



First Sunday of Advent - Year A

29th - 30th November 2025

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS		
<b>Sat 29</b> 9.30am 6pm	William & Vera Chappells For those in our Book of Remem.	RIP (A) RIP
<b>Sun 30</b> 8am 9.30am 11am 7pm	Ildinha & Bernardo Pereira Capistrano J & Dephina J Dias Angela, Genie & Leo People of the Parish	RIP RIP RIP INT
<b>Mon 1Dec</b> 9.30am	Mariano & Escolastica Jingco	RIP
<b>Tue 2</b> 9.30am 7pm	Peiedade Lobo Hope M M Galappathi (3rd B'day)	RIP (A) T'GIVING
<b>Wed 3</b> 9.30am 4.00pm	Catalina & Edrick Bhellsun Konkani Mass - St Francis Xavier	T'GIVING T'GIVING
<b>Thur 4</b> 9.30am	Piedade & Ivy Rodrigues	T'GIVING
<b>Fri 5</b> 9.30am 7pm	D'csd souls - Garadi Family Paguyo Family	RIP T'GIVING
<b>Sat 6</b> 9.30am 6pm	Ivanya Rodrigues (Birthday) Bridget Ward	T'GIVING RIP (A)
<b>Sun 7</b> 8am 9.30am 11am 7pm	Grace Dias (Birthday) Jessica Anto (Birthday) Timothy Cahalane People of the Parish	T'GIVING T'GIVING RIP (A) INT
Sanctuary Lamp is lit for the souls of Braganca/Pereira Families		
OTHER REGULAR MASSES, LITURGY		
Confessions and Adoration: Saturdays 10.15am-11.15am		
Confessions: Saturday 4pm-5pm		
Morning Prayer: Monday to Friday 9.10am		
Rosary: Monday & Friday 10am		
St Anthony Devotion: Tuesday 10am		
Novena to Mother of Perpetual Help: Wednesday 10am		
Sacred Heart Devotion & Adoration: First Friday (10am-3pm)		
Prayer & Intercessory Group: 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday 7pm		
Polish Mass: Every Sunday 1.00pm		
Malayalam Mass: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday 2.30pm		
Filipino Mass: 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday 2.30pm		
Nigerian Mass: 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 2.30pm		

Dear Friends,

Stepping onto the Advent platform, we do so with the help of our beautiful advent wreath. Week-by-week, with joyful expectation and hope, we gradually light our Advent candles, so that when we arrive at Christmas our Advent wreath captures the full, powerful reality that the light of Christ came into our world and scattered the darkness of sin and death by shining forth the truth and love of God through our infant King. When we look at our Advent wreath, we can see that its unbroken circular shape, along with the circle of evergreens, reminds us of everlasting life promised to us all in the coming of Christ - He who is the new and eternal covenant - and is a sign of the eternity of God. Drilling deeper into the traditional meaning of the varieties of evergreens commonly used on Advent wreaths, the laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering; pine, holly and yew, immortality; and cedar, strength and healing. The holly reminds us of the crown of thorns Jesus wore so that we may wear the crown of eternal glory, and the berries represent the drops of our Saviours blood, poured out for us. The acorns and nuts on our wreath are symbolic of the Resurrection, and the fruits also symbolise the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life. With the help of our Advent wreath, as we contemplate the infancy of Jesus and also the shadow of The Cross, may we, this Advent, eagerly prepare for the eternal Word of the Father, the salvific coming of Christ for all eternity who, through His own Passion, Death and Resurrection, has secured for us perpetual life in the eternal Light of Christ. Have a blessed week,

Fr Mike

PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Mon, Wed, Thur: 10.00am-12noon & Fri: 12.30-2.30pm  
Tues, Sat & Sun: Office Closed

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Today: First Sunday of Advent (Year A) p. 82  
Next week: Second Sunday of Advent (Year A) p. 85

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, may they rest in peace.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Andrew (Born 7BC d.60), Apostle & Martyr  
Patron Saint of Scotland

Feast Day: November 30th, Feast  
"The Cross of Christ is the foundation of our faith, the cause of our hope, and the assurance of our love."

PARISH CONTACTS

Father Mike Maguire  
Parish Priest  
michaelmaguire@rcdow.org.uk

Father Andrew Batare  
Assistant Priest  
andrewbatare@rcdow.org.uk

Rev Colin Macken  
Deacon  
colinmacken@rcdow.org.uk

Florie Fernandes  
Parish Administrator  
feltham@rcdow.org.uk

Cathy Early  
Catechetical Coordinator  
cathythecatechist@outlook.com

Sr Nora & Sr Monica  
Parish Sisters  
monicamkillen@gmail.com

Victor Fernandes  
Parish Safeguarding Rep  
felthamsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Marinha Bragança  
Parish Safeguarding Rep  
felthamsg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

### CATECHESIS CORNER

As stated last week, a person who receives the Sacrament of Confirmation is “enriched with the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Canon 879, Code of Canon Law). The gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord (1 Corinthians 12:4-11), are not decorations, but tools to be used for life. It is a missioning or sending forth. Christ says to all who received the Sacrament of Confirmation what He said to the Apostles: “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (John 20:21). By virtue of this Sacrament, rather than being passive Christians, the Church expects Christians who will live and share the gospel in their homes, places of employment, and communities. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen famously remarked that despite being God's chosen people, Christians frequently act more like God's frozen people: frozen in prayer life, frozen in healthy human relations, and frozen in the way they celebrate the Christian faith. Therefore, the gifts of the Holy Spirit received at Confirmation rekindles new life, enthusiasm, and the fire of God's love.

