

SERVICES THIS WEEK – November/ December 2023

SUNDAY 26 November	9.00am, 11.00am 6.00pm	Mass	CHRIST THE KING <i>The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed (see www.ourladyoffatima.org.uk for link)</i>
MONDAY 27 November	9.15am	Mass	
TUESDAY 28 November	9.15am	Mass	
WEDNESDAY 29 November	7.30am 12noon	Mass Mass	
THURSDAY 30 November	9.15am	Mass	<i>St Andrew</i>
FRIDAY 1 December	9.15am	Mass	No evening Mass – Hope in White City
SATURDAY 2 December	9.15am 6.00pm	Mass Mass	<i>Followed by First Saturday Fatima Devotions First Mass of Sunday</i>
SUNDAY 3 December	9.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Mass Mass Mass	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed</i>

ROSARY	After Morning Masses Monday to Saturday
EXPOSITION/private prayer	Wed: 10–11am; Fri 10-11am; 5-5.50pm; Sat 9.45-11am
RECONCILIATION	At the above time of adoration & on request
PRAYER GROUPS (in Chapel)	Charismatic Prayer Group - Monday evenings 7pm.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Peace and reconciliation in Israel and Gaza at this time of war, suffering and violence.
- Peace & reconciliation in Ukraine/Russia, Sudan, Afghanistan, South Africa, Nigeria, Iraq, Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria and other countries in crisis at this time.
- Rebecca and Steven who got married in our church this weekend.
- Pope Francis as he prepares to attend the COP28 Climate Change conference.
- All those affected by extreme climate change weather events around the world, and all who continue to mourn & rebuild their lives after the Moroccan earthquake & Libyan flood disaster.
- All those Christians in Pakistan, India, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, China and other countries who are being persecuted for their faith at this time.
- All those affected by the cost of living crisis in our local community and beyond.
- Gladys Bardouille and all who have died recently & all whose anniversaries occur at this time.
- The eternal rest of all whose names are in our parish Book of Remembrance.
- The homeless, refugees and migrants – that they may find a place of sanctuary.
- All those who are preparing for or recovering from surgery, 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.

26 November 2023 / No. 3030



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church - White City

Parish Priest: Fr Richard Nesbitt | Assistant Priest: Fr Ephrem Andom
Parish Administrator: Collise Lynch – Mon, Wed & Fri (10am – 3pm)

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The Solemnity of CHRIST THE KING – Jesus is on the throne!

The Feast of Christ the King is a relatively recent feast in our liturgical calendar. It was instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. Why? When the First World War ended in 1918 it left the world, especially Europe, in great turmoil. Out of the bitterness and divisions of those days, there rose up strong forces of nationalism and secularism, which would soon open the door for Hitler, Stalin and other ruthless dictators. Both political extremes of fascism and communism rejected the authority, even the existence of God. Instead they put human power at the centre.

Pius XI realised the need to assert that it is not man who has the ultimate power and authority in the world but God. So in our Gospel today, for example, we see Christ as the Judge of all creation at the end of time. Pius XI saw that as respect for the Church's authority was waning so also this understanding of Christ's power was also under attack.

Can we say that the situation 100 years later is any better? In superpowers like Russia and China we see repressive dictatorships still in power, but we also have more subtle forms of slavery. We live in an increasingly materialistic society which side-lines, even rejects God and also in an increasingly individualistic society in which the only authority is my own will – what I want. There is a distrust of authority and a discomfort with titles such as “Lord” and “King”. But this is to completely miss the point – Christ's kingship is one of humility, service and self-sacrifice. He shows us what it means to be a true king – a servant king, who gives everything for his subjects, even his own life. Our life's mission is to learn from Jesus what it means to live, love & serve and then to put this into action in our own lives. May Christ the King rule in our hearts!

With prayers - Fr Richard, Fr Ephrem, Deacon Robert and all the parish team

IN THE PARISH...

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: CHRIST THE KING (Pg 158 Parish Mass book) Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17; Psalm 22 Response: **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.** 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28; Matthew 25: 31-46 **The Day of Judgement – the sheep and the goats**

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Pg 82 Parish Mass book) Isaiah 63: 16-17; 64: 1, 3-8; Psalm 79 Response: **God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.** 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9; Mark 13: 33-37 **Jesus says: 'Stay awake!'**

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: £1650.26; Loose: £506.76; Planned Giving: £348.71; On-line donations: £569.79 Contactless machine: £225.00. *Just a reminder – it costs approx. £8,000 a month/ £2,000 a week to cover just the parish's basic running costs – we do not receive money from the diocese/Vatican/Government but rely 100% on your support.*

*Many thanks for your donations for the annual collection to support the **Sick and Retired Priests of our diocese.** So far we have raised **£494.80.** We'll keep this collection open one more week. Can we reach £500?!!*

On Line Donations Account Name: WRCDT White City Sort Code: 40-05-20 Account No: 31264990. A regular standing order is a great way to the parish. Use the parish bank account details above. Add your surname/first name as a reference. Tax payers 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 indeed – this is a HUGE help to the parish.

COST OF LIVING CRISIS - 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). 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 on Mondays in our parish centre. Doors open at 10.30am(ish!) and the food is distributed from 11.30am. You need to be registered and live in W12 – bring proof of address and ID.

The WEDNESDAY WARM WELCOME FAMILY HUB Sports activities for children, plus arts & crafts, and sewing/upcycling for parents. We now have a wonderful baking teacher as well. Simple supper too! 3-6pm in the parish centre. Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer.

Journey of Faith for Adults seeking to better understand the Catholic faith, including anyone considering being received into the Church, or any Catholics who have not yet celebrated their First Holy Communion/Confirmation. **We meet on Tuesdays 7-8pm in the presbytery.** Sessions led by Fr Richard, helping you to explore our faith in a real & relevant way.

THE THURSDAY CLUB for our older parishioners and local residents meets Thursdays 10am – 12noon in the parish centre. Social time, knitting, chair exercises with Carol & much more.

YOUTH! See our new parish Youth Instagram account @olofwc.youth

2024 CONFIRMATION JOURNEY We plan to begin this year's Confirmation group for Year 10 & above young parishioners from January 2024, but we would like to start working with all candidates asap. Please take and return a registration form asap. See next notice below as well...

Izzy, our new Parish Youth and Evangelisation Worker, invites any parish youth of Confirmation age and aged 15-18 to a half hour meeting in the mid-week chapel (behind the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in the church) after today's 11am Mass. Meet others and share your ideas.

OUR NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE starts soon. Register by returning the form available at the back of the church. We wait until we have a big enough group, so please return your registration form asap!

ADVENT!

Friday 1st December: Hope in White City Community Advent Celebration in our church 6.30-8.00pm. Begin your Advent journey with a celebration of inspiring local people who are bringing hope to our community. Why not invite a friend/neighbour along as well! And there's food!

FAITH SHARING GROUP for ADVENT – given the situation in Israel & Gaza, we will be reflecting together on the Advent Sunday Gospels & reading extracts from Fr Richard's 'Christmas Voices from the Holy Land' book of Poetry/Reflections of Christians living in the Holy Land today. 3 Sundays in Advent – Dec 3rd, 10th & 17th after the Sunday 6pm Mass. Midweek chapel.

CARITAS ADVENT GIVING CALENDAR is available to collect this weekend. The calendar encourages adults and children alike to support others this Christmas. This will help the parish to collect extra donations for the busy winter period for our Community FoodHub. Calendars are **FREE**.

Sunday 10th December: Parish Christmas Fair. Could you help in any way e.g. help with raffle prizes, or run a stall? See Marie Kelly/Fr R asap