

ST LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH FELTHAM

The Green, Feltham, TW13 4AF



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Facebook Group: [St Lawrences RC Church, Feltham](https://www.facebook.com/StLawrencesRCChurchFeltham)

Second Sunday of Advent

4th/5th December 2021



Readings: Parish Mass Book Year C, Volume 1: (Page 82): Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 125; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

Next Week: Third Sunday of Advent (Page 87): Zephaniah 3:14-18; Isaiah 12; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18



Parish Team

Parish Priest:

Fr. John Byrne

Mobile: 0787 905 8732

Email: johnbyrne@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest:

Fr Joseph Okoro

Email: josephokoro@rcdow.org.uk

Deacon:

Rev. Colin Macken

Email: colinmacken@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary:

Florie Fernandes

Parish Office Open: Mon & Wed 9am-12noon;
Tues 2-5pm; Thursday 9am-4pm

Safeguarding Officer:

Helen Abiegebe

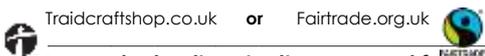
Email: felthamsg2@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Sisters:

Sr. Nora Gorman

Protecting your Privacy:

In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which became effective in May 2018, the Parish requires your permission to hold your data for Parish/Diocesan use. You can read our full privacy policy on www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy



Mass and other liturgies live streamed from Westminster Cathedral and other parishes are available at www.churchservices.tv

NEW MASS TIMES FROM SEPTEMBER

Sunday Masses: 8.00am, 9.30am and 11.00am

Monday to Friday: 10am Mass

Saturday Morning: 11.00am Mass

Saturday Morning: Confessions: 10.00am to 10.45am
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,

Saturday Evening: 5.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday

This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (WRCDT) Registered Charity No: 233699

A TIME TO LISTEN

Sincere "thanks" to everyone who filled in the questionnaire last Saturday and Sunday for the Synodal Pathway. It is so important that our voices be heard. Thanks to Cathy and Janet, our Parish Representatives, who worked so hard to prepare everything beforehand. They will continue to represent our parish at Diocesan gatherings and to make sure that our voices are heard.

John The Baptist repeats the words of Isaiah in today's Gospel - 'A voice cries in the wilderness.' The least we can do this Advent is to listen to his voice and not ignore him. We are constantly invited not only to make a fresh start, but to begin a new way of living.

No matter how selfish we have been Jesus comes to share our human nature so that he can help us change our direction and commit ourselves to the right path.

Aware of how easily we postpone such radical conversions, Advent offers us every year a reminder that Jesus' coming will focus our hearts as well as our minds on his presence among us:

Merciful God
you sent John the Baptist
to preach repentance.
Forgive us for the times
when we have done wrong,
when we have hurt other people
and damaged our earth.
Lead us to make a change,
to live differently,
preparing a way
and making your paths straight. Amen

FR JOHN

WESTMINSTER SYNODAL PATHWAY

Our thanks to all who participated in the Listening Group last weekend. For those who were unable to stay, or if you know anyone who may be interested in participating, we have put the questions on the parish website. We have also given our emails for your responses, which will be collated and sent to Westminster. Be assured that no private information will be shared. We really want to make sure that every voice is heard. Another Listening Weekend will be held in January, date to be confirmed.

Cathy Early and Janet Danladi

For those who were not here last week or do not have access to a computer, the following questions below were put forward at the Listening Session last week:

- What has been your experience of "journeying together" these last eighteen months – as a parish/community?
- What strengths did I find in my faith and faith community?
- How was I disappointed or sorrowful?
- In what ways did the grace of God most clearly touch and uplift me?
- Where in these experiences does the voice of the Spirit resound?

Please put your replies in an envelope marked "Synodal Pathway" and post through the presbytery letterbox.

REFLECTION ON AN ACOLYTE

On Saturday, 4th of December 2021, I will be instituted to the Ministry of Acolyte for the Archdiocese of Westminster. This Ministry is an office bestowed on a man to promote the good of the Church and for the greater glory of God, usually in the context of Seminary formation. An Acolyte is the ordinary assistant to the Deacon, who himself assists the Priest or Bishop in the various liturgies. This ministry has its roots in the Old Testament where, the prophet Samuel is seen assisting Eli the Levite priest. Similarly, Elisha is seen assisting Elijah the Prophet.

How time flies - it is already nearly the end of my three years of formation. Apart from the academic work, much of the formation focuses on how we, seminarians, can help to discern God's will and become better men, better Christians, and finally better Deacons. But this doesn't happen on our own but in the community with the guidance of the Church. These years in formation have been amazing, ones - I could not have had anywhere else. During the last year we have been formed during the pandemic in a time when we will have to be serious about living our faith. For we have seen what happens when we do not conform ourselves to the teachings of Our Lord and stray far from the profound depths of prayer.

Thank you for your prayer and support.

I will end with one of Ezekiel's vision of the river of life flowing from the temple"

LET ANYONE WHO IS THIRSTY COME TO ME AND LET THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN ME DRINK. AS THE SCRIPTURE HAS SAID, "OUT OF THE BELIEVER'S HEART SHALL FLOW RIVERS OF LIVING WATER."

