

St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No. 233699

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(Marcello – via text message)

The Sacrament of Confession
Father Michael is available every Saturday morning 11am – 12 noon – outside the Parish Hall, in the car park. The free gift of God's mercy.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

19/20 September 2020

Saturday 19th September

5.30pm Helene Amasanti RIP

Sunday 20th September

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am James Balfe RIP

10am Paul Amasanti RIP

Monday 21st September

St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

9.30am Rodney Fernandes (sick)

Tuesday 22nd September

9.30am Jimmy Balfe

Wednesday 23rd September

St Pius of Pietrelcina

Special Intention (O'Shea)
NO PUBLIC MASS

Thursday 24th September

NO LITURGY

Friday 25th September

7pm Private Intention

Saturday 26th September

5.30pm Leonora Ellis

Sunday 27th September

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Angela Piccioni RIP
(Amandini)

10am People of the parish

25th Sunday of the Year - The parable of the landowner

Dear brothers and sisters - what is most striking in today's gospel is the relentless way the landowner goes out to find labourers (five times). He is willing to hire the latecomers, even the 'rejects' who claim that no one has hired them. Perhaps with good reason? The landowner desires to pay them all a full day's wage. Jesus wants us to know that the kingdom of heaven is like this landowner. God takes the initiative in seeking us out.

The truth of salvation is that we are 'needed and wanted and loved'. The Father stretches out his embrace to 'hire' us for his purpose and to receive his payment, his recognition and reward. When we make the mistake of thinking that following Jesus is only about our efforts at faith and virtue. No! He comes to find us and to enrol us in discipleship and service. The generosity of the landowner in the gospel is true for each one of us.

90 one more time!

A couple of months ago one of our senior parishioners, Ileana Amandini, celebrated her 90th birthday. Last week, Eileen Blatt did the same! We congratulate Eileen - another long term parishioner and faithful Catholic. May God bless her (and Ileana) with His grace.

First Holy Communion – 2020

After considerable prayer, discussion and consulting the current Westminster diocese and Government regulations, it is clear that this is not an appropriate time to restart preparation classes for our 6 children whose journey towards making their First Holy Communion was interrupted by the Lockdown in March. The good Lord will surely guide us to a safe and practical time in 2021 when the parish First Holy Communion Programme will be able to take place. We look forward to news of this sometime in the Spring in the Newsletter. Until then, please hold all the young children of the parish in your prayers that we will soon be able to welcome them and their families back into church for Mass and the sacraments.

(Carol-Anne Chandler)

The Sacrament of Confirmation

'Normally' of course the Bishop visits parishes regularly to celebrate the Sacrament of the Holy Spirit. This has not happened anywhere in the diocese for many months since the beginning of lockdown; impossible for four bishops to catch-up. With a huge backlog of parishes and candidates -

the Cardinal has written recently to all Parish Priests delegating them to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in their own parishes. Here in Stanmore - we had an enrolment of 11 candidates at the beginning of the year. Father Michael will be writing to each of them - asking whether they would be happy to go ahead now or wait in hope of a real, live Bishop next year!?! For those wishing to proceed now- Father Michael has suggested 3 preparation sessions in the church - which would allow 'social distancing'. Father Michael would confer the Sacrament at a date to be fixed - but under COVID restrictions. All 'live events' as they are called in the government guidelines (funerals, weddings, Baptisms, Confirmation etc.) are limited to 30 people in the church. Candidates will have a choice of waiting until 2021 or moving ahead sooner!

Extra collections (and Father David Kolo)

'Normally' throughout the year - in addition to the offertory collection taken up during Mass, there would often be an extra collection at the door (e.g. CAFOD Fast Day, Peter's Pence, Holy Places etc. etc.) These have all been cancelled - though people may wish to contribute directly. The only Diocesan extra collection will be on Sunday 8 November - for 'the sick and retired' priests of the diocese. We remain in contact with Father David who struggles on in Uganda. If you would like to help support Father David - you can place a donation in an envelope marked 'Father David' and drop it into the basket at the church door with the normal collection or perhaps through the front door of the house.

SUNDAY MASS OPPORTUNITIES !!! - a widespread invitation!

At this time and trying to respect guidelines and social distancing - the available Sunday Masses are

Friday 7pm; Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8am and 10am

Monday 9.30am

Additional weekday Mass on Tuesday 9.30am : no public Mass on Wednesday or Thursday

Supporting the parish

'So many of you, dear parishioners, have been so thoughtful during this time; remembering to regularly donate for the support of the parish - using weekly envelopes, standing orders or cheques - and other means. It really helps. As you can imagine - after all this time - the parish resources are really stretched and the bills continue. Please know that the Lord sees such generosity'. (Father Michael)

Church Safety Arrangements – A Reminder

- Face Masks must be worn at all times whilst in the Church,
- Please observe safe distancing and the one-way traffic flow system that is in place,
- Please follow the direction of the Marshals on the seating arrangements, and stay in the assigned pew seat, a restricted number of 42 remains in place which will be adhered to.
- Holy Communion is distributed after the final Prayers and Blessing, with Parishioners expected to exit the Church, not returning to their seat,
- The Toilet facility remains out of use,
- Hand sanitizers are sited at the Entrance and Exit from the Church for personal use,
- The weekly newsletter will be available for collection on leaving, with baskets placed for the Offertory offerings,
- If you are feeling unwell, suffering from a cold or cough, please do not attend Church.

Counters Rota

20 September Amal Graham, Patricia Cleary, Marcello Borgese

27 September Eddie Whittaker, Anthony Owolabi, Mary Kehoe

4 October Richard Afonso, Walter Acuti, Martin Rush

