

ST LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH FELTHAM

The Green, Feltham, TW13 4AF



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email: feltham@rcdow.org.uk

web: www.saintlawrences.org.uk

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

Second Sunday of Advent

5th/6th December 2020

Readings: Parish Mass Book Year B, Volume 1: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalm 84; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

Readings Next Week - Third Sunday of Advent: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11; Psalm: Luke 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John: 1:6-8, 19-28



Parish Team

Parish Priest:

Fr. John Byrne

Mobile: 0787 905 8732

Email: johnbyrne@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest:

Fr John Louis Tabor

Email: johnabor@rcdow.org.uk

Deacon:

Rev. Colin Macken

Email: colinmacken@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary:

Florie Fernandes

(Office Open: Mon and Thurs - 9am to 1pm - working from home)

Parish Sisters:

Sr. Mary O'Malley, Sr. Nora

Gorman, Sr. Katherine O'Reilly

Protecting your Privacy:

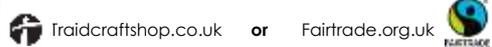
In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which became effective in May 2018, the Parish requires your permission to hold your data for Parish/Diocesan use. You can read our full privacy policy on www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy

MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish to offer a Mass intention, please call Fr John on 0787 905 8732

Westminster Year Books 2021

Available for sale: £4.50 plain bound, £5.00 ring bound



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

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

Dear Friends

The wilderness is a bit of a strange word. I guess it can mean different things to different people. To some it might be mountains and valleys, to others deserts or frozen polar ice caps. I'm not sure there is such a thing as an urban wilderness but, if there is, then Feltham would certainly be a candidate. I realise that may seem a bit harsh, but if a wilderness can be defined as somewhere where you can wonder around aimlessly with no real sense of direction and no human interaction then I'm sure that not only Feltham but most towns could fit that description. If that wasn't enough then I'm sure that at times we all feel unprepared and even abandoned in our own wilderness.

Advent is of course a time of preparation, and we must prepare ourselves, not just for the birth of Jesus but perhaps we should consider that our lives are of continuous renewal. I have this image in my mind of John the Baptist as this huge hairy wild man living a life by foraging for food but, at the same time, he was always pointing to someone or something else. Personally, I am inspired by the humility he shows when he says "Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

None of you will need reminding that the events of this year have been the most challenging in recent times. In normal times we all can get a bit dry with our prayer life, (perhaps stuck in some kind of spiritual wilderness), but because of these times could I ask that we find some extra time for prayer, and the sacrament of reconciliation. On a practical level, perhaps we could ask ourselves - "is there anything I can do to reach out to someone who might be feeling isolated or lonely?". Sometimes a friendly phone call can make a real difference to someone's day.

In our diocese the second Sunday in Advent is when our men in formation for the diaconate receive Candidature, Lector or Acolyte at the minor ministries Mass. This year the service will be held at St Edward the Confessor in Golders Green and Rolly from St Lawrence's will be receiving the office of Lector, so please remember him and his family in your prayers as he continues in his journey towards ordination as a permanent deacon.

Have a blessed week,

Deacon Colin

MASSES

- Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday in Church only.
- Sunday 9am Church and the Parish Centre
- Sunday 11am Church and the Parish Centre
- On Saturdays there will be Confessions at 10.30am and during Confessions there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and at 5.30pm.
- Weekday Masses Monday to Saturday will be celebrated in church at 11.00am with limited numbers

Two metre distancing and everyone over the age of 11 should wear masks unless exempt and have proof of exemption. **Face covering which should be kept on during the whole service - mouth and nose covered.**

If someone comes to church and is then tested positive for the virus, the church must be closed for 72 hours

Prayer for the Second Sunday of Advent:

The sense of anticipation and waiting which characterises Advent grows from week to week. The message of John the Baptist is one of hope and expectation. If we are to welcome Jesus into our lives then we must clear a space in our hearts and in our family. So, in this week of Advent we light the 2nd Candle and pray:



We light this candle for all who are victims of violence in any of its forms. May its light lead us to peace, safety, and truth. Lord, help us and all your children to claim your help for healing of body, mind and spirit.

Help us to trust in your justice, and to be confident in the future you have planned for us, a future full of hope.

We light this candle for all those who are experiencing the pain of broken relationships.

Lord, may its light remind us of the communion you desire for your children. Help us to forgive those who have hurt us, and to seek forgiveness for hurts we may have caused. Bring healing, Lord, to broken relationships we have with anyone who is now dead.

Our Father Hail Mary Glory Be

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS – SUNDAY MEDITATION

Meditate

Today we begin to read the Gospel of Mark. He writes the things that are important for him about the Christian message. He does not begin with Jesus because he knows that a preparation is necessary before we can accept Him in our lives. What does it mean for you today repentance and forgiveness of sins?

Act

The people listening to John the Baptist’s message confessed their sins. Perhaps during this Advent you might consider going to confession.

Bidding Prayers for the week:

God our Father, inspired by John the Baptist, we bring you our prayers, spoken and unspoken, knowing that you listen, that you love that you care:

For the renewal of the Church: that the Lord may sanctify her during this holy season of Advent.

