

SERVICES THIS WEEK – December 2025

SUNDAY 21 December	9.00am 11:00am 6.00pm	Mass	4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed</i>
MONDAY 22 December	9.15am	Mass	
TUESDAY 23 December	9.15am	Mass	
WEDNESDAY 24 December	9.15am 9.00pm	Mass	CHRISTMAS EVE MASS (livestreamed)
THURSDAY 25 December	10.00am	Mass	CHRISTMAS DAY MASS (livestreamed) The NATIVITY of OUR LORD
FRIDAY 26 December	10.00am	Mass	St Stephen
SATURDAY 27 December	9.15am 6.00pm	Mass	St John the Evangelist <i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
SUNDAY 28 December	9.00am 11:00am 6.00pm	Mass	The FEAST of the HOLY FAMILY <i>The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed</i>

ROSARY	After Morning Masses Monday to Saturday
EXPOSITION/private prayer	Fri 10.30am-12noon; 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:

- Archbishop-Elect Richard Moth, just announced as new Archbishop of Westminster.
- All victims of the anti-Semitic attack at Bondi beach in Australia.
- Peace and reconciliation in Ukraine/Russia, Israel/Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Myanmar, DRC 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 days in Nigeria by extremists.
- The repose of the soul of, Raymond Ince, 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 this Christmas may be a time of grace & growth for us.
- For all travelling home to family and friends for Christmas in the coming days.



21 December 2025 / No. 3138

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church - White City

Parish Priest: Fr Richard Nesbitt | Assistant Priest: Fr Ephrem Andom
Parish Administrator: Collise Lynch – Monday: 10am -3pm
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4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT – The POWER of LOVE!

And so our Advent journey is almost complete as today we light the 4th candle on our Advent wreath – the candle which represents love. In just a few days' time, on Christmas Eve, we will light the 5th & final candle – the white candle at the centre, symbolizing Jesus as the light of the world. That light came to blaze amongst us in a whole new way, unimaginable to previous generations, on that Bethlehem night when God was born as one of us as a tiny baby, born into poverty. God sent His Son, Jesus, to earth as the ultimate expression of His unconditional love, offering humanity hope, redemption and a path to eternal life, a gift freely given for all people, not just for a season but for every day and for all time. This divine love, demonstrated through Jesus' humble birth, calls us to reflect that same love through compassion, forgiveness, and kindness to others. This gift is not just for a season, to be taken down like Christmas decorations; it is for an eternal relationship with God, offering peace, joy and salvation.

Our Gospel for this Sunday focuses on Joseph – the quiet man of the Bible, who does not have a single spoken word recorded in the Gospels. He is a man whose actions speak louder than words – a 'man of honour' who fulfils the mission entrusted to him with deep humility, faith & courage. Joseph, like Mary, says "Yes" to God's plan, even though he risks losing his cherished good reputation as many will assume he is the father of Mary's child. We can learn so much from Joseph – his faithfulness, courage and humility - one who abandons himself totally to God's will, giving everything for Jesus. This is how we are also invited to respond to God's love.

We hope to see you for our parish Christmas celebrations this week. But for those of you who will be away from the parish this Christmas, please take our blessings with you: *Wishing you and your family -*

*The blessing of peace, the beauty of hope,
the spirit of love, and the comfort of faith.*

May these be your most precious gifts this Christmas!

Advent blessings & prayers, Fr Richard, Fr Ephrem & all the parish team

IN THE PARISH...

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Pg 90 in Parish Mass book) 1st reading Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24 Response: **Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.** 2nd reading Romans 1: 1-7; Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24 *The Angel Gabriel appears to Joseph in his dream*

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: The Feast of the Holy Family (Pg 106 in Parish Mass book) 1st reading Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14; Psalm 128 Response: **Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.** 2nd reading Colossians 3: 12-21; Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23 *The Holy Family flee to Egypt*

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: £1,647.91; Loose Plate: £350.14; Planned Giving: £357.55; On-line donations: £559.72; Contactless machine: £380.50. 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.

This weekend there is a retiring collection to help cover the costs of the **Christmas flowers** in the church. If you would like to help the flower team this Christmas, please come to church on Wed 24 Dec @10.30am.

Online Donations Account Name: WRC DT 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 will now be on an extended break until the parish centre renovation is completed.

Monday morning White City Community Food Hub moves to St Michael & St George church from this Monday. Food distributed from 11.15am. We are open this Monday, but will have a break on Mon 29 December.

• **The Thursday Club** for our over-60's is now on its Christmas break until January when it will meet again in St Michael & St George Church hall.


PARISH CENTRE RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE

• **WONDERFUL NEWS – we have started the building project!** We are on our way ☺ The builders have completed 2 weeks of essential preliminary works and will begin the heavy work after Christmas. So far so good! Please keep the project and the builders in your prayers!

We need your help! This Monday evening from 6pm, we will be putting up **the rest of our Christmas lights outside the church** (weather permitting!). This is a massive operation, which is usually done by a small dedicated team. But it would be great if any one could come to help – even if just for an hour or so. Meet at the front of the church in old clothes. Mince pies for all!

Children's Nativity Play for the Christmas Eve 9pm Mass. As every year, we are inviting children from the parish to help present the Christmas Gospel at our Christmas Eve Mass. **Rehearsals Mon 22nd Dec 4pm & Tues 23rd Dec 10.30am.** All children welcome!!

And finally... We are planning our **parish pilgrimages for 2026!** We plan to go to **Medjugorje in the May half-term:** May 25-30. Cost tbc - £750pp. But we need to book flights asap! If you are interested please tell Fr R asap!!!




Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth



Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

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