

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 4.30-5.15pm
in church or by arrangement with Fr Jonathan

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18/19 February 2023

Sat 18 Feb *Feria of 6th Week of Year*

4.30-5.15pm **Confessions**

5.30pm **Vigil Mass** Peter Amandini RIP
(Anniv)

SUNDAY 19 Feb

7th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (A)

Last Sunday before Lent. Psalter week 3

8.00 **Mass** People of the Parish

10.00 **Parish Mass and Angelus**

Mrs Stephen (Thanksgiving)

Mon 20 Feb *Feria of 7th Week of Year*

9.30 **Mass** Kay Jones

Tue 21 Feb **St Peter Damian,**

Memorial

9.30 **Mass** Colm Heslin

Wed 22 Feb **ASH WEDNESDAY |**

Lent begins. *Fast Day. Psalter week 4*

9.30 **Mass and Distribution of Ashes**

Patrick & Maureen Arthur

7pm **Mass and Distribution of Ashes**

People of the Parish

Thurs 23 Feb *Feria of Lent*

No Mass day **Gospel: Luke 9.22-25**

7pm **Reception and Vigil** for Aida Millar

Fri 24 Feb *Feria of Lent*

Friday abstinence

7.00pm **Stations of the Cross and**

Mass Rosalind Ethan RIP

Sat 25 Feb *Feria of Lent*

4.30-5.20pm **Adoration and**

Confessions

5.30pm **Vigil Mass**

Fr. James Anthony Boyle RIP

SUNDAY 26 Feb

1st SUNDAY of LENT (A)

Psalter week 1

8.00 **Mass** People of the Parish

10.00 **Parish Mass and Angelus**

Aida Millar RIP

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

TODAY - SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME The **Order of Mass** can be followed in the gold Parish Mass Book – first from **p.7**; then, after the Bidding Prayers – from **p.15**; then, from the Lord's Prayer – **p.56**.

- The **readings** for today's Mass are to be found **pp.139-141**
- Today's **psalm response** is, '**The Lord is compassion and love.**'

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

Difficulty remembering? Last time to remember **ABA**

The Angel of the Lord ... R/ **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Behold the handmaid ... R/ **Be it unto me according to Thy word.**

And the Word was made ... R/ **And dwelt among us.**

AFTER THE 10am MASS ... in the Parish Hall – refreshments and chance to connect. Everyone is very welcome.

Reflection It is impossible to calculate the extent of the influence that the Ten Commandments have had on moderating or improving human behaviour over the last tens of thousands of years in cultures where Judaism and then Christianity held sway. And of course there have been some dramatic circumstances where in those same cultures they have *totally* and *shockingly* broken down. But even in the multi-cultural society in which we now live, and in the global village we all inhabit, our judgement of what we believe to be right and 'good', and what we believe to be wrong and consider 'evil', they still take the Ten Commandments as their reference. Once again, they occupy a central place in the liturgy this Sunday. And the focus, as it was last week, is less on our relationship with *God*, and our duties towards Him, than on our complex and often unjust or self-centred relationships with one another. At a time of a crisis in our finances, a war on our continent, a climate crisis across the globe, and with an election appearing over the horizon, many people are focusing their attention on issues that will fundamentally shape our future. And Jesus's words, as He tries to drag His disciples (that is, the apostles *then*, and us *now!*) out of our comfort zone, are painfully relevant.

First Reading (OT): Leviticus 19.1–2, 17–18 The commandment to love one's neighbour as oneself is not new from Jesus; and if it appears first in the ancient Book of Leviticus, it is already referring back to creation itself –

to *God creating*, by the overflow of Himself, for God is love. And since he loves what He has created, He reveals to mankind in the commandments what kind of human life reflects love and holiness back to Him.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Corinthians 3.16–23 The idea of a person as a ‘temple of God’, being *inhabited* by his Holy Spirit, has *consequences*. A person can be inhabited by different and *competing* spirits. It is Paul’s desire that in the very divided community of Corinth God’s Holy Spirit should inhabit hearts and minds. We all know the terrible consequences for individuals, societies and communities (including church communities) when spirits, some evil and some good, are in competition.

Gospel: Matthew 5.38–48 ‘You have learnt what was said before ... BUT I’m saying to you now ...’ Mahatma Gandhi, not a Christian but someone with immense respect for Jesus, is a startling example from our age of the pacifist ideals outlined by Jesus in His attempt to encourage his listeners—and us—to push the commandments to their further limit.

UPCOMING ...

LENT begins on Wednesday

The key thing this week is to begin Lent when Lent begins. Don’t let Lent take you by surprise. Mass with Distribution of Ashes at **9.30am** and **7.00pm**

Extra opportunities for worship during Lent – keep an eye on the weekly diary

Adoration: Monday - Wednesday 9.00-9.30am, and Saturday (alongside Confessions) **4.30—5.20pm**

Wednesday immediately after the 9.30am Mass, **Chaplet of Divine Mercy** (a 10-minute devotion)

Friday at 7pm **Stations of the Cross**, immediately followed by the Mass

Friday 3 March CAFOD ‘Family Fast Day’ **Please take an envelope**, and plan ... This Family Fast day is an opportunity as a family or household to net three in one day! fasting, praying and almsgiving! to eat simply (or fast!), to pray better, and to give to others. This year your support will give families in Bangladesh – hit hard by the climate crisis – the tools and training they need to fight changes beyond their control.

From our Archbishop

1 The Cardinal’s Lenten Appeal 2023 All funds will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal’s Lenten Appeal: 1 Marriage & Family Life, 2 Youth & Evangelisation, 3 The Education Service, and 4 Caritas Westminster. Daily life is harder for all of us, but some are harder hit than others: HEAT or EAT is now a familiar choice to too many. The Church continues to respond, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/cardinals-appeal/>

2 Read or (better!) listen to his **Lenten Pastoral Letter** prepared for this weekend at <https://inside.rcdow.org.uk/clergy/pastoral-letters/>

3 Elsewhere he writes this to the diocese **about Lent**: “First, during these weeks of Lent please do all you can to place Jesus at the heart of your lives. We need a time of prayer every day bringing Him our worries and our joys. It doesn’t much matter how we pray: but it matters *that* we pray. Second, please let your faith express itself when you are with other people. For example, if someone is sharing with you their sorrow or distress, don’t hesitate to *tell them* you will pray for them or speak to them of the consolation you find in His presence. Third, I ask you this to renew the way you put faith *into action* in your lives. Be an echo of this week’s psalm response: ‘The Lord is compassion and love’. Building community, removing barriers, is doing the work of our Blessed Lord, and so much needed in our world. Every day gives us all opportunities to do this.”

7pm on Thursday (23rd) Aida Millar’s body will be received here at St William’s. The Funeral at 10am next day will be at St Joseph’s (HA3 5EE). All are welcome to both.

Readers Rota

18 February 5.30 Monica Clifford

19 February 8.00 Freda Adzinku

19 February 10.00 Readings Nwawulor family, Bidding prayers Carol-Anne Chandler

25 February 5.30 Lily Meghji

26 February 8.00 Audrey Da Costa

26 February 10.00 Readings Tim & Mel Goodger, Bidding prayers Patrick & Joseph Arthur

4 March 5.30 Noretta Reese

5 March 8.00 Georgina Martins

5 March 10.00 Readings Derrick Pereira & family, Bidding prayers Maureen Ruane

Church Cleaning Rota

25 February Team B: Tim Goodger, Laura Willoughby and Indrè Balčaitė

4 March Team C: Dominick Martins, Elaine & Derrick Pereira and Beatrice McAdam

11 March Team A: Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle and Lisa Harris