



*The Parish Church of St. Lawrence Little Stanmore
alias Whitchurch*



Christ the King - Solemnity Sunday 23rd November 2025

Introit Hymn

THOU didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown
When thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For thy holy nativity:
*O come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
There is room in my heart for thee.*

2 Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
Proclaiming thy royal degree;
But in lowly birth didst thou come to earth,
And in great humility:

3 Thou camest, O Lord, with the living word
That should set thy people free;
But with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn
They bore thee to Calvary:

4 When all heaven shall ring, and her choirs shall sing,
At thy coming to victory,
Let thy voice call me home, saying, Yet there is room,
There is room at my side for thee:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Eucharist is introduced by The Priest and then he invites The Faithful to repentance

Penitential Act

Our God is a God of compassion,
always ready to forgive and to help us become the people he created us to be.

Lord, you have made us in your own image.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You call us to be of service to our neighbour,
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

In baptism, you call us to live lives of discipleship.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.****

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,
grant, we pray,
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,
may render your majesty service
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading 2 Samuel 5:1-3

'They anointed David king over Israel.'

In those days: All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, 'Behold, we are your bone and flesh. In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the LORD said to you, "You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel." ' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 122(121):1-2. 4-5. R/ cf.1
R/ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

I rejoiced when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R/**

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD.
As it is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David. **R/**

Second Reading Colossians 1:12-20

'He has transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son.'

Brothers and Sisters: Let us give thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

From Heaven, You came helpless babe
Entered our world, your glory veiled
Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

*This is our God, The Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to The Servant King*

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load he chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
"Yet not My will but Yours", He said

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered

So let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone Him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving

Gospel Acclamation Mk 11:10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

The Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 23:35-43 'Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.'

At that time: The rulers scoffed at Jesus, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying, 'Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.' And he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' And he said to him, 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
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.**

**We 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 worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

(or) Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. *cf Colossians 3.14,15*

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

All exchange a sign of peace by means of a bow or if we live in the same household a kiss or handshake.

Pray, my brothers and sisters,

that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God,

the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Offertory Hymn

1 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
First-begotten from the dead,
Thou alone, our strong defender,
Liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluya,
Jesu, true and living Bread!

2 Here our humblest homage pay we;
Here in loving reverence bow;
Here for Faith's discernment pray we,
Lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluya,
Thou art here, we ask not how.

3 Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
As of old in Bethlehem,
Here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluya,
We in worship join with them.

4 Paschal Lamb, thine Offering, finished
Once for all when thou wast slain,
In its fullness undiminished
Shall for evermore remain,
Alleluya,
Cleansing souls from every stain.

5 Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
Stricken Rock with streaming side,
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna
Worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluya,
Risen, ascended, glorified!

The Priest says:

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

As we offer you, O Lord, the sacrifice
by which the human race is reconciled to you,
we humbly pray,
that your Son himself may bestow on all nations
the gifts of unity and peace.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The Priest concludes the Preface with the people, saying or singing

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Priest continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.

After the words of Consecration the priest says:

The mystery of faith.

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

At the conclusion of the prayer

the Priest takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, raising both, he says

Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

*After his private prayers of preparation the Priest genuflects,
takes the host and, holding it slightly raised above the paten or above the chalice says aloud:*

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Communion Antiphon Ps 28: 10-11

The Lord sits as King for ever.
The Lord will bless his people with peace.

The Priest and people receive Holy Communion. Everyone is invited to come to the altar rails.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

All pray in silence. Then the Priest says the Prayer after Communion:

Having received the food of immortality,
we ask, O Lord,
that, glorying in obedience
to the commands of Christ, the King of the universe,
we may live with him eternally in his heavenly kingdom.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

May you go forth with the joy of having Jesus, our king, reign in your hearts.
May you share that joy with your families and friends,
but most especially with those who are in bodily or spiritual need.
May you live your lives in imitation of Jesus, the one who lives and reigns with the Father and Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

1 Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high,
His praise may thither fly;
The earth is not too low,
His praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

2 Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The church with psalms must shout,
No door can keep them out;
But above all, the heart
Must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

Coffee in the Hall is cancelled today while the gas main serving the Hall is being replaced. Please note that the church itself has full heating, as its supply comes directly from Whitchurch Lane. We expect the Hall to be fully operational again starting on Wednesday.

Help Us Preserve Our Past, Support Our Mission, and Sustain Our Parish Future! We don't pass a collection plate during our service, but you can give digitally via our Give A Little terminal in the Porch. You can also scan the QR code with your phone in the pew to donate quickly using your smart device.

There is also a plate in the Porch if you still prefer to give via cash. If you're a UK taxpayer, please Gift Aid your donation - it adds 25% at no extra cost to you.

We all know only too well the pressures of the cost of living. The Church faces the same pressures. All parishes run on the voluntary principle: we do not receive funding from Government, the Church of England or the Diocese. All our running costs and missionary initiatives must all be resourced from among us – our 'apostolic life' together. Please pray and think about your gifts and your giving and consider increasing it and ensuring that if possible that you use both a Standing Order and Gift Aid

We Really Need Your Continued Financial Help

You can always transfer money electronically by using the details below or alternatively, a collection plate is always located in the church porch:

Account Name: Parochial Church Council of St Lawrence Whitchurch

Bank: HSBC Sort Code: 40 - 11 - 58 Account: 20126942 Reference: Just use your surname!

