

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

John McCann; Dazzell Lettman; Keith Worrell; Rita Andall; Phil Giblin;
Laura Dray; Della McEnroe
and all the faithful departed.

**OUR SATURDAY MORNING MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND**

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2025

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Saturday 6th December

SUNDAY 7th	6.00 pm	Dazzel Lettman (RIP - anniv)
	8.30 am	Keith Worrell (RIP)
	10.00 am	Rita Andall (RIP - anniv)
	12 Noon	Ints of Gloria Wildman (health)
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00 pm	The People of the Parish

Monday 8th **9.30 am** **Phil Giblin (RIP)**

**THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF THE BVM**

Tuesday 9th	9.30 am	Laura Dray (RIP)
St Juan Diego	10.30 am	Tuesday Morning Prayer Group
Cuauhtlatotzin	2.30pm	St Anthony Prayer Group

Wednesday 10th *No Mass today. Church is closed.*

Thursday 11th **9.30 am** -

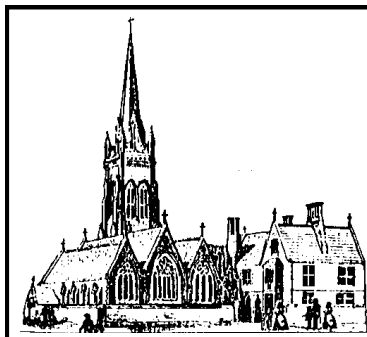
Friday 12th **9.30 am** **John McCann (RIP)**

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday 13th	10.00 am	The sick and housebound
St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr	10.30am	Adoration and Benediction

**CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 10.30 - 11.20AM ; 5.00 - 5.40PM
OR BY ARRANGEMENT**

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY
11AM - 3PM, (Closed on Wednesday)**



**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
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Dear Friends

It used to be that TV adverts for summer holidays first appeared on Boxing Day, having been preceded by wall-to-wall ads for fragrances. Now it's everything, all the time. And of course the tables groaning with food and snowflakes appeared on screen way back in October... In fact, it is traditional to have a period of 40 days fasting, a little like Lent, for a peaceful, quiet, and reflective preparing for Our Lord's birth. The Eastern churches observe this fast very formally, and I think we can all learn from this. A few ideas:

Prudently say "No" to overextending yourself. Remember, Christmas lasts for an initial 12 days up to the Solemnity of the Epiphany (a Holy Day of Obligation) and indeed for 40 days until Candlemass on 2 February. The time to ask "Did you have a good Christmas?" is on 3 February, not 26 December. There's plenty of time to celebrate rather than in Advent. Included in saying "No" you might look for a small sacrifice to make this Advent to prepare our hearts for Christmas. What about supporting the Food Bank at White City parish, for example?

The Catholic principle is that we say "No" to things so that we can say "Yes" to even more that counts. The heart of Advent is to make space for prayer, for quiet, for listening to God's voice. Time spent in worship and with Jesus allows us to really enjoy time with loved ones and friends...and being charitable to family too!

Maybe you followed up the advert in the Newsletter for the "Real Advent Calendar"? Well, have your own calendar of prayer for a different person each day, and for an intention of your own. And, of course, Advent is a good time to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation – but so is the season of Christmas! Reconciliation is the point of God With Us – start your preparation today. If you want peace in your life, a healthy use of Reconciliation is the way to do it. Above all, tell God our Father daily, moment by moment, how you long for the coming of his Son into your heart. That's Advent. Fast, so you can Feast!

Fr James



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN GIVING

Don't forget you can also make an offering via the 'Touch & Tap' at the door. For details of methods of Planned Giving, see the leaflet at the door of Church. Parish bank account details are below, and on the website *Donate* page.

PARISH BANK DETAILS: HSBC

Sort code: 40-05-20

Acct. No.: 11263137

Acct name: WRCDT ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY FULHAM

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS hosted by St THOMAS'S FRIENDS FOR FRIENDS: **TODAY - SATURDAY 6 DEC AT 7PM:** Join *Friends for Friends* in the hall at No. 62 for an hour or so to sing carols in as many different languages as possible! Can you add a new language or carol? Come along. Mulled wine, mince pies, panettone etc.

OLIVE WOOD CARVINGS FROM THE HOLY LAND: Thanks for your support of The Good Shepherd Company from the Holy land (Bethlehem), last weekend. This work supports the Christian families in the Holy Land to stay at work. Olive wood carving is one of the most important sources of income for them, as 90% of the Christians rely on this sale. Selling their produce here on their behalf helps prevent Christians from leaving the country in search of work. We don't have a total for sales, but may do next week.

ADVENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE TODAY: The Advent editions of "*Walk with me*" and "*My Day by Day*" are on sale today, with versions of "*My Day by Day*" for young and very young children too. Prices listed on the notice on the literature table.

WEEKLY ADVENT BIBLE STUDIES: Wednesdays 26 November and 3, 10 and 17 December, 7:00pm-8:00pm Join Catholic speaker Mauro Iannicelli via live-streamed, interactive sessions as he leads us through the Advent Sunday Gospels with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. The Gospel readings will be Matthew 24:37-44; 3:1-12; 11:2-11 and 1:18-24. The Holy Mass will come alive in a new way! To register, please scan the QR code or visit <https://comeandsee.org/advent-bible-studies>

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND COLLECTION - THANK YOU! Thank you for so generously supporting the collection. The total raised so far is £906.98. There are still envelopes in church and you can give online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations.

SOCIETY OF St VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP): We have now formally established a Conference of the SVP at St Thomas', providing a forum for voluntary pastoral work in the parish. This is **GOOD NEWS!!** Please

continue to pray for this initiative. More news will follow.

The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, thermal hat, two pairs of socks, flannel, toothbrush, toothpaste, information sheet and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.10 per pack? Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code **60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237**.

FAMILIES SEEKING ENDORSEMENT OF SCHOOL APPLICATIONS: Fr James will be available to discuss the endorsement of Primary/Nursery school applications on 12, 13 and 14 December. To make an appointment telephone the Office (*during office hours*).

THE REAL ADVENT CALENDAR: NOT TOO LATE-ISH: Looking for a sensible way to bring some Advent prayer and fun to the kids? *The Real Advent Calendar* from the Meaningful Chocolate Co. comes either in Milk or Dark chocolate and includes a 24 page Christmas story activity book with a page for each day of Advent. Visit www.realadvent.co.uk for more info.

THANK YOU ALL: Ongoing thanks for your engagement with the recent Planned Giving Campaign. The Diocesan Fundraising team have now processed initial data which shows about 110 returned forms so far, with 40+ **NEW** standing order arrangements and Now 40+ **NEW** Gift Aid Declarations. **NEWS ON VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES SOON.**

MARCH FOR LIFE 2026! Very early notice but we are asked to mark the date for Saturday 5th September 2026, to maximise the impact of this growing act of witness. There are currently estimated to be over 250,000 abortions annually in England and Wales with just under half of these being repeat abortions. Approximately 90% are through pills and of these some 1 in 17 women end up in hospital with complications. With this devastating picture and, with even worse laws on the horizon, it is more important than ever to have a unified pro-life stand which includes the voice of the Church. Here's a link to a highlights video from this year: https://youtu.be/qYsei8hX4xY?si=K1o1zGYzqJdG_jLc Sorry that's a long address - you can get an easier link from the website: www.marchforlife.co.uk/