning Mass; **5.30pm** Vigil Mass of Christmas for children and families; **11pm** Carols & Christmas 'Mass during the Night'

Sunday 25th Dec **Christmas Day 8am** Christmas 'Mass at Dawn'; **10am** Christmas 'Mass during the Day'

BHol Monday 26th Dec St Stephen's Day **10am** Mass

*There will be plenty of opportunities for Confessions throughout the week before.*

**ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL ADMISSIONS FOR CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN: 01/09/2018 AND 31/08/2019**

(Reception September 2023). Supplementary application forms are now available on the School website ([www.stjosephs.harrow.sch.uk](http://www.stjosephs.harrow.sch.uk)). You must also apply online to Harrow Council. The closing date for submission of both applications is 15th January 2023.

**Readers Rota** 26 November 5.30 Noretta Reece

27 November 8.00 Georgina Martins

27 November 10.00 Readings John McIntyre, Bidding prayers Derrick Pereira & family

3 December 5.30 Lily Meghji

4 December 8.00 Rosemary Chukwulobelu

4 December 10.00 Readings Tim & Mel Goodger, Bidding prayers Carol-Anne Chandler

**Church Cleaning** 3 Dec Team A: Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle, Lisa Harris, Beatrice McAdam and Uzo Ziwanah

10 December Team B: Tim Goodger, Laura Willoughby, Vere Massy and Indrè Balčaitė