

THIS WEEK:

Mon — Sat: 10am Mass
Exposition and Confessions to
11am, followed by Rosary.
Monday (Day chapel) and Friday:
Mass also at 6.30pm

READINGS: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans
13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44.

SUNDAY OFFERTORY/TITHES

OCTOBER Total: £12,781.46

Standing order/online and

contactless: £5,883.33

Week average: £3,195

CAFOD: £802.17

Thank you so much!

CELEBRATE!

Please plan to join us for these
celebrations:

Christmas Eve Masses: Spanish
6.30pm; Polish 9pm; English
10.30pm.

Christmas Day: 8, 9.30 and 11am
(English); 12.30pm (Polish).

NEW YEAR EVE: Midnight Mass at
00.00 Midnight.

Fr. Andrew Farewell: January 6th,
10am and 6.30pm

FHC: class after 11am Mass today.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT: Saturday
from 9.30am

NORMAL CHURCH TIMES

Saturday Evening 6.30^{pm} (Vigil);
Sunday Mass: 8, 9:30, 11
Polish (po polsku): 12.30^{pm}, 6:30^{pm}
Mass in Spanish: 4.30^{pm}
Monday—Saturday: 10am Mass
Monday and Friday: 6.30pm Mass
Padre Pio and Divine Mercy Masses:
2nd and 4th Tuesday each month
6.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
after 10am Mass each weekday
Saturdays, or *by appointment.*
Rosary: 11am each weekday.

PARISH STAFF & TEAM

Contact them on: 020 8800 2121

Parish Priest: Fr. Andrew Cameron-Mowat

SJ. Assistant Priests: Fr. John McCabe SJ,
Fr. Piotr Kropisz SJ

Resident Jesuits: Fr. Anthony Aduaka SJ
(ANW, KCL), Fr. Roseller Atilano SJ (PHI, LSE)
Fr. Harry Elias SJ, Fr. Jean Nyembo SJ (ACE,
Arise Project), Fr. Michael Smith SJ (JRS).

Music: Ann Bennett

Sunday Sacristan: Axel Rejas

Parish Secretary: Judy Bronson.

Tel: 020 8800 2262 . T-Th 9am — 1pm

Catechetics: Aga Wiecek 020 8800 2202

If you have any concerns about safety of a
child or vulnerable adult in the parish, please
contact our Safeguarding Representatives:
Angela Anyanwu, 07979047550 or
Bernadeta Dymek
stamfordhillsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk



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1st Sunday Advent Year A
30th November 2025

1st Sunday of Advent: Stay awake, be ready.

The people longed for a Messiah who would be a great king and give them peace. In the Gospel Jesus reminds his followers that the coming of the Lord can be quite sudden, and that we need to stay awake, to stand ready.

The earliest Christian community expected Jesus' imminent return. But when he didn't come and the years grew into decades, the community adopted a stance of patient expectation. The conclusion of our gospel passage today sums up the attitude of the Christian community through the ages: "you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

In the 21st century we do not look for his "coming" with the same intense expectation of the first Christians. Still, we believe Christ is constantly and unexpectedly breaking into our lives to forgive our past, bless our present and keep our hope alive for the future. One day God will miraculously establish His rule, but even now, God is at work in the Son to motivate us towards right behaviour.

Whether we live in the city, suburbs, or a rural area, we take precautions against intruders. We have exterior lights that are activated at night by movement and automatically switch on. Our buildings and streets and even this church are under constant surveillance of video cameras, filming anyone who enters or passes by. We are very careful to protect our homes and property. What about readiness to meet the Lord, even in our ordinary daily activities?

We do so many activities every day that appear to be much like what everyone else does. What's the real distinction then between what they do and how we act? In the light of Jesus' words we need to see all our actions as opportunities to serve God and our neighbour. Maybe then that way of living will be our way of staying awake, expecting the Son of Man to come at any moment.

Responsorial Psalm: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

So many centuries have gone by and most of us don't have the same vivid expectation of the Lord's imminent return as the first Christians did.

Still, we believe what Christ tells us today: that at an hour we do not know "the Son of Man is coming."

His words should give us a sense of urgency: to do now what we know we should do, but have been postponing; to fulfil our commitments both to God, and our neighbour with love and care -- before it is too late.

Is the gospel passage today just meant to be a warning and nothing else? Each passage of the gospels contains some good news for us. The message of Christ coming is good news, for it is not simply a warning, but an announcement that the Christ who is to come is the one proclaimed in the gospel -- the merciful Lord who is a friend to sinners and outcasts.



**PARISH CHRISTMAS
CARDS *now on sale***

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION DECEMBER:

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

RCIA PROGRAMME: Thursdays at 6.30pm. Please join this group if you are a non-baptized seeking Baptism, or a catholic adult seeking First Holy Communion or Confirmation in the Catholic Church. Each person goes at their own pace until ready to receive the sacraments. Baptised non-Catholics wishing to join the Catholic Church are also welcome. Information: 020 8442 2202



Children servers for 9.30am and 11am Mass:

We are recruiting new servers for the 9.30am and 11am Sunday Mass. Candidates should have received their First Holy Communion. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to be closer to our sacred worship every Sunday.

WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER: 14—20 December. Based here and online.
Please hand in your application form today.

Appeal from our ministry to the poor and the homeless:

If you have any unwanted men's warm clothes or shoes at home, please give them to the Apostolate for those in need (they can be left at the parish house). Please make sure the items are clean and in good condition. Thank you.

We are proud to announce that the volunteers of Social Apostolate have been recognised with the **Parish Social Action Team Award** at the 'Love in Action' awards given by Caritas Westminster. Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers — without you, many wonderful things would never have happened.

The Social Apostolate is starting a **food collection for the poorest** (1–14 December 2025). We especially ask for sweets and the items listed in the calendar prepared by Caritas Westminster.

A collection box will be placed in the church, near the entrance to the sacristy. The collected food will be distributed on 17 December 2025 during the Christmas lunch for the poorest.

St Ignatius Primary School: Reception places are available. **Open morning this Tuesday from 9.15am.** All are welcome.

Farewell to Fr. Andrew. Advance notice that your parish priest will finish his term of office on 10th January 2026.