

St William of York Catholic Church, Stanmore



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 on Saturdays 4.30-5.20pm
in church or by arrangement with Fr Jonathan

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

15/16 April 2023

Sat 15 Saturday in Easter Week

4.30 **Confessions**

5.30 **Vigil Mass** Janet Fernando RIP

After Mass Chaplet of Divine Mercy

SUNDAY 16 April

SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER

'Divine Mercy' Sunday

8.00 **Mass** People of the parish

10.00 **Parish Mass** and Regina caeli

Aida Millar RIP

After Mass Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Mon 17 Feria of Easter 2

Psalter wk 2 9.30 **Mass**

Intentions Deepani Fernando

Tues 18 Feria of Easter 2

9.30 **Mass** Sr. Veronica Rennie

Wed 19 St Alphege of Canterbury,
Memorial

9.30 **Mass** Maria Shukla (Thanksgiving)

Thurs 20 Feria of Easter 2

No Mass Day

Fri 21 St Anselm of Canterbury,
Memorial

Day of abstinence

7pm **Mass** Jennifer and Daniel

Sat 22 Feria of Easter 2

4.30 **Confessions**

5.30 **Vigil Mass** Tom O'Brien RIP

SUNDAY 23 April

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

8.00 **Mass** Peter Pienarosa RIP

10.00 **Parish Mass** and Regina caeli

People of the parish

1pm **Holy Baptism**

WELCOME to Mass today, especially if you are new or an occasional worshipper. **Please take this newsletter home**, and use the calendar to help you pray.

PREPARATION FOR MASS 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.

After the prayer, please keep silent until the bell begins the Mass.

ORDER OF MASS See the gold *Parish Mass Book* – start on **p.7**; then, after the Bidding Prayers, go to **p.15**; then, from the Lord's Prayer, **p.56**. Today's **readings** are to be found **pp.255-8**. The **psalm response** is '**Give thanks to the Lord for He is good: for His love has no end.**'

AFTER MASS 1 - Regina caeli is sung During the 50 days of Easter the Angelus is replaced by a different prayer. Like the Angelus it is said morning, noon and evening: 6, 12 and 6 normally. Here are the words of the prayer. Please, use it (and learn it) from now till Pentecost.

Sung: Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia.

He whom thou wast graced to bear, alleluia.

As he promised, hath arisen, alleluia.

Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia.

OR Said: Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

All He whom you merited to bear, alleluia

Has risen as he said, alleluia.

All Pray for us to God, alleluia

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

All For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. / O GOD, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For those who wish to stay 10 more minutes the **Divine Mercy Chaplet** will be said at the Sacred Heart Altar after the 5.30 Vigil and 10am Sunday Masses. (You don't need a rosary with you!) Why not make *this week* a chance to learn the chaplet of the Divine Mercy. It's easy and a third of the length of the Rosary. Maybe say it each day with the Friars of the Renewal. That's how

I began. www.youtube.com/watch?v=MsN612nNjig

Also, after the 10am Mass, you are also most welcome in the Parish Hall for a drink and goodies, and chance to connect. Plenty of time to talk then (not before Mass)!

REFLECTIONS on today's readings Three years ago we were in our first 'lock-down'. The Church prayed its way through Holy Week to Easter behind closed doors for the first time in centuries. Perhaps we have learned afresh—perhaps! ...—what a joy and a freedom it is that *the weekly Christian gathering—the Lord's Day*—is still, to some

extent, a privileged day, set apart from others in our money-driven society. The disciples of Jesus and those who joined them in those early days, as news of His resurrection spread (described in the first reading today), all realised that an *essential* element of discipleship was creating community. Robbed as we were of our Lord's Day (Sunday) Mass, it is instructive for parishes now to reflect on *what defined those early Christian communities*. What defines us? They met in one another's houses, they read and listened to the Scriptures, they sang sacred songs and they broke bread. Two challenges lie before us: Have we returned to church with a new appreciation of why the Sunday Mass is so valuable to us? and, Has conversion of heart, and a resolve to follow Jesus in a new and deeper way, been the fruit of our Covid-19 exile? How does our community as a parish need to change, and to grow, to reflect the new life Jesus commands us to proclaim?

