# St. William of York Catholic Church



PARISH PRIEST Fr Jonathan Goodall, 1 Du Cros Drive, Stanmore HA7 4TJ

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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** on **Saturdays 4.15-5.15pm** in church, or by personal arrangement with Fr Jonathan

3/4 September 2022

### 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday 3 September

4.15-5.15 Confessions5.30 Vigil Mass of SundayVincent Dias RIP

SUNDAY 4 September 23rd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

(Year C) [Daily Office Psalter wk 3]8.00 Mass People of the parish10.00 Parish Mass

Olivia & Donald Martins RIP

Monday 5 September Feria 23<sup>rd</sup> Week of the Year 9.30 Mass Ignatius Dias RIP

**Tuesday 6 September** Feria 23<sup>rd</sup> Week of the Year 9.30 **Mass** Roque Dias RIP

Wednesday 7 September Feria 23<sup>rd</sup> Week of the Year 9.30 Mass Dennis Allman RIP (Wedding anniversary)

Thursday 8 September
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin
Feast

No Mass day

Friday 9 September

Feria 23rd Week of the Year Friday abstinence

7.00pm **Mass** 

Anna & Vincent Rodrigues RIP

Saturday 10 September

Feria 23<sup>rd</sup> Week of the Year No morning Mass

4.15-5.15 **Confessions**5.30 **Vigil Mass** of Sunday

Bridie McNicholas RIP

## SUNDAY 11 September 24th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

(Year C) Education Sunday: Retiring collection[Daily Office Psalter wk 4] 8.00 Mass People of the parish 10.00 Parish Mass In thanksgiving to God (Martins family) **NEW TO ST WILLIAM'S?** *Please,* make yourself known to the priest and to others. You are very welcome, and we are pleased to see you.

### **BEFORE EACH SUNDAY MASS BEGINS – A PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

ALMIGHTY GOD, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

After this prayer, until the bell at the start of Mass, please pray in preparation for worship. It is a support to others' prayer – and your own – if you keep quiet, young children excepted!

AND AFTER THE 10am SUNDAY MASS there are refreshments (often homemade cakes), and chance to connect in fellowship in the Parish Hall – our 'cenacle', our 'Upper Room' – after the 10 o'clock Mass.

### **23rd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

The **Order of Mass** can be followed in the red Parish Mass Book -- first **from p.7**— then after the Bidding Prayers, from **p.15**, and from the Lord's Prayer, **p.56**. (New Sunday Mass cards, that will be <u>far</u> simpler to follow, and help you participate, are in preparation.)

The **Readings** for today's Mass are to be found in the red Parish Mass Book on pp.133—35

The psalm response is: O Lord, You have been our refuge: from one generation to the next.

Welcome back to all who – including me – have been away from Stanmore or visiting relatives and friends or away on holiday. It is good to be back, and to see you all. Today's readings turn our attention to wisdom. When we say someone is 'very wise', what do we mean? Is it that she/he is clever, intelligent, knowledgeable? Or is it that there's *balance* in their judgement? We often associate wisdom with *older* people as if it's life experience, digested and reflected upon, that contributes most to being wise. But then again, we all recognise the possibility that a teenager can have great wisdom and maturity; and older people the opposite. Wisdom is the first in the list of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. It seems to depend on two things: first, what it is in life that we have had to face personally, or to accompany or observe other people in facing; and, second, *how* we have reflected on that experience – and in particular if we face life's questions and challenges (ours or other people's) with faith, hope and love, or not.

First Reading (Old Testament): Wisdom 9.13–18 No matter how much we scheme, plan or make elaborate projects for our lives, and no matter how careful we seem to be, once our plans have been realised we often discover they have not turned out *anything* like we had imagined or even hoped. Many of the great questions we pose to life remain unanswered. Today's reading has a

contemporary ring to it. It focuses on human limitations and on how deficient our knowledge is. We often wish

for a good overview of the whole picture, and we want the benefit of hindsight *in advance*! But insight always comes to us as a gift, a revelation, something we didn't previously know. We need a listening heart. Jesus warned, 'Be careful, and notice *how* you listen' (Lk 8.18); and St Augustine, like St Benedict in his *Rule*, used to encourage listening with the *heart*, not receiving words outwardly through the ears, but *spiritually* with our hearts: "Do not have your heart in your ears, but your ears in your heart".

