

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

29/30 April 2023

Sat 29 St Catherine of Siena

Co-patron of Europe 4.30 **Confessions**

5.30 **Vigil Mass** John Hartnett RIP

SUNDAY 30 April

FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER

Psalter wk 4 8.00 **Mass** Amalie Direkze

10.00 **Parish Mass** and Regina caeli

People of the parish

Mon 1 May St Joseph the Worker,

memorial [UK Bank Holiday]

9.30 **Mass** and Rosary

Sr. Margaret Mary Philip

Tues 2 St Athanasius, memorial

9.30 **Mass** and Rosary Anne Rodé RIP

Wed 3 St Philip and St James, Feast

9.30 **Mass** and Rosary

Sr. Catherine Ferguson

Thurs 4 The English Martyrs, Feast

No Mass Day

Fri 5 Feria of Easter 4

Optional day abstinence

7pm **Mass 'for the King'**

Sat 6 Feria of Easter 4

4.30 **Confessions**

5.30 **Vigil Mass** and Rosary

People of the parish

SUNDAY 7 May

FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER *Psalter wk 1*

8.00 **Mass** Mary Keogh RIP

10.00 **Parish Mass** and Regina caeli

Brendan Rice RIP

WELCOME to Mass today, especially if you are new or an occasional worshipper. **Please take this newsletter home.**

♦ **BEFORE 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.262-64**. The **psalm response** is, '**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**'

Priest Training Fund Collection **TODAY is Good Shepherd Sunday**, when we pray for vocations to the priesthood. It is also the day of the **annual collection for the Diocese's Priest Training Fund**. If you missed last week – please take an envelope today, and you can return it next week (or via the Presbytery) or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Please pray for vocations.

♦ **The REGINA CAELI** is **said after Sunday 8am Mass (see below)**; and **sung** after the 10 am Mass (see separate sheet). Please, use it daily (and learn it) from now till Pentecost.

Pr Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

All **He whom you merited to bear, alleluia.**

Pr Has risen as he said, alleluia.

All **Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

Pr Rejoice and be glad O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

All **For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia**

Priest Let us pray.. *All* **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.**

♦ **AFTER the 10am Mass today** you are also most welcome in the Parish Hall to share the goodies, and chance to connect. Plenty of time to talk then (not before Mass, please)!

REFLECTIONS on today's readings We are acutely aware as we live the crises of recent years (both international and national) how very precious and necessary *good leadership* is. There are different models of leadership and it is not clear what is most effective in any given crisis. Leadership is often judged in retrospect, by long-term results.

Leadership has always been a central preoccupation in the Church; and if the popes, bishops and priests who are canonized are anything to go by, the most highly esteemed model of leadership is that of the Good Shepherd. The very word 'pastor' means shepherd. The Christian people are often referred to as a flock and they look to their

pastors – the bishop and their parish priest – as a shepherd. Pope Francis urged the bishops to *smell* of their sheep! The good priest lives with his people, concerns himself with what gives them happiness and strengthens their faith, they are used to him speaking to them about issues of life, death and wellbeing, and they recognise his voice. But *the key* is that the characteristics which we value in our church leaders are the very qualities which the Hebrews of old ascribed to *God* – the *Lord* is my shepherd – and which Jesus ascribed to himself. The risen Jesus is present to us in the Church as good shepherd and today's Gospel highlights in him the qualities which the Church has come to expect of those committed with the pastoral care of God's people.

First Reading (NT): Acts of the Apostles 12.14, 36–41 The Pentecost address of Peter is at once missionary outreach and call to conversion. It set the tone for Christian proclamation and preaching down the ages. Salvation was offered to those who acknowledged their sins and converted their hearts. That message is central to the Church's preaching to this day.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Peter 2.2–25 Peter is writing here to the first generation of Christians. They have been set free, they are not slaves to sin any longer, though some have slipped into error, some have sinned. Wandering sheep though we are, the Lord has come to be the guardian and shepherd of our souls.

Gospel: John 10.1–10 The imagery of sheep and shepherd, and the relationship between them, appears frequently in both OT and NT. By the time John's Gospel was written these words of Jesus would also have expressed the relationship between the Apostles and those called to ministry in the early Church.

FUTURE EVENTS

Coronation Weekend 6 May Please use this prayer on each of the days of prayer that the bishops have asked for (W 3rd, Th 4th, F 5th May), and begin the festivities on Fri 5th, the evening before the Coronation, by joining the 7pm Mass 'for the King'. All weekend Masses will be as usual.

With those celebrations in view, for those who wish to take advantage of it, the Cardinal has given a dispensation from Friday abstinence that day.

Coronation lunch in the hall after 10am Mass on Sunday 7th May. Bring and Share. If you'd like to attend and/or contribute, please make an entry on the list as you leave today.

ALMIGHTY GOD, we pray, that Your servant Charles, our King, who, by Your providence has received the governance of this realm, may continue to grow in every virtue: that being filled with Your heavenly grace he may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil; and being blessed with Your favour may come at last into Your presence; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday 9 May is the annual **Day of Prayer for the Victims and Survivors of Sexual Abuse** initiated by Pope Francis. The epidemic is growing. You will have heard reports this week that the online presence of abusive material has doubled. *Please come to Mass specially that day if you can*, and/or keep it as a fast day: in penitence for the suffering of those who have experienced this crime, and for concrete responses to their need.

Sunday 14 May at 3pm, the annual **Procession in honour of Our Lady** will take place at the diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden. The preacher will be Fr Alan Robinson.

Thursday 1 June Visit of **Blessed Carlo Acutis's mother, Antonia Salzano**, will be visiting Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane (Covent Gdn). Following 6.30pm Mass, she will give a talk about her recently-beatified son, and his relationship with Our Lord. See the poster for details.

To be a Pilgrim There's a diocesan **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** from 19–27 November, led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. Costs are £2265 per person sharing, £682 single supplement. Booking forms are available now from or from elizabethuwalaka@rcdow.org.uk or Tangey Tours, www.tangey-tours.com/WHL. **OR** ... you can express interest in a *parish* pilgrimage next year on the lists in the narthex.

Help in Marriage – Do you feel alone in your marriage? frustrated or angry with your spouse? Do you argue, or just blank each other? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It means 'reunion'. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is a programme beginning on-line 6-9 July 2023 and one beginning in person 13-15 October 2023 (in Welwyn Garden City). For contacts see the poster in the narthex, or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk



Readers Rota

29 April 5.30 John McIntyre 30 April 8.00 Audrey Da Costa 10.00 Patrick & Joseph Arthur, Monika Tabarrok
6 May 5.30 Jennifer Bourke 7 May 8.00 Georgina Martins 10.00 John McIntyre, Derrick Pereira & family

Church Cleaning Rota 6 May Team C: Dominick Martins and Elaine & Derrick Pereira