Background on the Gospel Reading Today as a Church, we conclude our liturgical year and celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. The Gospel we proclaim shows the great mystery of our faith: In the moment of his crucifixion, Jesus is shown to be King and Saviour of all.

Luke's Gospel has been loaded with surprises: the poor are rich, sinners find salvation, the Kingdom of God is found in our midst. Here we see the greatest surprise of all. We are confronted with the crucified Jesus, whom faith tells us is King and Saviour of all. The irony is that the inscription placed on the cross, perhaps in mockery, contains the profoundest of truth. As the leaders jeer, the thief crucified by his side recognizes Jesus as Messiah and King, and finds salvation.

Jesus is King, but not the kind of king we might have imagined or expected. His kingship was hidden from many of his contemporaries, but those who had the eyes of faith were able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we, too, struggle at times to recognize Jesus as King. Today's Gospel invites us to make our own judgment. With eyes of faith, we, too, recognize that Jesus, the crucified One, is indeed King and Saviour of all.



After Coffee **next Sunday 30th November 2025** at circa 12:15 we will be having a **“Souper Sunday”** when everyone is invited to stay for a simple bread and homemade soup lunch. It's an opportunity to share a simple meal together and enjoy one another's company. Ideally, we would ask a minimum donation of £5 for Christian Aid but cost should not prevent anyone from coming. If you'd like to join us then Please place a tick on the sheet in the Porch so we have an indication of numbers. If you'd be willing to make soup or donate bread then please speak with Bridget or SJ. NB All soup will be plant based

We extend our **sincere and profound thanks to Stuart Cawthorne** and **Ernie Sailor** for their **exceptional stewardship** during the 12-hour charity commercial shoot in the church last Thursday, which will have secured a minimum of £2.5k for us as a parish.

Post-Christmas Lunch – Sunday 11th January 2026 After the wonderful success of our recent lunch, lovingly prepared by Fr Paul's professional chef neighbour Eugene and ably assisted by Fanny his partner, we're pleased to invite you to another "Post-Christmas Lunch" on Sunday 11th January 2026 at 12:30. Come and enjoy a warm, festive meal and friendly conversation as we ease into the New Year together. If you'd like to attend, please sign up on the list in the porch and kindly note any dietary requirements or allergies. We ask for a minimum donation of £10, with all proceeds once costs have been covered going to support the vital work of Christian Aid. Let's gather once more to share food, fellowship, and goodwill!

The Evergreen Club is a weekly informal get together on a Thursday afternoon in the Church Hall between 14:00 - 16:00. It is open to anyone, but especially to those who are over 60. It offers a warm and friendly welcome to those who'd like to come along for a convivial break over tea (and the occasional cake). It is an opportunity to chat with each other and make new friends, There are no activities as such other than perhaps the odd card game for those who wish. It exists for the whole community and all are most welcome regardless of age or gender, faith or non-faith. Further details from Joanne Brown, Doreen Durham or Sandy Sayer.

Safeguarding

Here at S Lawrence's Church, we prioritise the safety and well-being of our community.
Brenda Eustace serves as our Parish Safeguarding Officer and can be reached by email at:

safeguardinglittlestanmore@gmail.com

For more information about our safeguarding procedures, please visit our website by scanning the QR code on the back page of this booklet. We believe that safeguarding is a responsibility that we all share.

Livestreaming from S Lawrence's The initiation of livestreaming our services, was a beneficial development born from the original COVID-19 lockdown. It continues to be a vital outreach for those who are housebound or otherwise unable to attend S Lawrence's in person. While this allows all to join us on Facebook, it must be stated clearly that it is not a replacement for in-person worship. For those who prefer not to be filmed, please be seated in the back three rows of the nave or in the Duke's Pew, as these areas are outside the camera's focus. Rest assured, the cameras will switch to a static slide during the Eucharist to ensure communicants are not captured on film.

Flowers in Church Traditionally, the general rule is that there should be no altar flowers during Advent which starts next Sunday. This is because it is a solemn season of preparation for Christmas. The season's penitential nature can be seen in its liturgical colour, which is violet. Our church always looks wonderful with its **Christmas Flowers** but as with everything else, the cost of achieving this increases each year. If you would like to contribute to the cost of flowers for decoration then please put your contribution in an envelope along with the name of any Departed Loved ones you'd like remembered. A list will be printed and displayed as at Easter and their names read out at our Eucharists during the Feast. Any surplus from the money donated will be placed in the Flower Fund and used for church flowers at another time.

PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER HOME WITH YOU

You can receive a copy of this Newsletter every week by email
send your email address with "Newsletter" in the subject line to:

little.stanmore@london.anglican.org



In Your Prayers This Week please pray for The Bishops of London especially our Area Bishop, +Lusa ~ Bishop of Willesden we pray for the needs of our Parish especially for **The Sick, Vulnerable, Isolated, Anxious & Bereaved** Both those who are known to us personally and those whose names are read out in Church each week, the patients and staff of The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital the elderly & housebound especially those who live within Henry Nihill House, Knights Court & Whitchurch Lodge.

