

# 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

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

8/9 May 2021

Saturday 8th May

5.30pm People of the parish

Sunday 9th May

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

8am Patrick Coyle RIP (Anniv)

10am Sam Wadood RIP (parish)

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May

9.30am Margaret & Doug Dennis  
RIP (Anniv)

Tuesday 11th May

9.30am Sam Wadood RIP (Taylor)

Wednesday 12th May

9.30am Holy Souls (Bosah)

Thursday 13th May

The Ascension of the Lord

9.30am Carey Intention

8pm Pope Francis

Friday 14th May

St Matthias, Apostle

7pm Maria Smith Intention

Saturday 15th May

5.30pm Owen Kelly RIP

Sunday 16th May

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

8am Sam Wadood RIP (Moody)

10am Eric Chandler RIP (Anniv)

## This weekend – ‘God does not have favourites’

Saint Peter in the first reading, once again the ACTS of the Apostles - makes this startling assertion! It was startling because Peter and the others around him, all faithful Jews, believed that God, in some sense, did have favourites - namely the CHOSEN Jewish race. For Peter in the first reading today - to proclaim that ‘anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him’ was a full turn-around! Saint Paul took it further in his missionary travels and preaching. In this weekend’s gospel - Jesus tells his disciples (and us) ‘I do not call you servants and more; I call you FRIENDS’ and gives his great command of love. Dear people of God - in the presence and teaching of Jesus, our status is made clear. Our good shepherd, the true vine of which we are the branches – has called and sealed us as his very own. Once again, for me - the response to the psalm sums it up - ‘The Lord has shown His salvation to the nations’ (Father Michael)

## Diamond Jubilee of the opening of our parish church

7 May 1961 was a wonderful day for our parish! The then Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal William Godfrey, solemnly opened our ‘new church’ after many years when Mass was celebrated in the Dominican convent and school opposite our present building. It was a wonderful day - with a great deal of hard-work, preparation and fund-raising over the years beforehand. Prompted and reminded by parishioners with good memories - I had booked the present Archbishop of Westminster - Cardinal Vincent Nichols to celebrate Mass in Stanmore - this Sunday 9 May. He had kindly agreed. Present circumstances and other issues meant that the visit by the present Cardinal has now being POSTPONED until the projected work in the church is complete and things are a bit more ‘normal’. Still 60 years is a milestone and we will give thanks this weekend.

## Ascension Thursday

This Thursday completes 40 days since we celebrated Easter Sunday. It is the day that the Risen Lord - after time with his disciples - returned to His Father in heaven extending the promise of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. There will be 2 Masses on this Ascension Thursday 13 May- 9.30am & 8pm.

## Sam Wadood RIP

This weekend, at the 10am Mass - we will remember and pray for Sam-

husband of Claudette who died so suddenly. Family and friends will join the parish family for this special Mass to honour his memory. May his soul rest in peace.

### **Repository**

Parishioners are asked to buy their **First Communion gifts and cards early** as the repository will have to close along with the church and will only be able to have a very small space in the hall for Mass cards and possibly rosaries. A few extra copies of **A Simple Prayer Book** have also been ordered, as we are no longer able to use the church's books, and they are available now.

### **May - the month of Mary**

For Catholics - May is special! We honour the Mother of God - who is a true Mother to us all. Whenever we are stuck, afraid or even defeated - we can depend on Our Lady. Her tender care for each of us, individually – extends also to the whole Church, the family of the faith. Pope Saint John Paul, when elected Pope, took as his motto 'totus tuus'- 'all yours'. He explained that it expressed his regard for and trust in - Our Blessed Lady. He pledged his life and ministry to her. He belonged entirely to her 'totus tuus'.

### **The Rosary in our parish and a Rosary Marathon**

Usually during the month of May - we have the Rosary after the weekday Masses. In order not to delay the willing hands - who so dependably sanitize the church benches - this month of Mary, we will say the Rosary before the weekday morning Masses - around 9.05am; Friday again BEFORE the 7pm Mass and prior to the 8am Mass on Sunday morning. Remember - the Rosary is also a wonderful home devotion - especially as a family/with others. This year - Pope Francis has called for a GLOBAL Rosary Marathon; literally the Rosary being said in shrines and basilicas across the world. In different languages and following various customs – every day of May has an allocated 'venue' spread over every continent. Details about this can be found on the Vatican website. Where time zones fit - it can be a LIVE experience or catch-up on the Vatican youtube or perhaps other platforms.

**Reaching out to our parish community in a practical and organised way** We would like to start a parish Good Neighbour service providing simple but practical support initially in the form of:

- Transport for hospital appointments
- Signposting to services which provide support e.g.: domestic violence, debt support
- Help with navigating services, advocacy and form filling
- Befriending

If you would like to know more or, better still, you think you would like to get involved or have a skill that may be of help please contact Daniela 07963 718614 (message and I will call back) or Lily 07421 468038. Thank you.

### **Harrow Deanery**

The priests and pastoral workers of the Harrow parishes will meet by ZOOM on Monday morning. Father Jeremy Fairhead (Sudbury parish) is now Dean, Father Michael having completed his term of office.

### **Recently discovered**

Father Michael: 'You might remember that I spoke about Blessed Carlo Acutis (hopefully soon to be canonised) a young man who died in his teens and who had an inspiring faith - especially in the Eucharist. He built a website of all the Eucharistic shrines throughout the world. I came across one of his sayings – **'All are born as original but many die as photocopies'**.

### **Counters Rota**

9 May Judith Brightwell, Monica Assoku, Funmi da Silva  
16 May Richard Wong, Pearly Jesuthasan  
23 May Amal Graham, Patricia Cleary, Marcello Borgese