Let us pray for the marginalised people of our world who feel unheard and unloved: that their cries for help will not be ignored and that they will receive the help and support that they need.

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer. *Holy Father’s prayer intention*.

For people who are sick and feel they are a burden, for all who are in hospital and residential care, for those suffering with Covid-19, and for all those who love and care for them.

For all the faithful departed: that they may find rest for their souls and be led rejoicing through the gates of paradise.

God our Father, we bring our prayers to you in the power of your Holy Spirit of love, through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ Amen

SACRAMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2020/2021

If your child is in year 2 or above in September 2020 and is not attending a Catholic School please email theresafernandes@aol.com for a registration form. This year classes will be by zoom. We require your child to take part in classes for one year prior to being prepared to receive First Holy Communion. Further details will be on the application form.

RCIA COURSE 2020-21

If you or anyone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, either as an enquirer or a “returner”, then the “RCIA” (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Course is for you!! It’s an opportunity to ask all those questions you thought up, but never quite got round to asking!! There is no commitment at the early stage – you may have a taster and decide you want to continue, or perhaps come back later on. This year, as with other Sacramental Classes, the course will be delivered via Zoom, at a time to be agreed with the participants. For more information please contact me by email johnthabor@rcdow.org.uk. Fr John Louis

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION FOR GROUP 2

Registration for Confirmation classes beginning on **Thursday 14th January 2021** are now open. As for the first group, there will be five weekly sessions delivered over Zoom. For a Registration Form and further information, please contact Theresa Fernandes: theresafernandes@aol.com

SCHOOLS

Reception Form signing - Please phone Fr John on 0787 905 8732

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Thomas Christopher Cleckner (known as Chris), Florin Gheorghe Cimisiu and Pat Byrne RIP** and all those who have passed away recently.

Florin Cimisiu’s funeral will take place at Hanworth Crematorium on **Friday 11th December**.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine on them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

UPDATE ON COVID RESTRICTIONS FROM BISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON:

Funerals: Funerals can be attended by a maximum of 30 people, and it is advised that only close friends and family attend. Linked ceremonial events such as stone settings and ash scatterings can also continue with up to 15 people in attendance. Anyone working i.e. the priest, cantor, organist, pallbearers, stewards, etc. is not included in the 30.

Baptisms: Maximum of 6 including the child to be baptised

Weddings: From 2nd December weddings can take place in Church with a maximum of 15 people in attendance including the bride and groom.

NHS COVID-19 Test and Trace App: On 24th September the NHS launched its Covid-19 Test and Trace App. This app has been developed to assist the Government with its test and trace policy and uses a smartphone. The app works by using the ‘Bluetooth’ system, which all smartphones have. It registers any other phones within a certain distance, which also has the app installed. This takes place between the phones themselves and its entirely anonymous. Please try and use this if you can.

ST LAWRENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL - 'THE HUB'

As a school we have successfully launched 'The Hub' this week. This is a resource for our community to access support during these difficult times. We currently are able to offer food parcels including toiletries and cleaning products. If you require any of the above or know someone who does please contact us on Thehub@st-lawrence.hounslow.sch.uk. Your request will be handled confidentially and we will organise collection at a time which suits. You can also contact Fr John on his mobile 0787 905 8732.

NEED HELP OR EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY?

Once again as we enter lockdown Caritas Westminster are able to offer some help with food vouchers. If you or anyone you know is experiencing financial difficulty at this time please contact Bridget Brinkley on 07805 299 941 or e-mail mbridgetb@yahoo.co.uk. I will help you complete a short application form so you can get the necessary help you need. Please text, WhatsApp or leave a voice mail and I will return any call I miss ASAP. Please continue to pray for each other at this difficult time for so many and please keep in contact with others, no one should be alone during this time. *Bridget*
Please see Advent giving poster from Caritas on the website.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 5	11am 6pm	Pat Frost RIP Peter Coufinho RIP
Sun 6	9am 9am 11am 11am	Vensisllos Pakkiyam Thiru (RIP) [C] People of the Parish [PC] Timothy Cahalane RIP (Anniversary) [C] Michael D'Silva RIP and Helen Henriques RIP [PC]
Mon 7	11am	Guilherme Afonso RIP
Tues 8	11am	Mario Godinho RIP
Wed 9	11am	Ivy Adams – Birthday Intention
Thurs 10	11am	Pascoal Joao Baptista RIP
Fri 11	11am	Joyce Shoniwa RIP
Sat 12	11am 6pm	Gaza Iglesias Family Intentions Mary Chacko RIP (2nd Anniversary)
Sun 13	9am 9am 11am 11am	Eamon O'Brien RIP [C] People of the Parish [PC] Denis Agbagwara RIP [C] Bridget Quinn RIP (Anniversary) [PC]
		Sanctuary Lamp: Ted Chapple RIP (Anniversary)

Dear Friends
Our parishioner’s response to our appeal to help with our parish funds by paying through standing order, cash or cheque has been tremendous – **THANK YOU!** For those who would like to take advantage of the standing order facility we have in place, our parish bank details are:

HSBC Bank: WRCDT Feltham

Sort code: **40-05-20** – Account No: **71095528**

Thank you for your continued generosity.

FR. JOHN AND FR. JOHN LOUIS