

SERVICES THIS WEEK – February 2026

SUNDAY 15 February	9.00am 11:00am 6.00pm	Mass	6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed
MONDAY 16 February	9.15am	Mass	
TUESDAY 17 February	9.15am	Mass	
WEDNESDAY 18 February	7.30am 12 noon 6.30pm	Mass	ASH WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY 19 February	10.00am	Mass	Requiem Mass for Myles Moriarty
FRIDAY 20 February	9.30am 6.00pm	Mass	Requiem Mass for Donna Fitzgerald Stations of the Cross after Evening Mass
SATURDAY 21 February	9.15am 6.00pm	Mass	First Mass of Sunday
SUNDAY 22 February	9.00am 11:00am 6.00pm	Mass	1st SUNDAY OF LENT The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed
ROSARY	After Morning Masses Monday to Saturday		
EXPOSITION/private prayer	Wed: 10 – 11.50am; Fri 10-11am; 5-5.50pm; Sat 10-11am		
RECONCILIATION	At the above time of adoration & on request		
PRAYER GROUPS (in Chapel)	Charismatic Prayer Group - Monday evenings 7pm.		

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Our new Archbishop, Richard Moth, installed this weekend.
- Peace and reconciliation in Ukraine/Russia, Israel/Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Myanmar, DRC, Venezuela, Iran and all countries/communities living under the shadow of war.
- Release for all political prisoners held unjustly in captivity around the world.
- All Christians, e.g. in Nigeria, and people of faith being persecuted around the world. We pray for the all the children kidnapped in recent months in Nigeria by extremists.
- The repose of the soul of Donna Fitzgerald, Myles Moriarty, Yvonne Charles and all who have died recently, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.
- The homeless, refugees and migrants – that they may find a place of sanctuary.
- All the sick, housebound and most vulnerable members of our parish community.
- The work of CAFOD, Mary's Meals, Caritas and the Catholic Children's Society.
- Our Parish Centre Renovation Project. Pray for the builders!
- Our parish community – that the coming season of Lent may be a time of great spiritual renewal for us all.
- All who are undergoing surgery or important medical treatment at this time.



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church - White City

Parish Priest: Fr Richard Nesbitt | Assistant Priest: Fr Ephrem Andom

Parish Administrator: Collise Lynch – Half Term Break

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6th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Law and Love

In today's readings we hear what sounds like a lot of opposites – fire/water, death/life, the way of the world/the wisdom of God, to abolish/to complete, yes/no. With all these opposites, we might be tempted to think that the ideas of love & the law, which Jesus speaks about in the Gospel, are also in opposition to each other. But Jesus shows that this is not the case – the law and love very much need each other!

We can perhaps understand the confusion of the disciples & the crowd. As we have heard in recent weeks, Jesus has just proclaimed the new vision of the Beatitudes, challenging his listeners to be 'salt and light' to others through their radical living of these 'new commandments'. But does this mean the 'old commandments' of the Jewish Law, so key to Jewish identity and everyday life, are now redundant? Absolutely not, as Jesus makes it clear: "I have come not to abolish the law but to complete it."

But he tells them they must go beyond the traditional interpretation of the law & see it from God's point of view. To show this, he takes 3 of the 10 commandments: *You shall not kill* (no 5); *You shall not commit adultery* (no 6) & *You shall not break your oath* (no 8) & shows the true depth of each commandment. For example '*You must not kill*' – of course we must not kill another human being, but, Jesus explains, that in itself is not enough. We must not hate, bear resentment, act in anger towards another person. We must not insult, abuse or humiliate others. And this extends to how we come before God - we cannot truly praise/worship God when our hearts are full of anger towards another person. We can't be praying to God one minute and then plotting revenge against someone the next! Jesus explains, we only really fulfil the law when we do so with all our heart, mind, body & soul.

This Wednesday we begin our Lenten journey when we receive the ashes on our foreheads on **Ash Wednesday**. This is an invitation from God to us all to come back to him with all our hearts. That means, yes, being faithful to God's commandments but, most importantly, it means following and living like Jesus deeper and deeper every day. Law and Love, head and heart.

With blessings & prayers from Fr Richard, Fr Ephrem & all the parish team

IN THE PARISH...