Second Reading (New Testament): Philemon vv 9–10, 12–17 The letter 'to Philemon' (possibly a bishop of the house church that met in his home) is the shortest of all the New Testament writings, just 335 words. Written by Paul about the year 55, it was sent with his former slave Onesimus who, on becoming a Christian became a free man. The letter is a request that the human dignity of this former slave be respected, and that, now he's a brother in Christ, he should be treated in a way that befits his new dignity. Paul appeals to the insight and wisdom of his friends.

Gospel: Luke 14.25–33 Here Jesus appeals to wisdom too. He leaves no uncertainty about the commitment, and the sacrifice, that He expects those who throw in their lot with him will be prepared to make to become his disciples. Once that decision is taken, the priority becomes the kingdom of God and its values. Whether one is up to it or not is entirely a decision the individual takes. In today's world every employment has a job description. Any applicant must examine what it involves, what it asks of her, what gifts he has that might help him with its challenges. Then she/he decides. The example Jesus puts before candidates for discipleship mixes practical wisdom with generosity of disposition. We must be in touch with our own capacities, their own talents and abilities, and be clear what the calling will ask of us. Christian faith and life is not for people who want to coast along in a private world.

**DAILY MASSES have resumed** Those who do not already attend Mass on a weekday: may I encourage you to try to give priority to bring your daily life and work to the Lord. If the times don't suit you — especially if you work or are at school or college — please *tell Fr Jonathan* what time *would* suit you, and help you to come once (or even twice) in the course of an ordinary week, and make the Mass part of ordinary daily life.

### **EDUCATION SUNDAY 2022**

There will be a (second) retiring collection next Sunday for the Catholic Education Service. **Bishop Marcus Stock,** the *Bishop of Leeds and* Chair of the Catholic Education Service, says in his message for next Sunday:

The theme of this year's Education Sunday is 'Enlightening the Mind' and is based on the Gospel: "If you make my word your home you will indeed be my disciples, you will learn the truth, and the truth will make you free" (John 8:31f). Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and the revelation of His word, is "the foundation of the whole educational enterprise in a Catholic school. His revelation gives new meaning to life and helps children and adults to direct their thought, action and will according to the Gospel, making the beatitudes their norm in life" (Cf. Dicastery for Catholic Education's *The Catholic School*, §34).

As we prepare for Education Sunday let us give thanks in prayer for all the staff in our Catholic schools, colleges and universities, and pray that our lives will be enlightened always by the truth which comes from Christ, the Eternal Word of God.

THE BRING & SHARE LUNCH IS GETTING CLOSER In place of this year's St William's Day lunch (which clashed with Pentecost this year) the Hall Social Committee is arranging a Bring and Share Lunch on Sunday 18 September. Please note it in your diary, and plan to be there. Fr J

Claudette writes: "Please come! And please do bring some cooked food to share. If you find it hard to decide what to bring, please take a peep into the suggestions folder in the church entrance lobby (on the right as you leave). Please also write your name, and the number of people who will be attending the lunch with you on the day. This will help for catering purposes. Both folders will stay out until Sunday 11 September. Thank you."

**REMEMBER THE CONFIRMATION MASS** -- **10am on 25 September** As our local bishop, Bishop John Sherrington, comes to celebrate Mass, the whole parish *ought to come together to this Mass* if at all possible. If you normally come to the Vigil or the 8am, please try to do so.

**Readers Rota** 3 September 5.30 Noreta Reece 4 September 8.00 Amalie Direkze

<u>4 September 10.00</u> Readings John McIntyre, Bidding prayers Carol-Anne Chandler 10 September 5.30 TBC 11 September 8.00 Daphne Byron

11 September 10.00 Readings Carol-Anne Chandler, Bidding prayers Patrick & Joseph Arthur

Counters Rota <u>4 September</u> Walter Acuti, Beatrice McAdam

11 September Judith Brightwell, Monica Assoku, Funmi Da Silva

Church Cleaning 10 Sept Tm B: Tim Goodger, Monica O'Shea, Laura Willoughby, Vere Massy and Indre Balcaite

<u>17 September</u> Team C: Dominick Martins and Elaine & Derrick Pereira