

St. William of York Catholic Church



PARISH PRIEST
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MASS TIMES

Sunday
8.00 am & 10.00 am

Weekdays
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.30am
Thursday No Mass
Friday 7.00 pm
Saturday 5.30 pm (Vigil of Sunday)

Confessions Saturday 11.00-12.00 in church,
or by personal arrangement with Fr Jonathan

Third Sunday of Easter (Year C)

1/2 May 2022

Saturday 30 April

Third Sunday of Easter (Year C)

17.30 Vigil Mass
Jennifer & Daniel Bourke
and their intentions

Sunday 1 May

8.00 Mass For the people of the parish

10.00 Mass Michael Ride RIP
(Anniv)

Monday 2 May

St Athanasius - *Memorial*
9.30 Mass Anne Rodé RIP
(Birthday)

Tuesday 3 May

Ss Philip and James - *Feast*
9.30 Mass Richard & Crecidda
Afonso (Thanksgiving)

Wednesday 4 May

English Martyrs - *Feast*
9.30 Mass Marie Deveney RIP

Thursday 5 May - Easter ferial
No Mass

Friday 6 May - Easter ferial

11.00 Funeral Mass for
Bridie Stapleton
No 19.00 Mass *this week*

Saturday 7 May - Easter ferial
No Mass

11.00-12.00 Confessions
Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)
Good Shepherd Sunday – Annual
Priest Training Fund Collection
17.00 Rosary
17.30 Vigil Mass
Sarah Corrigan RIP

Sunday 8 May

8.00 Mass Mr & Mrs James
McDermott (Anniversary)
10.00 Parish Mass For the
people of the parish

Third Sunday of Eastertide (Year C)

The readings for today's Masses are to be found in the *Parish Mass Book*, pages 266—8

The Book of Revelation (Apocalypse) is read throughout Eastertide. Many people find its content strange, and its ideas difficult to understand. And yet the early Church included it in the **list of inspired books belonging to Holy Scripture**, even though as far back as the 4th century there were people who had serious reservations about it. It is a wonderful book—*full of hope!*—though it does not minimise the problems faced by those who walk the way of faith. In various parts of the world at the present time Christians are under attack from non-Christian forces, and indeed in some places they are shedding one another's blood (as happened in our country in the 16th and 17th centuries. In a variety of other countries and societies persecution may not be open, but following Jesus today is almost everywhere, as at the beginning, very difficult and full of risk. It is worth noticing that the theme of *praise* and thanksgiving is more present in the Book of Revelation than in any other NT writing. It makes it very fitting for the Easter season; but more significantly perhaps it is a reminder of the many blessings that are experienced by those who are persecuted for Jesus.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 5, 27 – 32, 40 – 41: We find here a description of the events which followed the imprisonment of the apostles on the orders of the high priest and the Sanhedrin (the Jews' ruling council, even under Roman occupation). While in prison, an angel had opened the door and told the apostles to go to the Temple and preach to the people. When the high priest heard this he ordered them to be re-arrested. It is at this point that today's reading commences. The apostles are again accused of proclaiming Jesus' name, and with blaming the authorities for his death. Peter replies very simply that they are merely giving witness to what God was doing in and through Jesus. Now everyone can confidently repent and experience forgiveness, peace and new life. The apostles are repeatedly warned not to speak in the name of Jesus but we know from what they have said already that they can't help themselves. The gospel must be proclaimed; it cannot be held in.

Second Reading: Revelation 5, 11 – 14: In this book, the last of the NT and ascribed to John, writing on the island of Patmos, a very firm and strong message of hope is given to the early church, which is experiencing difficulties in various places around the Roman Empire. The message is expressed in symbolic language and relies heavily on images and ideas from the old testament. In today's reading John has just witnessed the presentation of the 'sacrificed Lamb' before God's throne in heaven. (Jesus is the Passover lamb, who though he was sacrificed now lives forever.) The vision concentrates on the fact that all of creation, both in heaven and on earth, is united in a tremendous outpouring of praise to Jesus (the Lamb) and the Father (the One sitting on the throne). The four animals represent the natural order, and the elders represent the praying Church. All now join in praise for they know that the Lamb has overcome death,

therefore he cannot die again, and therefore nothing can stop our union with God.

Gospel reading: John 21.1—19: This gospel is a reminder to us that *without living faith in the presence of Christ* the Church easily comes to behave like any other religious institution. To know our true identity as People of God we must be able to answer that question posed by Jesus: 'Do you love me?'

Fr Jonathan

would like to thank everybody for their very generous Easter offerings as well as all their good wishes for the Easter season.

Rosary

During the month of May, a month as we all know dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, **the Rosary will be said in Church at 1700 on Saturdays**, in preparation for the Vigil Mass. You might consider making this a regular devotion this month, as a preparation for whichever Sunday mass you attend (Sat 1730, Sun 0800 or 1000)

Priest Training Fund

Next Sunday - 7/8 May - is so-called "Good Shepherd" Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Easter when the gospel is always about Christ the Good shepherd. It is therefore the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood.

The annual diocesan collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place next weekend. That fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood in our diocese. There is currently a total of 58 men studying at Allen Hall seminary (in central London), 17 of whom are from our diocese, and there are two men studying in Rome, also from our diocese. Last year four men who studied at Allen Hall were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests.

This fund also supports the ongoing formation of our serving priests. Your generous donation helps to ensure we can support these men who are called to conform their lives, for the Church's sake, to Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation envelopes are available at entrance to the church. **Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back to church next weekend with your donation.** If you prefer you can use the QR code on the envelope to make your donation online, or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity. And please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood and for your priests.

Bridie Stapleton RIP

The funeral of Bridie Stapleton will take place in this church on Friday 6 May at 11am. Committal will be at 12.15pm at Harrow Weald Cemetery.

First Holy Communion 26th June 2022

Please keep Dylan, Gustave, Jedwil, Kevin, Lorenzo, Taison and their families in your prayers as they continue their preparation for First Holy Communion. This Sunday, during 10am Mass, their Baptismal Candles will be re-lit from the Paschal Candle. The children are now old enough to hold their own baptismal candle rather than it being held on their behalf by a godparent. This signifies that they are growing up into their own faith as they take the next step in their Catholic life by preparing for their First Holy Communion. Please remember them on Sunday 22nd May when they will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation as they make their first confessions during their FHC lesson.

Help needed in the repository after 8am Mass on Sunday mornings

Please call Sue Mason on 020 8954 0090 for further information.

Counters Rota

New collection counters are needed. If you are able to help after the 10am Mass on Sundays please contact Alec via text on 07860 622831. Your services would be required once every five weeks.

Cleaning Team - additional support sought to supplement and increase our Saturday Cleaning Teams numbers. Cleaning takes place each Saturday from 9.30am – either put your name down on the list in the Porch, or turn up on a Saturday and join our dedicated band of cleaners.

Readers Rota

30 April 5.30pm John McIntyre 1 May 8am Rose Okosi

1 May 10am Readings Aude & Eduardo, Bidding prayers Georgia Nwawulor

Counters Rota 1 May Richard Wong

Church Cleaning Rota

7 May Team B: Tim Goodger, Monica O'Shea, Laura Willoughby, Vere Massy and Indre Balcaite