The Departed

Those who continue to died as the result of all wars, conflict or the violence of others

Recently Dennis Mills

Years' Mind Denis Andrews, Herman Berndt, Violet Bladerstone, Elizabeth Bugden, Queenie Clay, Douglas Cobb priest, Ray Cooper, Maureen Cope, Marjorie Crees, Leslie Crowdy, Mary Davidge, Katherine Derrick, Dave Drury, Colin Forrest, Carole Fuller, Mark Genower, James Hall, Fred Harwood, Mike Hawkins, Shirley Herring, Alex Hicks, Roberta Horn, Gwyneth Hughes, Margaret Jones, Doreen Jones, Annie Jordan, Jim Keane, Ann Kontanias, Beryl Long, Caleb Mascoll, David Maskell, Jonathan Miles, Amy Miller, Monica Morris, Saavan Munda, Douglas Munn, Barbara Nelson, Bill Norton-Child, Diana Oakley, Marie Payne, Tina Penman, Gerry Pond, Marion Putz, Lillian Raymond, Douglas Reece, Shirley Reece, Marion Ruddock, Dennis Rudelhoff, Christy Saverimuttu, Gwen Somers, Jackie Taylor, Mavis Taylor, Philip Theobald, Pat Vandeppeer, Joan Varley, John Ward, Pete Ward, Dawn Wilson.

The Altar Flowers This Week

have been graciously donated by

**Joanne Brown, in loving remembrance of her mother, Elizabeth Brown,
whose birthday was on the 18th November**

&

Barbara Cooper, in cherished memory of her grandson, Lewis Cooper

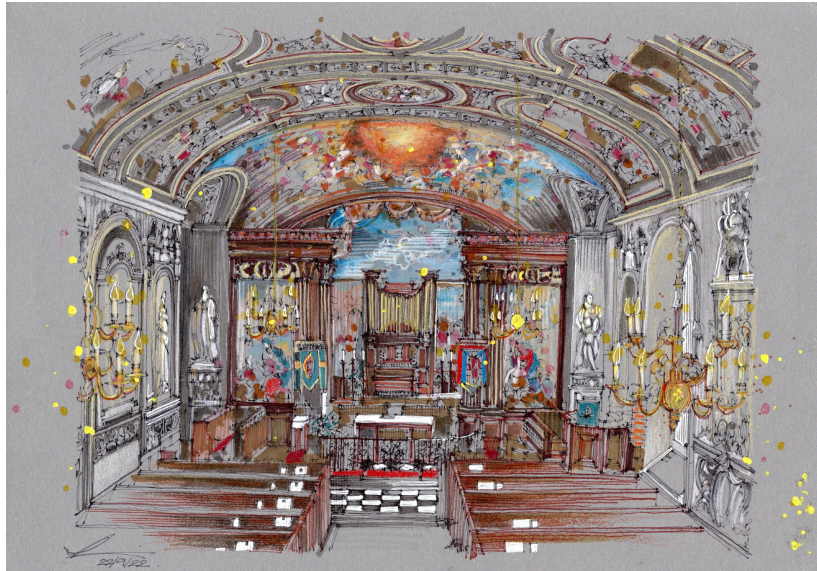
May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Light a Candle We light a candle in devotion to Christ who is the Light of the World. Lighting a candle is an act of faith. As Christians, we might say to someone who needs our prayers that we have lit a candle for them. The act of lighting a candle is an act of communion with Our Lord. We walk away - going about our daily business - but the candle continues to shine: a symbol of love and devotion and a physical, tangible reminder of our faith in the mercy, compassion, and love of God. **During this last week of November we invite you to light a candle in front of the Altar particularly in memory of loved ones as it is the month of the Holy Souls when we pray for The Departed.**

Submitting An Item for this Newsletter Please ensure that any items are emailed to The Rector, Fr Paul by 12 Noon on a Wednesday, to be included in the Newsletter for that week. Whilst the Newsletter doesn't get published till Saturday it is prepared at some point between Wednesday and then as time permits. Thank you.

Just A Thought

People in therapy are often in therapy to deal with the people in their lives who won't go to therapy!



THIS WEEK AT S LAWRENCE LITTLE STANMORE

*we aim to be an inclusive Church within the catholic tradition of The Church of England
serving Canons Park (HA8) and its surrounding area*

23 Sun **Christ The Universal King**
10:00 **The Parish Eucharist**

25 Tues Tuesday of Week 34 in Ordinary Time
09:30 The Eucharist

30 Sun **1st Sunday of Advent**
10:00 **The Parish Eucharist**
12:15 Souper Sunday

Rector & Parish Priest - Fr Paul M Reece SSC

t: 07860 690 503

e: little.stanmore@london.anglican.org

*If you have any pastoral concerns or would like to request prayers for yourself or friends/family,
please get in touch using our email or you can use the contact page on our website*