First Reading (NT): Acts of the Apostles 2.42-7 Those forty days during which Jesus appeared to His disciples and the ten days of intense prayer in the upper room between His ascension and Descent of the Holy Spirit transformed those disciples, from cowardly and tongue-tied men and women, into resolute missionaries. Energised by their experience of Jesus risen from the dead—as He promised—and propelled by the Spirit that filled them, they went out and bore witness to Jesus's power to all and sundry, and many were converted to faith in the risen Lord. This short reading presents a sketch of the fundamentals of day-to-day life of those first Christians in Jerusalem. How clearly can we recognise the key elements of our own Christian community in 2023, and of the activities which define us: gathering in the Lord's name, listening to his word, singing together and professing our faith with one voice, and sharing with one another and with the poor.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Peter 1.3-9 Peter reminds the Christian community to which he is writing that, despite the trials which they may experience, their faith in the risen Lord will make them strong and steadfast. As if he were thinking back to the event on the second Sunday after Easter described today in the Gospel, Peter reminds them that *they need not have seen* the risen Lord to *believe* in him.

Gospel: John 20.19-31 Thomas, known as 'doubting', here makes the greatest proclamation of faith in the divinity of Jesus in the pages of the New Testament. They are the words Christians have used for centuries to hail the Blessed Sacrament elevated at Mass: 'my Lord and my God'.

Fr Jonathan wants to take this opportunity to thank very warmly all those who worked hard (in many different ways) to make the liturgies of Holy Week so prayerful and uplifting, and also to those who have given thanksgiving offerings for his ministry. Please be assured of his gratitude and prayers. He will be taking a short break sometime in the coming weeks, with as little disruption to the Mass schedule as possible.

Planned Giving envelopes We've done better than last year ... but there are still a few boxes. The list of names of the uncollected boxes is on the board. Please, collect from the outer Sacristy.

Next weekend (23rd) will have a St George's flavour Come to church hungry – not only for Jesus in the Gospel and the Sacrament; but for English tea time treats in the Hall after the 10am Mass.

The King's Coronation: 6 May In the days leading up to the Coronation, the Catholic Bishops Conference has asked us all to keep three days of prayer for God's blessing on our new monarch: W 3rd, Th 4th, F 5th May. Prayer cards will be printed and distributed from the Secretariat of the Conference to all churches. The **7.00pm Mass here on Friday 5th May will be a Mass 'pro Rege'**: for the King. Please plan to come, and pray both for His Majesty The King, for our nation, and all nations with which we have special historic bonds via the monarchy. The presidents of Churches Together in England (including HE The Cardinal) are asking all Christians to join in a period of prayer leading up to the Coronation: 'The forthcoming Coronation is a moment of great importance and joy for this nation. As Presidents of CTE, we invite Christians from all traditions to join together in a period of daily prayer, for both the King and the nation, from Easter Day through to 6 May.' You can sign up for a free daily prayer reflection leading up to 6 May at <https://www.churchofengland.org/coronation/reflections>

Holy Land pilgrimage for free!? ... Yes, if you are between 21 and 35, you can apply to the British Trust for Tantur for this fully-funded ecumenical pilgrimage in April 2024. *What does the Church's work of reconciliation look like in a world increasingly characterised by conflict and polarisation?* That's the question a group of young Christians will be engaging with as they visit the Holy Land from 15—27 April 2024. Normally the British Trust for Tantur (an ecumenical institute outside Jerusalem) offers grants for study. Next year, however, it is organising a fully funded ecumenical pilgrimage for a group of 30 21-35 year-olds who exercise some sort of leadership role within a church context. Apply now ... <http://www.tanturbritishtrust.org.uk/pilgrimage/> The closing date is the end of this month!

Readers Rota

15 April 5.30 Noretta Reece 16 April 8.00 Rose Okosi 10.00 Carol-Anne Chandler, Nwawulor Family

22 April 5.30 Martin Rush 23 April 8.00 Freda Adzinku 10.00 Maureen Ruane, Robert Chandler

Church Cleaning Rota 22 April Team A: Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle, Lisa Harris and Beatrice McAdam