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Pg 136 in Parish Mass book) 1st reading Sirach 15: 15-20; Psalm 119 Response: **Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord.** 2nd reading 1 Corinthians 2: 6-10 Gospel: Matthew 5: 17-37 A new way of living...

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT (Pg 151 in Parish Mass book) 1st reading Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7; Psalm 51 Response: **Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned..** 2nd reading Romans 5: 12-19 Gospel: Matthew 4: 1-11 Jesus is tempted in the wilderness by Satan

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: £1,331.20; Loose Plate: £270.61; Planned Giving: £265.09; On-line donations: £418.00; Contactless machine: £377.50. Remember it costs at least £2,000 a week just to cover the basic expenses of running the parish. We do not receive money from the diocese or the Vatican (!), but rely totally on your support.

Online Donations Account Name: WRCDT White City Sort Code: 40-05-20

Account No: 31264990. A regular standing order is a great way to support the parish. Use the parish bank account details above. Add your surname/first name as a reference. Taxpayers can gift aid your donation! Email giftaid@rcdow.org.uk with: the name of your parish (White City); your title, first name/surname; address & postcode; date of your gift, or start date of standing order; the amount; please add the line: 'Please gift aid my donations'. Many thanks – this is a HUGE help.

Please note: if you sign up for GIFT AID on the contactless machine, you must put your FULL NAME for the parish to claim your gift aid - initials are not enough. Envelope holders must use the correct envelopes for each week. We cannot claim gift aid donations for unmarked envelopes with handwritten numbers on.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS

Our Saturday free community lunch run by FoodCycle is now on an extended break until the parish centre renovation is completed.

Our Monday morning White City Community Food Hub has moved to St Michael & St George church because of our parish centre renovation. Food distributed from 11.15am. Could you help as a volunteer, even just once a month. To find out more, see Laura or Fr Richard.

• **THE THURSDAY CLUB** for over-60's now meets in St Michael & St George Church hall due to our parish centre renovation. Thursdays from 10am – 12noon with tea/coffee/cake/social time. Chair exercises from 11am. **On half term break this week. Back on Thursday 26th February.**

PARISH CENTRE RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE

- More really wet weather this week, which means we are a bit behind schedule. But the builders are close to beginning the construction of the steel frame and foundations for the new extension. Slow but good progress. Please keep the project and the builders in your prayers!
- **HUGE** thanks to **the Thursday Club** who continue their weekly raffles to raise money for the project. Thank you – you are simply the best!

• **The next BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE** will take place on Saturday Feb 28 and March 7 (4-5pm). Please register asap. You can come before or after your baby has been born. Registration forms available at back.

• **MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE** If you are planning to get married in 2026 (congratulations!) & live within our parish boundaries, you will need to take part in our parish marriage preparation course. Contact Fr R asap

• **Would you like to serve the parish as a READER?** It is a wonderful way to deepen your own love of Scripture and to serve the parish. Full training course on Sat 7 March, 11.30-2pm. Registration forms at back of church.

• **LOOKING FORWARD TO LENT – This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday**, with Masses at 7.30am/12noon & 6.30pm with the distribution of ashes. On **Sunday evenings in Lent after 6pm Mass**, Sr Anne will lead a Scripture group open to all to help us understand deeper the Sunday readings. Intro session this Sunday 7-8pm. See also our **daily Lenten Scripture reflection newsletter insert**. Use this with a prayer partner through Lent.

• **LOURDES JULY 2026** Once again, we will join the Westminster Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes at the very beginning of the school summer hols: July Sat 18th -Thurs 23rd. Full info sheet available at back of church. **This weekend is the deadline to register/pay deposit.** For more info see Laura. This will be our new Archbishop's first Westminster pilgrimage to Lourdes.

MARY's MEALS RELAUNCH!

2026 is the 10th year of our support for the wonderful Mary's Meals charity. Since 2016 we have committed to raising approx. £5,000 a year to fund a year's school meals at Mongola primary school in Malawi. Last weekend we relaunched the project as many parishioners may not be aware of Mary's Meals and our parish sponsorship project.

This weekend, there is **a cake sale after 9am & 11am Masses**, and also a **pop-up pre-loved clothes sale** (weather permitting!) – all to raise money for our Mary's Meals project.

We still have some Mary's Meals books and collection boxes available.