



30th November 2025 *Advent Sunday*

Welcome to Saint Laurence.

Adventurers (groups for children and young people) meet during the 9.30 am Mass. Leaders will normally invite children to join in with these at the appropriate point in the service. Activity packs and children's service books are available from the back of church.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Main Hall after the 9.30 Mass.

Today	Holy Communion	8.00 am
30 th November	Sung Parish Mass, with Baptisms and Admissions to First Communion	9.30 am
<i>Advent Sunday</i>	Organ Teaching	3.00 pm
	Advent Carol Service	6.30 pm
	NB No Evensong on Zoom	
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
3 rd December	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
	Said Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
	Advent Course, Parish Office	11.45 am
	Evening Prayer, Lady Chapel	4.15 pm
Thursday	Cappella Singers & Oakfields School Concert	7.30 pm
4 th December	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
Friday	Organ Teaching	9.00 am
5 th December	Christingle Preparation, Parish Office	9.15 am
	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
	Organ Teaching	2.15 pm
Saturday	Church Cleaning	10 00 am
6 th December		
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
7 th December	Building Faith	8.00 am
<i>Second Sunday</i>	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>of Advent</i>	Christingle Parade Service	4.00pm
	NB No Evensong on Zoom	

Mass readings next Sunday: Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12.

Saturday Pathsweepers: 13th December Stewart & Thomson **Coffee:** 7th December Sally, Michelle

Please let Revd Susannah or Deborah Masterson know of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit, or housebound and wanting to receive the sacrament at home – or if you would appreciate a conversation or visit for any reason.

NOTICES

Urgent: Christmas is coming, and it is time to give the church a clean through before the decorations go up. If you are able to lend a hand on Saturday 6th December from 10am please can you let Jean or Cheryl know today so they are able to plan the session and the refreshments Thank you.

Care Home Christmas Services are happening on Thursday 11th December 11am at Derham House, Tuesday 16th December 11am at The Oaks and Thursday 18th December at Little Gaynes. We would be very grateful for any volunteers to come along and join in with the singing, if you are able to come along could you please contact Susannah.

Advent Book and Course - please note change of dates/times: Bishop Guli Francis-Dehqani, our Diocesan Bishop, has written a book for Advent entitled 'Listening to the music of the soul'. It is widely available to purchase and you may wish to obtain a copy to read during Advent. We will be holding a parish discussion group to talk about the book together. This will now take place on Wednesdays after the 11am Mass (approx 11.45am-12.45pm) - 3rd, 10th and 17th December - in the Parish Office. Please let Susannah know if you would like to come to this group - and/or if you need assistance with ordering the book.

Cappella Singers of Upminster are holding their Christmas Concert in the Church on Thursday 4th December at 7.30pm. All are welcome, with free entry, but donations are welcome.

Spare Boxes In order to help us with the Christmas Decorations, if anyone has any larger boxes that can be used to be wrapped to resemble presents could they please bring them and leave them at the back of the church please next weekend ,Thank you

The Annual Hall Mead Christmas Afternoon Tea is being held on Tuesday 16th December at 1.30pm at Hall Mead School and is free to attend. There will be food, drink and musical entertainment for the more elderly members of the community. Please let Verity in the church office know if you wish to attend by Thursday 11th December.

Sound System Upgrade - thank you - The church sound system has been upgraded this week. Many thanks to all those who have made donations towards the cost of this, and to Nigel Lockwood for overseeing this project.

Church Christmas Card - A card is available to sign in the church porch for all members of the congregation wishing to send Christmas greetings to others at St Laurence. If you wish to make a donation to Crisis in lieu of sending

individual cards, please place money in the 'Charity of the Month' wall collection box.

Please consult notice boards under the tower and in the porch for other notices and further information

AT THE MASS

30th November 2025

Advent Sunday

Introit 45 O come, O come, Emmanuel

Setting St Anne's Mass - Macmillan

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Responsorial Psalm 122: 1-7

Responsorial Psalm 121

Andrew Moore



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I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not suffer your foot to stumble; he who watches over you will not sleep. Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand, so that the sun shall not strike you by day, neither the moon by night.

The lord shall keep you from evil; it is he who shall keep your soul.

Romans 13:11-end

Brothers and Sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Advent Wreath Prayers - Advent 1

Cantor - Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord,

Full - God of our ancestors: to you be praise and glory for ever!

Verse - You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.
May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to
receive your Christ,
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;

Cantor - for you are our light and our salvation.

Full - Blessed be God forever.