**COMMUNION ROUTES** Following a period of observation and feedback, new routes for us to receive Holy Communion will soon be implemented. This is to help mitigate against any collision with another communicant, whilst offering and receiving the Blessed Sacrament in a more reverent way. **From the beginning of Advent**, Holy Communion will be distributed to the congregation sitting at the front of church, working backwards, and we encourage all those sick members of the parish who cannot process to receive Holy Communion to sit at the front of the church, so that they can receive more easily. Also, the congregation seated in the pews on the right-hand side of the church, as you face the Sanctuary, will come to receive Holy Communion from a minister who is positioned at that side, again, from the front to the back of the church. The congregation in the two main blocks of pews will continue to come down the middle aisle to receive Holy Communion, returning via the side aisles. I hear this was once a familiar practice in the parish and we hope the fruits of this ‘renewed’ system will be positive.

**3rd DECEMBER MASS** There will be a Mass celebrated here in Konkani at 4pm as we honour the Memoria of St Francis Xavier.

**9th DECEMBER 7PM MASS** Due to a deanery commitment, the 7pm Mass on this day ONLY will be moved to the earlier time of 4.30pm. the Mass intention will also move to this new time. We are sorry for this inconvenience.

**ALMS GROUP CONCERT** - The “Appreciate and Learn Music through Singing” group are laying on a concert on Monday 15th December at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Entrance is free but donations would be welcome. Do come along and enjoy their music.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026** If you are interested in going to Lourdes on the Diocesan Pilgrimage between **17-24th July 2026**, please give your contact details to the Parish Office. Costs are still waiting to be confirmed, however, I am told that our parish will more than likely be offered flights from Heathrow to Toulouse, with a coach connection to Lourdes. The same route will apply for the return. If you are also interested in volunteering for the pilgrimage, in any of the following capacities, please also let the Parish Office know: Volunteer Adult helper, Volunteer Medical or Nursing helper, Volunteer Youth helper (16-years and older), Volunteer Musicians.

### SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**First Holy Communion 2026 (for children)** The next class will be on **Saturday 6th December** at 9.30am.

**The Walk with Jesus (for children in non Catholic Schools)** the next session is **Sunday 7th December** after the 9.30am Mass.

**Confirmation 2026** - The next class is on Thursday 4th December at 6.30pm.

### SENIOR CITIZENS ‘GOLDEN YEARS’ CHRISTMAS PARTY

This will take place on Sunday 14th December, 1-4pm, in the Parish Centre. It is intended for St Lawrence parishioners who are 65 years and over. To book your ticket, please email **Kieran Baker** on [felthamppc@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:felthamppc@rcdow.org.uk) Please note you will need to organise your own transportation to and from the church and, again, please there will be no parking in the church parking bays that afternoon, to assist with our Health and Safety measures. If you would like to volunteer to help on the day, please also email **Kieran** on the email above.

**MASS INTENTIONS 2026** - Florie will be available in the Church porch on **Monday 1st December 10.15am-12.15pm** and on **Wednesday 10th December from 2pm-3pm** to take Mass Bookings for 2026. Please take a Booking Form from the porch, complete and bring with your payment on the day. Bookings will not be accepted without a payment. Please do not put booking forms through the door or email your requests. We also ask you to think carefully about your intentions as only 3 Masses are allowed per family, this is so everyone in the parish has a chance to offer a Mass. All Masses above the 3 will be sent to retired priests or the missions.

**“THE SPLENDOUR OF CARING”** is a wonderful book written by Sister Kathleen Murphy, one of the Sisters of Mercy – the same Religious Order as our dear parish Sisters Nora and Monica – which shows us the privilege of caring. In twelve inspiring and sometimes heart-breaking stories of people who are in desperate need of care, Sr Kathleen shares her experience of reaching out to others in a non-judgmental way. Each chapter focuses on a Scripture text, tells a story, includes a reflection and prayer. Carers, medics and families will find inspiration and strength here, as well as reassurance and empathy, but I highly recommend this book to all. Sr Kathleen is selling her book in the parish this weekend and all proceeds from the book will go to our Diocesan Charity ‘The Passage’ and to Children’s Eye Sight in Africa.



### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

22-23 November: Loose £1,408.57 & Envelopes £228.00  
Total: 1,636.57

**HSBC BANK ACCOUNT NAME: WRCDT Feltham**  
Account No: **71095528** Sort Code: **40-05-20**

Please add your Surname and First Name as a reference, to help our bookkeeper, and indicate if it is for a Donation, Baptism, etc.