



## OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A) 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

### Reflection

The readings for this 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent in Year A, invite us to reflect deeply on the mystery of God's presence among us, especially as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ of Christmas. Today's Scripture passages reveal both the depth of God's promise and its fulfillment in Jesus.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, the prophet Isaiah announces a sign given in a time of fear and political uncertainty: "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son" (Is 7:14). This promise reminds us that God remains faithful even when human confidence fails. The sign He gives is not an army or a miracle of power, but a child. God chooses to come gently, quietly and close.

The psalm affirms that all creation belongs to God, and all creation awaits the coming of the Saviour. As we listen today, we are invited to recognize that our own hearts must become a dwelling place prepared for Christ.

In the Gospel according to Matthew 1:18-24, we see how God's promise unfolds in the life of Joseph. Faced with a mystery he cannot fully understand, Joseph chooses faith over fear. He welcomes God's plan and takes Mary into his home. The child conceived by the Holy Spirit will be called Emmanuel, which means God with us. Joseph's obedience shows us how to respond as we await Christ's coming. He doesn't cling to doubt or hesitation but trust God's word. As we draw near to Christmas, we are encouraged to ask ourselves how we too can live with such openness and faith.



- 1. First Holy Communion** – A soft reminder that the next Session Sunday will be on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 9:30 am prompt at the School Hall. Make sure that your child will come before the time please.
- 2. Confirmation Classes 2026** – The first session will start on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026 5:30 pm with the meeting of the candidates and the parents at the Founders Room and mass at the church afterwards.
- 3. Faulty Electrical Lighting System** – Our parish church is in urgent need of major repairs to the electrical lighting system that is quoted at around £40,000. We sincerely appeal for your generous support. Thank you for your kindness and valuable assistance.
- 4. Simbang Gabi sa Chelsea 2025** – The Christmas Novena Mass will start on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 (Monday) at 8:00 pm but on 23<sup>rd</sup> December, the mass will be at 6:00 pm.
- 5. Christmas Service Card 2025** – You may now find our schedule for the incoming Christmas Services to the printed cards that you may kindly grab at the colonnade please.

### PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Hymn for the Jubilee Year 2025

*Like a flame my hope is burning, may my song arise to You:  
Source of life that has no ending, on life's path I trust in You.*

- Ev'ry nation, tongue, and people find a light within Your Word.  
Scattered fragile sons and daughters find a home in Your dear Son.
- Dio ci guarda, tenero e paziente: nasce l'alba di un futuro nuovo.  
Nuovi Cieli Terra fatta nuova: passa i muri Spirito di vita.
- Ang Diyos ay ating nadarama, kahit di natin nakikita.  
Naging tao para sa buong mundo, susunod ako sa'n man s'ya patungo .



### Mass Times

**Vigil Mass:** Sat 6.30 pm  
Sunday 9.30 am  
11.00 am  
(Spanish Mass) 12.30 nn

6.30 pm  
Mon to Sat 10am & 6.30 pm

### Sacrament of Confession

Saturday 10.45 – 11.15 am  
6.00 – 6.30 pm  
Mon – Fri 6:15 – 6:30 pm

### Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Fri 9am to 5pm  
(Lunch from 1.30pm to 2.30pm)

### Rosary

Every Wednesday after  
10am Mass followed by Tea  
in the Founders Room.

- Rosary also held on Sundays at  
3pm in the Colonnade.

### Legion of Mary

Every Tuesday after 6:30 pm mass  
in the Prayer Room.

### Holy Hour

1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month after  
10am Mass. The **Blessed**

**Sacrament** will be exposed for  
Rosary, Litany Divine Mercy &  
Benediction.

### Safeguarding Office

Alexia Carter & Dorothea Trawinska  
[fulhamroads@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:fulhamroads@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
[fulhamroads2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:fulhamroads2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

### Saints Days

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Bl. Jacopone da Todì

**Tue 23<sup>rd</sup>** – St. John of Kanty

**Wed 24<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas at Greccio

**Thu 25<sup>th</sup>** – Nativity of the Lord

**Fri 26<sup>th</sup>** – St. Stephen

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup>** – St. John the Evangelist



### St. Peregrine Mass of Healing

Our next St. Peregrine Mass of Healing  
is on **31<sup>st</sup> December 2025**  
(Wednesday) at **10:00am**.

### Relic of Saint Carlo Acutis

Exposition of this Relic on every  
Monday after our 10am Mass.

**Saint Carlo, Pray for us.**

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of

Isaiah

7:10-14

In those days: The Lord spoke to Ahaz: 'Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.' But Ahaz said, 'I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.' And Isaiah said, 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.'



The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. R cf. 6**

**R. Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.**

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world, and those who dwell in it. It is he who set it on the seas; on the rivers he made it firm.  
**R.**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The clean of hands and pure of heart, whose soul is not set on vain things. **R.**

## 4th Sunday of Advent

3. Blessings from the Lord shall he receive, and right reward from the God who saves him. Such are the people who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 1:1-7**

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an Apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**



## (Year A) 21st December 2025

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name*

*Emmanuel — which means, God with us.*

**Alleluia.**



### GOSPEL

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 1:18-24**

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name

Emmanuel' — which means, God with us.

When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you,**

**Lord Jesus Christ.**



I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,

consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made. For

us men and for our salvation he came

down from heaven, (*All bow for*

*following three lines*) and by the Holy

Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary

and became man. For our sake he was

crucified under Pontius Pilate, He

suffered death and was buried, and

rose again on the third day in

accordance with the Scriptures. He

ascended into heaven and is seated at

the right hand of the Father. He will

come again in glory to judge the living

and the dead and his kingdom will have

no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord

the giver of life, who proceeds from

the Father and the Son, who with the

Father and the Son is adored and

glorified, who has spoken through the

Prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and

apostolic Church. I confess one

Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and

I look forward to the resurrection of

the dead and the life of the world to

come. Amen.