

## Notices

**Welcome** to everyone to worship today. A collection is taken during the service, but you also make a donation using the contactless machine at the back of the church.

**Refreshments** will be served in the hall after the service.

**Organist** today welcome to John Webster.

**Thursday eucharist** this week as usual at 10am.

**Christmas services** are Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve at 11pm, and on Christmas Day, Sung Mass at 10am—please note the times!

**Next Sunday, December 21st, 2025 at 11am**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Readings:* Isaiah 7.10-16; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-end

### ***A prayer for today***

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel,  
the Hope of all people.

He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us.

He is the Savior of us all.

O Lord,

let your blessing come upon us as we light two (purple) candles and the third  
(pink) candle of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation.

May He come quickly and not delay.

We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

### **Vicar and Assistant Area Director of Ordinands**

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## **St. Francis of Assisi, Isleworth**

### **Third Sunday of Advent**

### **Sunday December 14th, 2025**



For the second week running, we hear about John the Baptist. Today, though, this is not John powerfully preaching in the wilderness, but languishing in prison. This will not end well for he will be beheaded. Today has begun called 'Gaudete' or 'rejoicing' Sunday for many centuries. Where is the joy in the fate of John? Perhaps because he went to his death in hope, and looking for more to come.

### **For your prayers**

That we may use well this season of Advent to prepare for the coming of the Lord with a spirit of repentance

For Bishop Sarah of London, next year to be Archbishop of Canterbury; and Bishop Emma of Kensington.

For The King and for all in authority in this land; for the Holy Land; for continuing conflict in so many parts of the world

For those facing poverty, starvation and destitution

For the sick and suffering, for those in hospital, in different forms of care or supported at home; for hospital and health care services

For the departed, and for those who mourn; in remembrance of any whom we have known, and see no longer