

St. William of York Catholic Church



Registered Charity No 233699

Fr. Jonathan Goodall
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(Marcello – via text message)

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

Weekdays
Mass Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.30am
Thursday as announced
Friday 7pm

4th Sunday of Lent

26/27 March 2022

Saturday 26th March

5.30pm Cosmas Scullion RIP
(1st Anniv)
(Anne & Ambrose Scullion)

Sunday 27th March

4th Sunday of Lent
Laetare Sunday

8am For Mothering Sunday

10am Giancarlo Catania RIP
(Susan Mason)

Monday 28th March

9.30am For those who have died
from Covid

Tuesday 29th March

9.30am For the sick & the dying

Wednesday 30th March

9.30am For vocations

Thursday 31st March

NO LITURGY

Friday 1st April

7pm For peace in our world

Saturday 2nd April

5.30pm Joseph Fogarty RIP
(Carr Family)

Sunday 3rd April
5th Sunday of Lent

8am

10am

Scripture Reflection: God's mercy and kindness knows no bounds

The story in today's Gospel is the response Jesus gives to the criticism of the scribes and Pharisees that he was mixing and eating with sinners. Jesus speaks about two sons and their loving father. By asking for his share of the inheritance, the younger son implies that he wishes his father were dead. He leaves the family home, squanders everything and eventually is forced to feed pigs, a deep humiliation to a Jew. He thinks of his home and the loving father he abandoned and decides to return, hoping to be accepted back as a servant. The elder son in contrast is obedient and hardworking, but cold and grudging towards his brother. He insults and humiliates his father by not addressing him as father, refusing to enter his father's house, and referring to his brother as 'this son of yours', whereas he has been working 'like a slave'. Although the younger son has effectively severed his relationship with his father the father has been continually watching for his return. He not only runs out to meet him, but kisses him, and restores his dignity with the best robe, a family ring and sandals. He gives a party for the village, giving the clear message that his son is forgiven. Jesus was trying to show the Pharisees who considered themselves to be just, but had no understanding of the mercy and forgiveness of God, that his attitude to *tax-collectors and sinners* reflected his loving Father. He hoped that in the elder son they might see themselves and their own hardness of heart. The parable contrasts mercy and unforgiveness. The father, who had been wronged, was forgiving, but the eldest son, who had not been wronged, was unforgiving. His unforgiveness turns into spiteful pride. Jesus reveals God's unending love and mercy for the repentant sinner and gives a clear picture of a God who does not lose hope or give up when we stray from him. He is always open and forgiving towards those who have a change of heart and want to return. He rejoices in finding the lost and welcoming them home. (MR)

Visiting Priests

We thank Fr. Graham Stokes and Fr. Axcel Soriano of St. John Fisher Parish for saying last weekend's Masses. Both Fr. Graham and Fr. Axcel have proved great neighbours in their support in the period between Parish Priests and we are grateful for such. We also said both thanks and goodbye at the 10am Mass to our retired parish priest - Canon Michael Munnelly. In his 10 years at St. William of York, Fr. Michael has been an exceptional pastoral spiritual director. During the past two difficult COVID affected years (a time of real fear and worry), Fr. Michael was a pillar of calm and support to his Stanmore 'Flock', which will be remembered with both

thanks and affection. Thank You, Fr. Michael.

Welcome Fr. Jonathan Goodall

We warmly welcome Fr. Jonathan as our new Parish Priest. We pray that Fr. Jonathan and his wife Sarah will be happy here in Stanmore and in our Parish. May we, with Fr. Jonathan's direction and guidance, continue to grow as a Parish Family in the faith, love and worship of Our Saviour. Let's make this Easter extra special and a stepping stone in each of our lives. We thank Bishop John Sherrington for concelebrating Fr. Jonathan's first Mass in the Parish, on the Feast of the Annunciation. We have been very fortunate to have had Bishop John with us 3 times, so far this year.

Mass on Tuesday and Wednesday

Next Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th March, the 9.30am Mass will be restarted. Parishioners are encouraged to avail themselves of this opportunity, as part of their Lenten prayer and devotion. Also, the Church opens half an hour before each Mass starts and offers an opportunity for private devotion and observance of the Stations of the Cross.

Mothering Sunday

The chorus of an old Irish song has the following words "a Mother's Love's a blessing, no matter where you roam, keep her while she's living, you'll miss her when she's gone". We each remember with love and affection our own Mother, and Grandmothers. Happy Mother's Day, one and all!

Lenten 2022 Message - "Lent is the time of grace that liberates the heart from vanity. It is a time of healing from addictions that seduce us. It is a time to fix our gaze on what abides" – Pope Francis

The Easter Timetable for your diary:

Maundy Thursday April 14th - 8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday April 15th – 10am Stations of the Cross 3pm Solemn Liturgy of the Passion

Holy Saturday April 16th – 8pm Easter Vigil (no 5.30pm Mass)

Easter Sunday April 17th – 8am Mass & 10am Mass

Easter Bank Holiday Monday April 18th – 10am Mass for Peace in Ukraine

Readers and altar servers for Holy Week

We need additional readers and servers for the Easter ceremonies. Please add your name to the list in the Sacristy. All existing rotas are suspended for this period.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14 May 2022 at 3pm

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their **5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please send to the parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) by Tuesday 29 March.

Readers Rota

26 March 5.30pm

Jennifer Bourke

27 March 8am Freda Adzinku

27 March 10am

Readings Ray & Alex Kulanthai, Bidding prayers Monika Tabarrok

2 April 5.30pm

Lily Meghji

3 April 8am Audrey Da Costa

3 April 10am

Readings Derrick & family, Bidding prayers Tim & Mel Goodger

Counters Rota

27 March

Richard Wong, Pearly Jesuthasan

3 April

Amal Graham, Patricia Cleary, Marcello Borgese

Church Cleaning Rota

2 April

Team C: Dominick Martins, Elaine & Derrick Pereira and Elvira De Souza

9 April

Team A: Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle, Lisa Harris, Beatrice McAdam and Zizo Ziwanah