

St William of York Catholic Church, Stanmore



PARISH PRIEST

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HALL ENQUIRIES: text message to 07973 601208 (Marcello Borgese)

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REP:
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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

EASTER SUNDAY

8/9 April 2023

Sat 8 HOLY SATURDAY

8pm **Easter Vigil** People of the parish
The Church's principal service of the year

SUNDAY 9 April

EASTER SUNDAY of the Resurrection

8.00 **Mass** Aida Millar RIP

10.00 **Sung Mass** John Mascarenhas

Mon 10 Monday in Easter Week

Psalter week 1

9.30 **Mass** Pope Francis

Tues 11 Tuesday in Easter Week

9.30 **Mass** Sam Wadood RIP

Wed 12 Wednesday in Easter Week

9.30 **Mass** For the intentions of Chaand

Thurs 13 Thursday in Easter Week

No Mass Day

Fri 14 Friday in Easter Week

No abstinence

7pm **Mass** Maria Shukla

(Thanksgiving)

Sat 15 Saturday in Easter Week

4.30 **Confessions**

5.30 **Vigil Mass** Janet Fernando RIP

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

WELCOME to Mass today. **Please take this newsletter home**, and use the calendar to help you pray.

After the 10am Mass ... in the Parish Hall – refreshments and chance to connect. Everyone welcome. Plenty of time to talk!

ORDER OF MASS Everything you will need is on the service paper either for the Vigil or the Mass of Easter Day.

REFLECTIONS on today's readings

St. Athanasius calls Easter 'the Great Sunday', and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week 'the Great Week.' The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ trampled Death by His death, infuses with its powerful energy our old and tired time, until all is subjected to Him. Over the last week we have seen, in both the gospel accounts and the Church's sacred liturgy, how the Way of the Cross opens up the way to Easter victory. "Therefore," states the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (par 1169), 'Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the 'Feast of feasts,' the 'Solemnity of solemnities,' just as the Eucharist is the 'Sacrament of sacraments' (the Great Sacrament).'

First Reading: Acts 10.34, 37—43 St Peter preaches about all of Jesus's activity before the crucifixion. The resurrection throws a decisive light on all of it. Jesus was *the true witness* to God. He introduces himself in the Book of revelation as 'the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth'. Thus He has authority to judge the whole world, and to forgive the sins of those who believe his witness. The essential task of the apostles, and the apostolic community (that is, us)—the 'chosen witnesses'—is to testify to His approval by God and commend Him to other's faith.

Second Reading: Colossians 3.1—4 'You have died', says St Paul. 'You have been raised. You are hidden with Christ in God.' Just as Christ's life was inseparable from the Father, so the life of a baptised believer is inseparable from the Risen Lord. His dying and His rising determine how we live in the world. Christ is often hidden—now as in His earthly life—from the sight and understanding of men and women, but whenever Christ becomes obvious in worldly terms, we and our faith are also exposed. Our deepest truth as baptised believers is *deeply united* to Christ – now, not after our death.

Gospel: John 20.1—9 As at Christmas the Gospel for the principal Mass of Easter, on the morning of the day itself, is a passage from St John, who always gets deep into the meaning of Christ. This passage is the culmination of St John's theme, throughout his gospel, of (simply) seeing and (truly) understanding – all rooted in this moment of revelation: 'he saw and he believed'. Though it is Mary of Magdala who does not go home, but stays, and comes to a real faith in the resurrection.

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Easter Envelopes Offerings in the Easter Offering envelopes, or any other personally labelled for Fr Jonathan, are part of the parish's traditional gift to their priest for his ministry. Planned-giving envelopes are also available today. If you use them please collect them too.

Regina caeli While we are becoming more familiar with the Angelus prayer, few realize that this prayer is replaced during the 50 days of Easter by the Regina caeli 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. We will use it after the Sunday Masses.

EITHER say: Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.
Has risen, as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

OR sing: Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia.
He whom thou wast fit to bear, alleluia.
As he promised, hath arisen, alleluia.
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia.

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
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.

Divine Mercy Sunday – next Sunday 'Divine Mercy Sunday' (introduced by Pope St John Paul II in 2000 when he canonised St Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun and visionary who received apparitions of Our Lord in the 1930s) falls on the Second Sunday of Easter, a day when the Gospels speak directly of the mercy of Jesus. Jesus promised St Faustina that on the feast 'the very depths of my tender mercy are open' and 'the soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment'. Why not make this week a chance to learn, using ordinary Rosary beads, the chaplet of the Divine Mercy. It's easy and a third of the length of the Rosary. Listen each day to the Friars of the Renewal www.youtube.com/watch?v=MsN612nNjig

FUTURE EVENTS

Next Wednesday, there will be an Open Evening at St James, Spanish Place W1U 3DE for men interested in learning about a sense of calling to the priesthood. The 6pm evening Mass will be followed in the social centre by a presentation and refreshments. The nearest tube stations are Bond Street and Baker Street. This meeting has the added benefit of being the parish of the most recent Rector of the English Seminary in Rome. *FrJG*

May Procession On Sunday **14th 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.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes The Cardinal will lead the annual Lourdes Pilgrimage from **21–28 July**. Places are limited. To avoid disappointment, go to www.rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/ for further details and a link to Tangey Tours to book. Or contact the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7 798 9173.

A PARISH PILGRIMAGE? ... to the Holy Land? To gauge parish interest in a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, **late this year or early next**, would you sign the notice on the tables in the narthex. Unlike most tours, we would *begin* in Bethlehem ...

Readers Rota (a detailed rota for this weekend has been sent via email)

Holy Saturday 8pm Crystelle & Elaine Pereira, Martin Rush, Monika Tabarrok

Easter Sunday 8am Amalie Direkze

Easter Sunday 10am Robert Chandler, Monika Tabarrok, Tim Goodger

15 April 5.30 Noretta Reece

16 April 8.00 Rose Okosi

16 April 10.00 Readings Carol-Anne Chandler, Bidding prayers Nwawulor Family

22 April 5.30 Martin Rush

23 April 8.00 Freda Adzinku

23 April 10.00 Readings Maureen Ruane, Bidding prayers Robert Chandler

Church Cleaning Rota

15 April Team C: Dominick Martins and Elaine & Derrick Pereira

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