



21.12.2025

# Ealing Abbey Church of St. Benedict

## Newsletter and Information bulletin

All Masses Celebrated in the week are live-streamed on [ChurchServices.TV](https://www.churchservices.tv)

### **SUNDAY 4 OF ADVENT**

Isa 7: 10-14; Rom 1: 1-7 ; Matt 1: 18-24



### Useful Contacts

**PARISH PRIEST - Fr. Ambrose McCambridge OSB**

**Priests of the Parish - Fr. Timothy Gorham OSB & Fr Bede Grey OSB**

**Parish Secretary - Robert Ewan** | [parishoffice@ealingabbey.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@ealingabbey.org.uk) | 020 8194 2301 |  
Parish office: Open Mon-Fri 9.30-12.30pm | 2, Marchwood Crescent, Ealing, London W5 2DZ

**Pastoral Coordinator- position vacant**

For any pastoral issues please contact the parish office

**Catechetical Coordinator- Danielle Rudge** | [catecheticalcoordinator@ealingabbey.org.uk](mailto:catecheticalcoordinator@ealingabbey.org.uk)

**Emergency Sick Calls - 07752 385860**

**Ealing Abbey Monastery - 020 8194 2300 | Charlbury Grove, Ealing, London W5 2DY**

**Chair Of Pastoral Council- Ms. Ibi Abasi**

**Safeguarding Representatives- Marie-Helene Collins, Dr Brendan Curran**  
[ealingsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:ealingsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Connect: Website** [www.ealingabbeyparish.uk](http://www.ealingabbeyparish.uk) | **Facebook** [www.facebook.com/StBenedictsEaling](https://www.facebook.com/StBenedictsEaling)

**Instagram** [www.instagram.com/st\\_benedictsealing/](https://www.instagram.com/st_benedictsealing/)

**You can also download a copy of the latest bulletin on the website, found under 'News'**

### DIVINE OFFICE

	Sunday	Weekday	Saturday
MATINS		6.00am	6.30am
LAUDS	7.35am	7.35am	7.35am
VESPERS	6.00pm	6.35pm	5.15pm
COMPLINE		8.00pm	
VIGIL			7.30pm

### WEEKDAY & SATURDAY

#### MASSSES

**7.00am**  
(With the Monks)  
**9.15am**  
**6.00pm**  
(Vigil Mass of Sunday)

### SUNDAY MASS

**9.00am** (with children's liturgy)  
**10.15am** (Family Mass in Abbey Hall)  
**10.30am** (Choral Mass)  
**12 noon** (Sung Mass)  
**7.00pm** (Young people's Mass)

#### CONFESSION:

**Saturday: 10am-11am/4pm-5pm,**  
**Thursday: 7.45pm-8.15pm**

## *Dear Parishioner,*

The first reading from Isaiah in this final Advent Sunday takes us back to some time in the late eighth century BC and the question as to whether the small kingdom of Judah will survive under its King, Ahaz. The King of Israel and the King of Syria have already invaded Judah but have failed to take Jerusalem or capture King Ahaz, who decides to go and seek help from Assyria, a superpower at the time, and one with a highly aggressive foreign policy. As the King's adviser, Isaiah argues strongly against this. The dynasty of David, he says, will not survive through power politics, but only as a result of trust in God. The sign given by Isaiah is that 'the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will name Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us"'. Ahaz doesn't listen. Instead Assyria smashes the coalition that threatens Ahaz, but he leaves Judah untouched, provided it shows its submission with regular tribute. It won't be until 587 BC when Judah is overrun by the Babylonians, its capital Jerusalem destroyed, and the people taken off into exile.

When Matthew writes his gospel he adopts that sign given to Ahaz and gives it a whole new meaning. The child is not only the son of David, but the Son of God, an understanding by the early Church that only came about *after* the resurrection. Matthew himself writes some forty years after the resurrection and is anxious to show that Jesus was the Son of God at his conception. That is why the virginity of Mary is so important: it points to who Jesus really is. As for the quiet man Joseph, when *he* exercises his right to name the child he becomes the *legal* father. Thus it is through Joseph that Jesus becomes "son of David." What a complex web.

A virgin mother has no precedent in the religious tradition and such a truth will always shock. Often we only give permission to truth to get through to us when it meets with our approval. As one writer has noted: "We like our truths familiar and tame; we do not like them to jolt us out of the familiar into the realm of new possibility," And nor is the Holy Spirit who came to Mary tame. Rather it is a force which kickstarted creation when the very breath (spirit) of YHWH breathed life into creation (Gen.1:2). And it is through that same power that the virgin Mary conceives and gives birth to the Son of God. In her a new creation comes to life.

The power politics of the Middle East has hardly changed over the past two and a half millennia or more, a frightening reality which continues to affect all our lives, directly or indirectly. But perhaps we need to reflect, too, on another context: Mary is the woman who bring Jesus' real presence into the world and she can truly say of him 'this is my body, this is my blood'. Through her his presence is known and celebrated. For he is not only the son of David and the Son of God: he is her son whom she will bring forth for the life of the world.

