

SERVICES THIS WEEK – January 2025

SUNDAY 12 January	9.00am, 11.00am 6.00pm	Mass	The BAPTISM of the LORD <i>The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed</i>
MONDAY 13 January	9.15am	Mass	
TUESDAY 14 January	9.15am	Mass	
WEDNESDAY 15 January	7.30am 12noon	Mass Mass	
THURSDAY 16 January	9.15am	Mass	
FRIDAY 17 January	9.15am 6.00pm	Mass	St Antony, Abbot
SATURDAY 18 January	9.15am 6.00pm	Mass	<i>First Mass of Sunday</i>
SUNDAY 19 January	9.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Mass	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>The 11.00am Mass is livestreamed</i>

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 parish community that the Jubilee Year ahead in 2025 may be a time of spiritual growth and renewal for us all.
- Fr Ephrem & the Gheez Rite community as they celebrate their Christmastide.
- Peace and reconciliation in all countries at war.
- Release for all political prisoners held in captivity around the world.
- All Christians and people of faith being persecuted around the world.
- Our NHS and care sector services which are under so much pressure at this time.
- All those who have died recently, including Louanne Tranchell, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.
- The homeless, refugees and migrants – that they may find a place of sanctuary.
- The sick, housebound and most vulnerable members of our parish community.
- Our still relatively new Government, that they may govern wisely, fairly and humbly.
- The work of CAFOD, Mary's Meals, Caritas and the Catholic Children's Society.
- All our local school communities as they start their new terms.
- Our families – especially those experiencing tests and trials at this time.

12 January 2025 / No. 3089



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 BAPTISM of the LORD – New beginnings, New Life...

Today marks the end of our Christmastide journey in the parish as we celebrate Jesus coming forward no longer as a tiny baby but now as an adult man. After 30 hidden years of preparation, Jesus steps out of the crowd to be baptised by his cousin, John the Baptist. Although, just like in Bethlehem, not many people would have noticed this world changing event, John the Baptist was tuned into the ways of God and recognised the significance of this moment. His whole life had been dedicated to this event – heralding the coming of the promised Messiah. Most significantly of all, we could say that this was the moment when for the first time in human history God revealed himself as Trinity – three persons in one – in a way that people could experience through their senses. Those present on the banks of the river Jordan could have seen Jesus, the Son, in his human body being immersed in the water, then the Holy Spirit in the form of the dove hovering over him in the sky above, and they could have heard the voice of the Father proclaiming, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." So we move from the Holy Family of Mary, Joseph and Jesus at Bethlehem to the 'Divine Family' of Father, Son and Spirit at the Jordan.

2025 is also a very significant moment – for the whole Church it is a 'Jubilee Year' when Pope Francis invites us to travel together as 'Pilgrims of Hope. And for our parish it is a special anniversary year - 70 years since Our Lady of Fatima parish was founded in White City and 60 years since our 'new church' was built. Our church is special 'holy ground' for us – our Bethlehem where we come to worship and welcome the infant Jesus as Saviour, our river Jordan where we are cleansed, renewed and brought to new life in union with the Holy Trinity... Through the gift of our baptism we share in the mission of Christ. How can we renew our parish and its mission this year?

New Year prayers & blessings - Fr Richard, Fr Ephrem & all the parish team

IN THE PARISH...

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: The BAPTISM of the LORD (Pg 118 Parish Mass book) Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7; Psalm 29 Response: **The Lord will bless his people with peace.** Acts 10: 34-38; Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22 *Jesus comes to be baptised by John the Baptist*

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Pg 127 Parish Mass book) Isaiah 62: 1-5; Psalm 96 Response: **Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.** 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11; John 2: 1-11 *Jesus, Mary and the disciples attend the wedding feast at Cana*

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: £1,692.97; Loose: £333.57; Planned Giving: £394.40; On-line donations: £791.00; Contactless machine: £174.00 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. Thank you

*We have also raised £369.96 so far this Christmas for the **Westminster Catholic Children's Society**. Thank you for your generosity with this.*

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 support 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 – this is a HUGE help.

Please note: if you sign up for **GIFT AID** on the contactless machine, you need to put your FULL NAME for the parish to claim your gift aid – your initials are not enough. If you are an envelope holder, you must use the correct envelopes for each week. We cannot claim gift aid donations for unmarked envelopes.

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 – 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.

THE THURSDAY CLUB for our local over 60's residents/parishioners starts again after the Christmas break this **Thursday 16th January**. 10am – 12 noon in the parish centre. Tea/coffee, social time, chair exercises with Carol from 11am. All welcome. Due to the cold weather and the poor heating in the parish centre at the moment there will be **no 3rd Friday lunch for the over 60's in January**. We will start again in February.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE – the next course will take place late afternoon (4-5pm) on Saturdays January 18th & 25th. Please register in advance asap. Registration forms are at the back of the church.

NEW FAMILY CATECHESIS at Our Lady of Fatima. GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) is our new approach to helping our children & families grow in their faith in the parish. This includes a new way of preparing children for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Our next family session is **this Saturday 8 February 9.15 – 11.30am**. See Fr Richard/Mary C for more

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE – if you are planning to get married in 2025 (congratulations!!) and live within our parish boundaries, you will need to take part in our parish marriage preparation course. It would be a HUGE help if you could contact Fr Richard asap about this.

2025 PARISH PILGRIMAGE to FATIMA, PONTEVEDRA & SANTIAGO de COMPOSTELA At last, we can share the details of our main parish pilgrimage for 2025. This will make the centenary of the apparitions of Our Lady and the Child Jesus to Sr Lucia in Pontevedra, Spain in 1925. We will visit Fatima, Pontevedra & Santiago de Compostela in Spain. **May 26th to 31st (half term week)**. Guide cost £850 per person – see full pilgrimage plan and registration form at back of church. To ensure cheaper flights, **the final deadline for registration/deposit is 20th January**.

LOOKING AHEAD: We will run 2 new Alpha courses in the parish – one on Tuesday evenings/one on Wednesday lunchtimes from late January. A really wonderful way to come to know Jesus more deeply within a caring supportive community. Each 90-minute session starts with a shared meal, followed by a teaching video and then sharing in small groups. From end of January all through Lent – a great way to prepare for Easter! We need volunteers to help run the courses & also people to come and take part. Registration forms are available at back of church. Please pray for this!!!

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 – this year is both a Jubilee Year for the whole Church and **a special anniversary year for our parish** (70 years since the parish was founded, 60 years since the 'new church' was built). We are inviting you to suggest ways in which we can mark this special year. Be creative!