

## SERVICES THIS WEEK – April 2025

<b>SUNDAY</b> 6 April	9.00am, 11.00am 6.00pm	Mass	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> <i>The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed</i>
<b>MONDAY</b> 7 April	9.15am	Mass	
<b>TUESDAY</b> 8 April	9.15am	Mass	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 9 April	7.30am 12noon	Mass Mass	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 10 April	9.15am	Mass	
<b>FRIDAY</b> 11 April	9.15am 6.00pm	Mass	<b>Stations of the Cross after 9.15am/6pm Mass</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b> 12 April	9.15am 6.00pm	Mass	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
<b>SUNDAY</b> 13 April	9.00am <b>10.45am</b> 6.00pm	Mass	<b>PALM SUNDAY</b> <b>We start in the school playground at 10.45</b> <i>The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed</i>

<b>ROSARY</b>	After Morning Masses Monday to Saturday
<b>EXPOSITION/private prayer</b>	<b>Wed: 10–11.50am; Fri 10-11am/5-5.50pm; Sat 10-11am</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION</b>	At the above time of adoration & on request
<b>PRAYER GROUPS (in Chapel)</b>	Charismatic Prayer Group - Monday evenings 7pm.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Pope Francis as he continues his recovery. For all those responsible for his medical care and all those taking on his responsibilities during his illness.
- The thousands of victims of the earthquake in Myanmar and all affected by it.
- For a lasting and just peace between Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Palestine.
- Peace and reconciliation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Myanmar, Syria and all countries/communities living under the shadow of war at this time.
- Release for all political prisoners held in captivity around the world.
- All Christians and people of faith being persecuted around the world.
- All those 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.
- All our parish community – that his sacred season of Lent may be a time of spiritual renewal and deeper commitment to our faith for us all.
- Our school communities as they begin their Easter holidays.
- All those preparing to be baptised/confirmed at the Easter Vigil.

6<sup>th</sup> April 2025 / No. 3101



## Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church - White City

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

**Parish Administrator: Collise Lynch – Mon & Wed: 10am -3pm**

The Presbytery, Commonwealth Avenue, White City, London, W12 7QR

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### 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT – *My Life in Your Hands, Lord*

St John Paul II once said, "Hands are the heart's landscape." I think of these poetic words when I read today's powerful Gospel about the woman caught in adultery and thrown before Jesus by the angry mob. Think about all the hands of the people involved and what they tell us about the different characters...

See firstly the merciless and cruel hands that have roughly dragged this woman through the streets. They deliberately take her to the most public place in Jerusalem – the Temple, the place of God's holy presence – so as to expose her sinfulness. Perhaps she is not even fully dressed – they are like a pack of angry dogs which has cornered its defenceless victim. See their clenched fists, their pointing fingers as they shout at her and abuse her, demanding justice. See the stones that many clutch in their fists, ready to stone her to death for her sins.

Now see the woman's trembling hands, trying to cover up her shame, to defend whatever is left of her dignity. "Master Rabbi..." the leaders of the mob begin, their fingers stabbing the air in the direction of the accused, "this woman..." For them she has no name, no identity except as a sinner. "She should be put to death by stoning. What do you say?" See the hands poised to hurl their stones, ready to execute.

Yet see how relaxed are Jesus's hands. No pointing, no clenching, no stones. See how instead he kneels down and writes with his finger in the dust. What does he write? Their sins? Or perhaps he is drawing a cross – the sign of how he will take upon himself all of the sins of the world. At his hands the woman is restored to life and to the hope of a new beginning. These are the final days of our Lenten journey - next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. In these coming days of Jesus' Passion and Crucifixion may we also place our lives fully in Jesus' merciful and redeeming hands. May we know God's hand in ours.