*Deacon Alex*

## **Anniversaries from the week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

*Teresa Kossko, Maurice Cyril Porter, Maria Grace Roye,  
Raphael McFarlane Segre, Fanny Ward, Daphne Kemp, Anne Ellis, Kevin  
Michael Maher, Nellie Power, Michael Daly, Anthony Lloyd, Andrée Sakwa,  
James Lafferty, Lorraine Byrne, Kevin Kelly, Marjorie Morgan,  
Sylvia Makowska, Richard McHale, James Toal, Nellie Cowlin, Rose Jadowska,  
George Majcherczyk, David Doughty, Russell Knight, Kazimierz Dabrowski,  
Sylvia Ainge, Anne Harvey, Joan Kylie, Alan Coombes, Halina Mikosza,  
Eric Malins, Peter Byrne, Leslie Bobbett, David Stirzaker, Juana De Arata,  
Abbot Charles Pontifex, Thomas Weekes, Valentine Cambier, Edward Mullin,  
Kathleen Frangakis, Sandra O'Brian, Alexander Pendlebury, Dennis Carrol,  
Patrick D'Arcy, Brenda Beirne, Hanna Alsabagh, David Iggulden,  
Alicia Michorowska, Dennis Flach, Antonio Piccolotti*

## **Information & Diary**

**NB:** There will be no senior citizens, meditation, toddlers' group or lectio divina until the week beginning 4th January 2026.

There will be no Benedict Renew on 24th December-resumes 31st December.

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 14<sup>th</sup> December SUNDAY 4 OF ADVENT.**

### **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

5.15-6pm: Confessions

8-9pm: Bingo in the Parish Hall.

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

5.15-6pm: Confessions

### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

10-12pm: Confessions

3.30-5pm: Confessions

### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December *The Nativity of our Lord***

Masses at 8.00am, 9.00am, 10.15am (In parish hall for those with young children), 10.30am, 12.15pm.

Pontifical Vespers at 6.00pm. There will be no evening Mass

### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December *Feast of St Stephen***

Masses at 9.15 am and 6pm. There will be no 7am Mass

### **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December *St John***

Masses as normal

**Sanctuary Lighting:** Race night on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> October raised an incredible **£ 12,136.05**.

A Big Thank You to all the Parishioners who gave so generously and donated prizes. Thank you also to the many Sponsors of the event for their continued support of Ealing Abbey Parish. We are very grateful and appreciate so much your support and generosity. *Thank you to Keith Brett for hosting and coordinating the event. And always in gratitude to Mary Nolan & Eileen Burgess for their incredible dedication and hard work in supporting the life of Ealing Abbey Parish over so many years.* And God said **"LET THERE BE LIGHT!"** Gen 1:3

## **Finance News**

14<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**Collection Offertory, ATM, and others: £1933**

We are deeply grateful for the wonderful financial support we receive. If you would like to make a donation to help us to continue to sustain the mission of the Church, share the Gospel and serve those in need, our Bank Account details are: Royal Bank of Scotland, 49 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 3AS Account No: 19123696 Sort Code: 16-00-15 Account Name: The Trust of St Benedict's Ealing Abbey

## ***Notices***

### **Parish office**

The parish office will close at 12:30 pm on Monday, 22nd December, and will reopen at 9:30 am on Friday, 2nd January.

### **Blessing of the Crib**

Would your children like to take part in the 'Blessing of the Crib' on Christmas Eve, here at Ealing Abbey? The cast perform the nativity story and sing carols. We need readers, singers and children to mime the Christmas story. Children from school year 2 and up!

Rehearsals will take place on the following days:

Friday December 19th, 2pm-4:30pm, Ealing Abbey Hall

Wednesday December 24th, 12:30pm-3pm, Ealing Abbey Hall

Event: 3pm Christmas Eve, Ealing Abbey (Everyone is welcome to attend)

Please bring your child to the Abbey Hall on Friday December 19th, at 2pm, if you would like them to participate!

### **Benet Bar**

The Benet Bar is open on Christmas Day from 10am till 2pm

## **Parish pilgrimage to Knock**

### **Ealing Abbey Parish – Escorted Tour to Westport & Co. Mayo, 1 June 2026**

The cost of the tour is £899 per person sharing, which includes return flights from London Heathrow with 10kg hold luggage, and four nights at the Castlecourt Hotel, Westport, with dinner, bed and breakfast. The itinerary features visit to Knock Shrine, Kylemore Abbey, Ballintubber Abbey, and the Fr. Peyton Centre. A single supplement of £250 applies (maximum of five single rooms available). For bookings or enquiries, please contact Patricia on 01268 762 278, 07740 175557, or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com). For any further information, please direct all enquiries to Mary Nolan through the parish office.

### **Part-time kitchen helper**

We are looking for a part-time kitchen helper for the local parish events. The candidate must help keeping a good standard in the kitchen. Duties are: helping to prepare food, keeping the kitchen space tidy and clean, helping to clear up after buffets. The hours are flexible and depending on the number of requests.

Experience preferred but not essential. Please contact parish office on 020 8194 2300 or Connie on 07456075058.

### **HCPT**

HCPT would like to express its sincere thanks to everyone who supported and contributed to the cake and craft sale. A total of £711 was successfully raised.