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Baptisms See separate sheet

Admissions to First Communion

Offertory hymn 677 In a world where people walk in darkness

Anthem Creator of the stars of night, Text – translated
by John Neale, Music – Malcolm Archer

Communion hymn 36 Hark, the glad sound

Final hymn 41 Lo, he comes with clouds descending

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer request forms are available at the back of church. Please use them if you wish us to pray for someone.

Sunday: Pam Chapman, Keith Sharp, Josie Milford, Steve Martin, Vicki Hobbs, Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke, Michael McSweeney, Terry Evens.

Wednesday: Mary Ann Madden, Rosalind Manley, Charles Osmond, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Maria, Marie Tyler David Lewin.

Additional Prayers: All those receiving Home Communion. Those being admitted for First Communion.

Recently departed: Jenny Roberts, Charles Osmond, Nige Fergusson, Steven Long.

Anniversaries of the departed: Walter Baker, Frank Morley, Stanley Oliver, Ethel Marshall, Carole Skinner, Michael Brabner, John Johnston, Harold Cator, Stewart Cavey, Gordon Clarke.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

**The
Children's
Society**

Donation envelopes are on the notice board at the back of church.

The Children's Society, Whitecross Studios,
50 Banner Street, London, EC1Y 8ST.
Registered Charity Number 221124.

DONATIONS

A cash collection will be taken during Sunday morning services for church funds, which support our mission and ministry including the upkeep of this historic site. If you do not carry cash, we also have a card machine located by the main door which can be used before or after the service.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aiding your donation - either via the machine or (for cash) using the envelope available in the pew. This means that your donation will be worth more to the church but at no extra

cost to you. If you would like information about joining our Planned Giving scheme, leaflets are available from the back of church. Thank you - whatever you feel disposed to give will be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

EASYFUNDRAISING

The church is registered (as St Laurence Church, Upminster) on easyfundraising.org.uk - if you register an account, select the church as a cause and download the web browser extension then every time you spend money on many retail websites and have activated the extension, a percentage of your spend will be donated to St Laurence at no cost to you. The individual amounts are small but every little adds up - please help us via this route if you can.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.....

If you would like to know about sponsorship, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church or speak to Jean and Cheryl (Churchwardens), Susannah (Rector) or Verity (Parish Administrator).

Advent and Christmas Worship at St Laurence

Sunday and Wednesday Masses are as normal unless listed as otherwise below.

Monday 24th November

9.30am Footsteps
A short service for children below school age and their parents/carers, reflecting on Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. Refreshments and playtime afterwards.

Sunday 30th November (The First Sunday of Advent)

6.30pm Advent Carol Service
Music and readings for the start of Advent

Sunday 7th December (The Second Sunday of Advent)

8.00am Building Faith
Informal worship for primary-school aged children, their parents and siblings in the Main Hall, including refreshments and building brick activity.

4.00pm Christingle Service (N.B. No further evening service today)
A family-friendly service supporting the work of The Children's Society

Sunday 21st December (The Fourth Sunday of Advent)

9.30am Parish Mass with Nativity Play

6.30pm Service of Lessons and Carols
*Telling the story of Christmas in words and music.
Followed by mulled wine and mince pies.*

Wednesday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

No 11am Mass

3.00pm Crib Service and Candlelight Procession

5.00pm Crib Service and Candlelight Procession
These services are particularly suitable for children and families.

You might like to bring a gift (new and unwrapped please – no food) as a present for children who are in need.

11.15pm Midnight Mass (First Mass of Christmas Day)

Thursday 25th December (Christmas Day)

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Mass

Sunday 28th December

9.30am Said Mass (no 8am Mass, Sunday School or 6.30pm Evensong on this day)

Wednesday 31st December

No 11am Mass

CONTACTS

Rector The Revd Susannah Brasier

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Pastoral Assistant Deborah Masterson

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Churchwardens Jean Keen and Cheryl Hale parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer Akosua Boachie

07760 791032 safeguarding@upminsterparish.co.uk

Director of Music Nigel Lockwood

07899 876247 nigel.lockwood@upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Office Verity Helby

01708 220696 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Open: Tue. 8.30-5.30pm, Wed. 8-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 8-12.30pm.

Hall Bookings Becky Perchard

07341 434798 halls.bookings@upminsterparish.co.uk

Planned Giving treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk

Website www.upminsterparish.co.uk

Address St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB

Welcome to the Parish Church of Upminster. If we have not met you before, do introduce yourself. If you wish, give these details to one of the officials.

Name

Telephone

**Revd Susannah sends a weekly email about services, news and events.
Please email her if you would like to receive her emails.**