

# St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

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Mass – Sunday  
Sat 5.30pm (1st Mass of Sunday)  
Sunday 8am & 10am

Weekdays  
Mass Monday Tuesday & Wednesday 9.30 am  
Thursday As announced

Confessions: Saturday 10.30am & on call

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**31 July/1 August 2021**

Saturday 31st July St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest 5.30pm John McIntyre Intention
Sunday 1st August 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 8am People of the parish 10am Private intention 11.30am
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 9.30am Peggy O'Neil RIP
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August 9.30am Dean & Janice Pereira (Silver Wedding)
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> August St John Vianney, Priest 9.30am Maria Smith (Thanksgiving)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> August NO LITURGY
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> August The Transfiguration of the Lord 7pm Michael Curran Intention Liam & Mary Curran Frank & Tom Melvin
Saturday 7th August 5.30pm Abigail Ukstin Intention
Sunday 8th August 19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time 8am Sabina Fernandes (Birthday) (Da Costa) 10am Martha Fahey (Birthday)

## This weekend - complaints and signs

In the gospel (again Saint John) the people pursue Our Lord after he speaks about the 'food of eternal life'. They ask for signs; impressive acts to convince! Yet 5000 have been fed. They recall the first reading where the people complained against Moses and Aaron - yet the Old Testament people had also been fed with manna in the desert. It is perfectly possible for all of us to miss the obvious; the signs and blessings which the Lord gives. THE sign and Sacrament for us is the Eucharist; the words of Jesus to us at every Mass "I am the bread of life; the one who comes to me will never be hungry; the one who believes in me will never thirst." Imagine - an endless supply of the bread from heaven. We receive the body of Christ. One of the early fathers/writers of the Church said that- 'in most cases the food we consume becomes part of us but in the reception of Holy Communion, we BECOME part of the food we receive - the Body of Christ'.

## Readers: Arrangements for Readers Rota from September

For the benefit of Readers unable to attend the meeting on 17 July - new Rota arrangements will commence from September, when the names of Readers will be listed in the weekly newsletter, giving 3 weeks' notice of when you are required to read. The new Rota will cover ALL weekend Masses. New/old Readers are requested to text Alec Moody 07860 622831 with your name and the time of Mass you are able to attend and read at. There will be no change to weekday Masses. We need 2 new readers for the 8am Mass on Sunday. Readers are expected to attend Mass to read from the lectern. The Responsorial Psalm – Readers should not announce 'The Responsorial Psalm is ....!!!' - conclude the first reading, pause a moment then continue with the Psalm, starting with the response. Those readers who have not been commissioned should ask Fr. Michael to enrol them as Ministers of the Word.

## The feast of the Transfiguration – this Friday-7pm Mass

Every Friday we have our 7pm Mass. For some weeks- we have had Eucharistic Adoration before Mass starting at 6.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament- the 'bread of life'. This coming Friday- we will celebrate Jesus, revealing Himself as the Son of God- to Peter, James and John. Accept the invitation of Christ on this Friday evening. There will be an opportunity for Confession after Mass.

### **Now we can sing!**

It is great that congregational singing in church is now possible. Singing brings us together but above all gathers us in praise to the Lord. Good old Saint Augustine wrote that 'he/she who sings prays TWICE'. We will try to provide words for some known hymns and choruses. Our hefty hymn books are sealed in the church. Please join in where you can. Thank you.

### **Now we could restore our previous way of taking up the offertory collection!**

"It would now be permissible to return to our usual practice - passing the bag or basket along the line, one person to the other. However, for the time being until the end of August, we will continue to simply have the 'offertory collection' baskets at the door. Thank you for providing some regular parish income - along with others who have made banking arrangements. However - I would like to restore the offertory procession at weekends - carrying the gifts of bread and wine to the altar.

(Father Michael)

### **Now - for the time being - we will continue to use masks in church!**

This, of course, is no longer a legal requirement. It can only be a suggestion. For the time being and out of caution for ourselves and others - we will continue to observe this recommendation.

### **An appeal for an elderly gentleman**

Father Michael writes - 'A local fellow, now over 90 years old, would really appreciate a regular visit. If you feel able to help please have a word with me. In the first place - I would put you in contact with his family.'

### **11.30am Mass – this weekend**

The extra Mass on Sunday at 11.30am concludes this weekend. Thank you to those who have attended.

### **Father Michael takes a break**

Father M and his priest friend Father Paul will be away from Monday 16 August until Friday 27 August - visiting Lincoln. The Missionary of Africa priest - Father Michael Heap - will be staying in the house. Sometimes called the 'White Fathers' because of their white religious habit, Father Heap has stayed in Stanmore before. Sadly - Father David is not available this year - because of the COVID restrictions.

### **Thank you for the continuing support**

"Dearest parishioners – as your Parish Priest I again want to express gratitude for the generosity you have shown to our church floor project. We are well on our way to our initial target. May the Lord bless each and all. Of course predictably there will be added expenses, not covered by insurance. I will keep you informed." (Father Michael)

### **From Pope Francis – Let Us Dream**

Jesus did not found the Church as a citadel of purity nor as a constant parade of heroes and saints – although thank God we do not lack these. It is something much more dynamic: a school of conversion, a place of spiritual combat and discernment, where grace abounds along with sin and temptation. Like its members, the Church can be an instrument of God's mercy because it needs that mercy. Just as none of us should reject other people because of their sins and failures but help them be what they are meant to be, Christ's followers should love and listen to the Church, build her up, take responsibility for her, including her sins and failures. At those moments when the Church shows herself to be weak and sinful, let us help her get up again; let us not condemn or disdain her, but care for her like our own mother.

### **Counters Rota**

<u>1 August</u>	Amal Graham, Patricia Cleary, Marcello Borgese
<u>8 August</u>	Eddie Whittaker, Anthony Owolabi, Mary Kehoe
<u>15 August</u>	Richard Afonso, Walter Acuti, Beatrice McAdam