

## THIS WEEK:

Mon — Sat: 10am Mass  
Exposition and Confessions to  
11am unless other service to  
follow.

Monday, Friday: 6.30pm

Tuesday: 6.30pm Padre Pio Mass  
(day chapel).

## SUNDAY OFFERTORY/TITHES

NOVEMBER: £11,869.38

Week average: £2,967

Thank you for your generosity.

**SOCIAL APOSTOLATE:** Monday  
(11am-3pm), Tues & Wed (1pm-  
3pm). Welcome to all.

**READINGS:** Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11; 2  
Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

## Funerals:

**Please pray for the repose of the soul  
of our volunteer LESZEK LAR who has  
died after a long illness, and also for  
ELIZABETH (Lil) CULBERT who died  
during the week.**

**May they rest in peace.**

**BISHOP John Sherrington** is with us  
at all Masses this weekend. Please  
join him for tea/coffee and a chat  
after each Mass.



## NORMAL CHURCH TIMES

Saturday Evening 6.30<sup>pm</sup> (Vigil);

Sunday Mass: 8, 9:30, 11

Polish (po polsku): 12.30<sup>pm</sup>, 6:30<sup>pm</sup>

Mass in Spanish: 4.30<sup>pm</sup>

Monday—Saturday: 10am Mass

Evening Mass Monday and Friday at  
6.30<sup>pm</sup>

**Divine Mercy: every last Monday  
after evening Mass**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

in the church after 10am Mass each  
weekday, after the 6.30pm Mass on  
Friday, 6pm Saturdays, or *by  
appointment at the Presbytery.*

**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. Harry Elias SJ, Fr. John  
Moffatt SJ (LJC), Fr. Jean Nyembo SJ  
(Congo), Fr. Michael Smith SJ (JRS).

**Music:** Ann Bennett

**Sunday Sacristan:** Kevin De Souza

**Parish Secretary:** Judy Bronson.

Tel: 020 8800 2262 . M-Th 9am — 1pm

**Catechetics:** Aga Wiecek 020 8800 2202

*If you have any concerns about safety or  
well-being of a child or vulnerable adult in the  
parish, please contact our Safeguarding  
Representatives: Attracta Asika 079 0544 5938  
and Aga Wiecek, 077 3681 9943*



2nd Advent Year B  
10th December, 2023

A Roman Catholic Parish served by the Jesuits. 27 High Road, N15 6ND. Tel: 020 88002121. [www.stignatius.co.uk](http://www.stignatius.co.uk)

[stamfordhill@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stamfordhill@rcdow.org.uk)

[facebook.com/stignatiusstamfordhill](https://facebook.com/stignatiusstamfordhill)

## PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

One of the most striking openings of any piece of musical theatre is the beginning of 'Godspell', where in a darkened theatre before the curtain rises a lone voice sings 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord' a couple of times; then the orchestra and chorus join in, the lights go up, and the scantily clad figure of John the Baptist strides onto the stage, often by way of the audience. St Mark announces the 'beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ the Son of God', but then immediately turns to the preparation necessary for that good news to be heard, through the ministry of John, who clears the way by 'proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins'; and because he looked the part, it was clear he meant business. John's ministry was brief but challenging: the good news has to be prepared for. The Old Testament was a long process of preparation for the coming of the Messiah, which is why we hear in Advent particularly from the prophet Isaiah. John was the last of the prophets, able to say that what they had all been waiting for was now here in their midst. Hence Simeon could say on meeting the infant Jesus: 'Now you can let your servant go in peace, because my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all the nations to see.' Great crowds responded to John as they would later to Jesus, but while Jesus was almost continually on the move, preaching and healing, John stayed put and people had to come to him, in order to repent and be baptised in the Jordan. John healed no one, as far as we know, and Jesus did not baptise, but he submitted to John's baptism in solidarity with us who he had come to save. John disappears from the scene once Jesus has made himself known, but his influence pervades the rest of the Gospel. Jesus' manner was very different, 'like a shepherd feeding his flock'; and that is what he will do for us, once we have prepared a 'way for the Lord' to come into our lives. (Fr. John McCabe SJ)

Responsorial Psalm: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.



**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION DECEMBER:**

**For persons with disabilities**

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

**JUNIOR CHOIR:** Our Youth Choir which sings at the 9.30 Mass is looking for new members. If you are aged 11-25 and enjoy singing, please come along. Choir practices are on Fridays 6.15pm - 7.15pm in the weekday chapel. If you need more information, text/Whatsapp Ann on 07793 751261

**ASBESTOS removal** has been completed. A structural engineer visited us this week to advise about next steps.

**Please dress very warmly** if you come to the church. Men are always permitted to wear a hat or other non-obtrusive headwear to keep warm.

**QR Code for your Sunday Offertory/  
Tithe [with your phone]:**

Please click on the code to make your donation. Thank you!



**The Advent Giving Calendar** suggests an item to donate to your local food bank or other outreach project each day in December. Please help our ministry to the poor and the homeless by using the Caritas Advent Giving Calendar. Items may be dropped off at the church or in the Presbytery. Thank you for your generosity.



**CHRISTMAS EVE:**

Latin American Mass at 7pm

Polish Mass at 9pm

**English ("Midnight") Carols and Mass from 10:15pm**

*No Mass at Midnight*

**CHRISTMAS DAY:**

**English Mass at 8am, 9:30am, 11am**

Polish Mass at 12.30pm

26<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) St Stephen: 10am Mass

27, 28, 29: 10am Mass only

30 (Saturday): Mass at 10am and 6:30pm

31 (Sunday) Holy Family: Mass at usual times.

**Midnight: MIDNIGHT MASS of the NEW YEAR**

January 1 MARY MOTHER OF GOD:

English Mass at 10am