



ST LAWRENCE'S
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

FELTHAM | LONDON



Week One
OUR CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

“...serve one another with whatever gift
each of you has received” - 1 Peter 4:10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Around 90 years ago our beautiful church was consecrated for mission, and over the course of the past century fervent prayer has been, and continues to be, the cement keeping this church firmly seated in the heart of Feltham.

Each of you, the 'living stones' of St Lawrence, continues to build our parish with diversity, culture, vibrancy, enthusiasm and a distinct love for God and each other, and it is a privilege and honour to be a part of this parish family, a home to all. Home is a place where we belong and are loved, a place of refreshment, company and rest. St Lawrence church is a home not only for local people, but for visitors, migrants, refugees, and anyone who wishes to experience the Lord Jesus.

This year, we have 125 children preparing for First Holy Communion, 100 teenagers preparing for Confirmation, 6 adults preparing to receive the Sacraments at Easter, dozens of couples preparing for Marriage, and many baptisms. We have begun ongoing sacramental and catechetical formation for the wider parish, in the form of retreats and talks, courses and programmes, pilgrimages, all of which are oriented to forming the hearts of us all for a deeper relationship with God.

We rejoice for the strength of the past that has helped to build and form the home of St Lawrence, for which we continue to reinforce this legacy in exciting ways, in the present, whilst preparing to hand it over to coming generations, promising them a hopeful future. This is what it is to be 'Pilgrims of Hope' which we pray for during this Jubilee Year, strengthening our parish for many living and active Jubilees to come.

Almost a century of continuous activity, along with a significant growth, is calling for us, now, to be more prudent, responsible and resilient stewards for a more secure, fertile future, as we care for our church and parish.

This Planned Giving Appeal, which I invite you all to pray for and engage with, is an opportunity to ask how we can all help to fortify and grow our parish, and so contribute to God's mission here in Feltham.

Yours, united in prayer,

Father Mike



DID YOU
KNOW...

...we do not receive funding
from the government, the
Vatican or Diocese?

All we have comes from God, so we are His Stewards.

These gifts could be our faith, our friends and family, our skills or possessions.

Together, let's regularly reflect on our blessings and continue our faith through our giving, which will help us with our personal and spiritual growth.

By giving to God & to others, we grow & we can give by:

- ☒ Joyfully recalling that all we have comes from God
- ☒ Declaring our trust in His provision and care
- ☒ Sharing in the joy of giving and seeing the amazing fruits it brings

“...all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.”

1 Chronicles 29:14

Our vision, for our parish...

As Christians we are all part of the Body of Christ, and we are each called to use our gifts, talents and treasures to glorify God and His Church. We are looking to the future with renewed hope and confidence, and as we seek to be a beacon of Christ to all in our community we have three key pillars that will allow us to continue in growing God's kingdom here in St Lawrence, Feltham.

Securing the long-term care of our church

Forming disciples

Enhancing our liturgical encounter

Our recent diocesan buildings survey shows that our ageing lighting system will need to be replaced in the next 2 -5 years. This will be an opportunity for us to replace the lighting system with one which is eco-friendly, as well as economically viable.

The three pillars of ongoing formation that we wish to promote for St Lawrence's are the Youth, Liturgy and Pilgrimage Funds. In this way, we hope to reach out to parishioners of all ages, continuing to be a missionary and outreach parish.

We are blessed that our church has stunning stoneware, oriented to our liturgical celebrations; the Altar and Tabernacle, the font, the Stations of the Cross, the top of the columns in church. Our vision is to replace the lectern and ambo (readers and celebrants' stations) with similar stone, drawing us into a more functional and focussed Sanctuary space.

A religious icon of Saint Lawrence, a martyr and deacon. He is depicted from the waist up, wearing a red tunic with gold trim and a red sash. He holds a large, open book in his left hand and a palm frond in his right hand. He has a halo around his head and is set against a gold background with a grid pattern. The entire icon is framed by a gold arch.

SAINT
LAURENCE

DID YOU
KNOW...

...in 2024 it cost £230,550 just
to keep our church doors open?

What does this Parish church mean to me?

As Stewards of this Parish, we are each responsible for the upkeep of our Parish, with a duty to pass it on to future generations in even better condition than when we received it.

What you decide to give is personal to you. Traditionally, communities of the faithful tithed, giving 10% of their income. Some like to break this down into ‘5 and 5’:

- 5 hours of service to Parish ministry (sharing your time, talents and prayer)
- 5% of their income.

Whatever you decide, the amount should suit your circumstances and be meaningful to you. The table below can help you to work out suggested weekly giving percentages, that you can change or adjust at any time.

HOURLY WAGE	ANNUAL SALARY	2%	3%	5%
£13.85*	£25,200	£8	£12	£21
£15	£27,000	£11	£17	£28
£20	£36,000	£14	£21	£35
£25	£46,000	£18	£26	£44
£30	£55,000	£21	£32	£53
£38	£70,000	£27	£40	£67

*As of April 2024, the London Living Wage is calculated at £13.85 per hour

“Each one should give as much as he has decided on his own initiative, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”
2 Corinthians 9:7

Please take this leaflet away with

If you have any questions,
please ask a volunteer after Mass or contact:

Parish Priest: Father Mike Maguire

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Feltham

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To stay informed or donate to our parish online,
please visit:

<https://saintlawrences.org.uk/>

WRCDT – Charity Number 233699

