

ANNOUNCEMENTS for the SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS DAY

Pre-mass announcements: (Please read “A” about 5 minutes prior to Mass and “B” about 1 minutes prior to Mass.):

Good morning.

- A. We will sing “Once in Royal David’s City” before Mass as our processional song. At the time of the Offertory, we will sing “Adeste Fideles.” We will sing the first verse twice, once in Latin, and once in English. During Communion we will sing “Silent Night.” As our recessional song, we will sing “The First Noel.”*
- B. Please stand as we sing “Once in Royal David’s City” as our processional song.*

Closing announcements:

Good morning and welcome to our guests and visitors. We have these announcements:

1. We thank our cantor, Isobel Reis, for the beautiful music this morning. Please stay after the blessing as we will sing “The First Noel” as our recessional song.
2. Peace candles in support of the Caritas international charity are on sale outside the church. The candle sales support the ten million stars project of Caritas serving people in need around the world during the year.
3. The St. Vincent de Paul Conference is collecting non-perishable food for the poor during Advent. Bring milk, canned food, oil, olive oil, rice, pasta, cereals, etc. and leave them here in the church.
4. We will have English Mass on New Year’s Day here at Santiago at 10:30 AM. Please invite your friends to join you. There is a full schedule of all the Masses in the parish, in both English and Portuguese on the WhatsApp group, the Facebook group, and the website.
5. On Sunday December 29th the Jubilee door will be opened in the Faro Cathedral in recognition of the Jubilee Year of 2025. All are invited to attend. Please meet at the Igreja de São Paulo in Faro and a procession will go from there to the cathedral. You can learn more about this Jubilee year in the Catholic church worldwide with links posted on our WhatsApp and Facebook groups, and on our website. **Diocese of the Algarve - Opening of church doors - <https://afl.fan/vdxxl>**

6. At the doors when you exit, you will find the book “Palavra e Vida,” priced at five euros. It contains a reflection on the Gospel of the liturgy for every day of the year in Portuguese for those learning the language.
7. As you have seen, in this Jubilee year, the doors of our Santiago church have been restored. Thank you to everyone who made this possible, especially the English-speaking community. May God reward your generosity.
8. As you will have noted this morning, we are providing, on a trial basis during Advent, the readings and general information on a handout. The Lay Liturgical ministry and Media ministry of the English Community are exploring a regular weekly bulletin as a more permanent solution, but we do not have any decision or timetable currently. The cost for this month is funded by donations from the Lay Liturgy group of the English community.
9. Please note there are additional announcements on the reverse side of the reading’s handout for today.