Rolly

Masks are to be worn at all times when in Church covering your mouth and nose, unless you are exempt

When in Church please use our phone app or sign in for track and trace. Please continue to sanitize your hands.

If you, your child or family member has a cold or cough, please do not come to Church until your cough has cleared as cases are rising again.

The Government guidelines states that you should not come to church if you have Covid-19 symptoms, or you are shielding or self-isolating.

Masses continue to be available online for those who are vulnerable or shielding or self-isolating

With the cases rising and with the presence of Omicron we have to be extra careful and adhere to government and local guidelines. Please maintain social distancing and do not linger outside or mix with people outside of your group after Mass. Go straight home.

ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR

The Caritas Westminster team are sharing an Advent Giving Calendar again this year. The Calendar gives suggestions for items which we can put in our box for Storehouse. The important thing about the calendar is that it is also a way for families to find out where they can get some help if they are struggling to buy the food they need.

MISSIO RED BOXES

If anyone has a box at home, please bring it to Church in the next two weeks so that it can be emptied and the monies sent to Missio.

ENROLMENT FOR CONFIRMATION (2ND GROUP)

If you would like your child enrolled for the Confirmation Programme please email Theresa Fernandes on theresafernandes@aol.com. The enrolment deadline has been extended to 27th December.

CODE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE – RECEPTION CLASS

Please phone Fr John on 0787 905 8732 to arrange an appointment for the required Certificate of Catholic Practice.

A CALL FOR READERS

If anyone would like to read at the 8am Mass on Sundays, please speak to a member of the Pastoral Team.

UCM

The next Meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday 13th December in the Parish Centre.

GOAN COMMUNITY

There will be a Mass here at St Lawrence's in Konkani to celebrate the Feast of St Francis Xavier on Sunday 5th December at 3pm, the celebrant being the renowned Rev. Fr Salvador Gomes Pinto from Goa/Karwar, India.

FR GERRY'S GRAVE

Following the request a month ago not to put anything on the grave the little lawn begins to grow. Unfortunately, three large candle holders and some flowers have now been left on the grave and have had to be removed. It is Fr Gerry's family, not St Lawrence's parish, who own the burial rights and want the grave to be plain and easily maintained by the authorities. Plants, candles, etc. will, it is said, be thrown in the rubbish bin if they interfere with mowing the grass. Whatever our own preferences we must respect the wishes of Fr Gerry's family and leave the grave bare. Better therefore, to follow his own wishes inscribed on the headstone, "Pray for me sometimes". Thank you.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION IN ADULTS (RCIA)

Would you like to find out more about the Catholic Faith? Have you been searching for a deeper meaning for your life? Do you share your life with a Catholic, perhaps you are supporting your husband or wife bringing up your children in the Catholic Faith. If you are interested in learning more or thinking about becoming a Catholic, please call Fr John, Fr Joseph or Deacon Colin.

DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS ILL OR HOUSEBOUND?

If you know of someone who is ill in hospital or at home, or elderly or housebound, please ask them if they would like someone from the parish to visit them for a chat or with Communion, so that we can offer them and their family the support of our prayers and be a tangible sign of Christ's love for them in their need. Please call Fr John, Fr Joseph or Deacon Colin.

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the repose of the souls of **Manuel Dionisio Gomes De Mendonca RIP** and **Alice Long RIP** who died recently. Please also keep their families and loved ones in your prayers at this time.

Manuel Dionisio Gomes De Mendonca RIP - His Requiem will take place here on **Tuesday 14th December at 10.00am**, followed by committal at Hanworth Crematorium. **This will be the Parish Mass that day.**

Alice Long RIP - Her Funeral Service will take place at Hanworth Crematorium on **Tuesday 14th December at 1.00pm**

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 4	11am	Carmina Costa in Thanksgiving
	5pm	Barbara Ann Adams (Intention)
Sun 5	8am	Logarta Family in Thanksgiving
	9.30am	For the intentions of Fr John, Sr Mary & Sr Nora
	11am	Timothy Cahalane RIP
Mon 6	10am	John & Bridget Ward RIP
Tues 7	10am	Lilian & Cedric De Souza in Thanksgiving - Ruby Wedding Anniversary
Wed 8	10am	Eamon O'Brien RIP
Thurs 9	10am	Ivy Adams in Thanksgiving
Fri 10	10am	Joyleon Fernandes and Family in Thanksgiving
Sat 11	11am	Patrick Fitzgibbon RIP
	5pm	Lawrence Mascarenhas RIP (Anniversary)
Sun 12	8am	Pavia Family in Thanksgiving
	9.30am	Joanna Braganza in Thanksgiving
	11am	John Smith RIP
Sanctuary Lamp: Fr John Byrne and Fr Joseph Okoro (Intentions)		

Thank you for your generous contributions during these times. The contactless machine is available in the Church or you can use the link below
<https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=262>

HSBC Bank: WRCDT Feltham Sort code: 40-05-20 - Account No: 71095528

THE PRAYER OF THE SYNOD

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

