

St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

Canon Michael Munnelly
 1 Du Cros Drive
 Stanmore
 Middlesex HA7 4TJ
 Telephone: 020 8954 1299
 Email: stanmore@rcdow.org.uk
<http://swoy.weebly.com>
 Hall enquiries: 07973 601208
 (Marcello – via text message)

For Confessions please contact
 Father Michael direct on the
 parish number

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7/8 November 2020

Saturday 7th November

Nelson & Alex Fernandes RIP

Sunday 8th November
 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Remembrance Sunday

The Holy Souls

Remembrance Sunday:
 For the fallen

Monday 9th November
 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Elizabeth O'Grady RIP

Tuesday 10th November
 St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor

The Holy Souls

Wednesday 11th November
 St Martin of Tours, Bishop

Tsui Intention

Thursday 12th November
 St Josaphat, Bishop & Martyr

Friday 13th November

P T George RIP (Anniv)

Saturday 14th November

The Holy Souls

Sunday 15th November
 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Maria Smith (Birthday)

10am Healy Family RIP

This weekend - Remembrance Sunday

Good advice in the gospel today - 'STAY AWAKE' - sounds a bit like the daily pandemic advice we receive – STAY ALERT! The ten bridesmaids that our Lord speaks about in the parable though waiting for the return of the bridegroom - five find themselves unprepared for his arrival. As disciples we want to be ready. This Sunday also marks Remembrance day when we particularly recall the countless men and women who have given their lives in the raging wars and conflicts of the 20th century, plus - before and since. War is an ever present reality. At the 10am on-line Mass we will observe a time of silence, our tribute to the fallen. Throughout the month of November there will be many Masses offered for the 'Holy Souls' - with the Tuesday 9.30am Mass having a special emphasis on the 'faithful departed'.

Locked down! Locked out! Never excluded!

Following the government guidelines, we again find that 'places of worship' are now closed - synagogues, mosques, temples, chapels and church – all of us face the same challenge. Our Catholic bishops have written to the Government asking for the 'evidence' that places of worship are dangerous in terms of the virus spread. Of course - we love our church. We want and we need to be together in the house of the Lord - but we know that the first place for faith and prayer is HOME. Long before the young Jesus started travelling to the temple or participating in synagogue – he would have read the Scriptures and prayed with Mary and Joseph at HOME. The teaching of the Church is full of references to 'the domestic church'. We may be locked down and locked out - but each one of us can 'pack prayer and faith into our homes and hearts'. We can have certain times to reach out to Jesus. We may have preferred devotions. Central must always be the Gospels - even a sentence or two daily makes a big difference. Our Lord is always near and rejoices to hear our praise and our petitions. Perhaps instead of seeing the current time as restraint - we can maybe go 'wider' and deeper.

The Sacrament of Confirmation

We have had to change our original plan to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on the feast of Christ the King (November 22). The proposal now is that Father Michael will confer the Sacrament on Sunday 6 December at 12noon. Now that there are 9 candidates - it is better if they each have only 6 guests to observe COVID guidance. They are an impressive group of young people. Please pray for them and their families.

Father Michael's FRONT DOOR!

'Currently of course the church is mainly closed. Inside I continue to follow our regular schedule of Masses and prayer. Just a reminder, though, that it means that the newsletter, though available on the parish website, is not easily accessible for the paper version. As in the previous LOCKDOWN, I usually leave copies of the newsletter in the porch outside the front door of the **house**. If you are passing, feel free to collect either for your use or for parishioners who may be less mobile. For the month of the Holy Souls - you will also find, outside the front door of the house, the lists and envelopes for names of deceased family, friends and others. When the lists are complete - please place in the envelope and drop through my letter box. Thank you'.

SAVE THE DATE – SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER 2020 at 3pm

The Christmas Carol sing-a-long will be going ahead this year but will be moving to ZOOM. As you know, we are not allowed to sing together in church, however holding this event on Zoom will allow us to sing to our heart's content in the safety of our own homes. I hope many of you will be able to join and if you are able to lead a carol (in a similar way to what our musicians do on Sunday) then please let Janice know on Pereira_janice@hotmail.com. Similarly if you need any help connecting on Zoom, either over the internet or phone, please let her know. Further details to follow but in the meantime, save the date and time – Sunday 13th December between 3pm and 4pm and don't forget to start baking those mince pies. It will be a lovely way for us all to be "together" before Christmas.

Important details

We will continue to live-stream the 10am Sunday Mass. The deep desirable call is to return to Mass in church, but there remain pastoral circumstances which are well-served by the on-line liturgy. Let us all remain united in faith and prayer - especially for those who suffer in any way. God bless you. Father Michael

This is the link for our 10am Mass each Sunday. Please share details with others and maybe help them with the technology. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2539625604>

P.S. from Father Michael

"I write this after Lockdown has begun. A joy to offer Mass daily in the church – where, as I have said before, I am on my own but NEVER alone. The other side is this – dear brothers and sisters in Stanmore. **I really miss** you. Nothing compares with priest and people gathered around the altar of God, together offering up the unceasing Sacrifice of the Mass. A priest and parishioners, we are the Body of Christ brought together to receive his Body in Holy Communion. Nothing compares."

(Father M)