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

## IN THE PARISH...

**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent** (Pg 176 Parish Mass book)  
Isaiah 43: 16-21; Psalm 126 Response: **What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.** Philippians 3: 8-14; John 8: 1-11 *Jesus saves the woman caught in adultery.*

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: PALM SUNDAY** (Pg 190 Parish Mass book)  
Isaiah 50: 4-7; Psalm 22 Response: **My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?** Philippians: 2:6-11; Luke 22: 14-23:56 *The Passion of Christ*

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: £1,889.27;** Loose: £242.37; Planned Giving: £312.40; On-line donations: £918.00; Contactless machine: £416.50. Just to remind you – it costs over £8,000 a month/£2,000 a week to cover just the parish's basic running costs. We don't receive money from the diocese/Vatican/government but rely 100% 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](mailto: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.

**COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: Our weekly planned giving envelopes for the Tax Year 2025/26 are ready to collect following this weekend's Masses. We will only have a few spares, and these will be given out on a first come first serve basis. If you have missed the deadline, we continue to encourage setting up a standing order. Please contact Collise if you need support with this. Thank you!**

### OUR PARISH COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS:

**Saturdays at 1.00pm** in our Parish Centre Free friendly community lunch run by FoodCycle charity (see [www.foodcycle.org.uk](http://www.foodcycle.org.uk)). Veggie Lunch & take-home bags. A very special community time with lots of friendly faces and really delicious freshly cooked food. All welcome☺

**White City Community Food Hub – Mondays** in our parish centre. Doors open 10.30am & the food is usually distributed from 11.30am. You need to be registered and live in W12 – bring proof of address and ID.

**FRIDAY WARM WELCOME** – Thank you to Laura, Kevin and the team for organising what have been really popular sessions. We will do our best to start something similar again soon. Many thanks to all who came.

● **CAFOD LENTEN FAST DAY – HUGE THANKS!** We have already raised **£1,090.12** for **CAFOD's Lenten appeal** – Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Last chance to donate. See [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

● **THE THURSDAY CLUB** for our local over 60's residents/parishioners is now on Easter break until Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

### LENT 2025

Here are some ideas to help you go deeper during Lent:

● **Lenten Scripture Reflection Group on Sunday evenings** after the 6pm Mass, led by Sr Anne in the mid-week chapel. Sr Anne helps us to reflect more deeply on the Sunday Lent readings. All welcome.

● **PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE** on **the Monday of Holy Week, April 14.** Fr Richard & Fr Ephrem will be joined by other priests to help you celebrate this great Sacrament of God's mercy. **6.30-7.30pm** in church. This is the best way to prepare for Holy Week/the Triduum.

**Please continue to keep Pope Francis in your prayers at this time.** He is back home in the Vatican but still has a long journey of recovery ahead.

● **Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2025** – This Jubilee Year invites us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We invite you to support work being done in the Diocese of Westminster to bring hope into many lives. Your contributions will help fund vital projects across our Diocese, including Youth & Evangelisation, Social Action, Marriage & Family Life, and Catholic Education initiatives. Cardinal Vincent thanks all who give what they can to this great cause. Donation envelopes are available in the porch. You can also contribute online using the QR code on the poster. Thank you.

● Huge thanks to all who have helped with **our parish garden tidy-up** over the last 2 Saturdays. This is a busy time of year in the garden, so we will have another garden session this Saturday 11.30am – 1pm. Also, we need your help to come and **give the church a deep clean** before Holy Week – everything from cleaning windows to polishing the brasses. Come and help between 11am - 1pm this Saturday. Many thanks!

**Looking ahead to Holy Week...** Next Sunday is **Palm Sunday**, so please remember that **we start the 11am Mass earlier** – 10.45am in the school playground next door. Also, calling all children/families – we need you to help with our **Good Friday Stations of the Cross for families** (Friday 18 April @10.30am). There will be a rehearsal after the 11am Mass next Sunday and then another one on Maundy Thursday at 10.30am. This is a really wonderful way for the children to come closer to Jesus in Holy Week.