

St William of York Catholic Church, Stanmore



PARISH PRIEST

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

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Mr Robert Chandler
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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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

4/5 March 2023

Sat 4 Mar *Feria of Lent (Commem St Casimir)*

4.30-5.20pm **Adoration & Confessions**

5.30pm **Vigil Mass** Intentions of Lily

SUNDAY 5 Mar

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Psalter week 2

8.00 **Mass** People of the Parish

10.00 **Parish Mass and Angelus**

Fiona and Serena Ching

Mon 6 Mar *Feria of Lent 2*

9.00am **Adoration**

9.30 **Mass** Jackie Reddington

(Birthday)

Tue 7 Mar *Feria of Lent 2*

(Commem St Felicity)

9.00am **Adoration**

9.30 **Mass** Joseph Brightwell RIP

(Anniv)

Wed 8 Mar *Feria of Lent 2*

(Commem St John of God)

9.00am **Adoration**

9.30 **Mass and Chaplet of Divine**

Mercy Maria Ritina Dias RIP (Anniv)

Thurs 9 Mar *Feria of Lent 2*

(Commem St Frances of Rome)

No Mass day **Gospel: Luke 16.19-31**

Fri 10 Mar *Feria of Lent 2 – Lent fast day*

7.00pm **Stations of the Cross** and

Mass Bharati Shukla RIP

Sat 11 Mar *Feria of Lent*

4.30-5.20pm **Adoration & Confessions**

5.30pm **Vigil Mass** People of the Parish

SUNDAY 12 Mar

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Psalter week 3

8.00 **Mass** Private intention of

Chinyere Suleiman

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.

LENT: PRAY, FAST, GIVE

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.

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.155–157**
- Today's **psalm response** is, '**May your love be upon us O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.**'

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

Reflection on the Mass readings We believe in a God who is *involved* in human history. And, in the course of that history (people and their history being what they are!) He is also a God of *new beginnings*. Such new beginnings can be seen in the history of God's people as a whole. But they are frequently visible in the lives of each of us individuals, in our response to God's continual 'upward call' (as St Paul puts it) to holiness.

Such new beginnings in our own lives, or indeed in the Church's life, are one of our central preoccupations during the Lenten season. In the OT we see such fresh starts in the relationship between God and Adam, and Noah, and Abraham; then Moses, and Elijah. The prophets constantly call for it. In Jesus Christ, God himself became visible – and audible. Furthermore, God wants to be recognised in our day, to our contemporaries, through the Church. He wants to be seen and listened to *through us* and in the witness we give to Him. Individual lives yes, but our communal life above all. We who call ourselves Christian make God manifest in the world of today – or rather, we can, if we let Him shine through us, and make His appeal through us, to other men and women.

First Reading (OT): Genesis 12.1–4 With the collapse of the Tower of Babel, the relationship between God and his people seemed to have run into the sand. But with the call issued to Abraham God starts something new: what we call 'salvation history' – the history of God's saving plan for humanity. Abraham hears God's appeal: *leave* your country ... and your father's house! There is a promise attached. Blessings will be bestowed.

Abraham *does* leave, he sets out without knowing where his decision will lead him. (So many holy men and women in Christian history have done precisely that.) Abraham went over 600 miles across the Syrian desert; the length of Britain! The only light he had to illuminate his path was the promise and the friendship of God.

Second Reading (NT): 2 Timothy 1.8–10 The arrival of Jesus Christ in the weakness of human flesh was an “epiphany”—a totally new revelation—of God. It has become public, God wants to save all men and women. He calls all to Baptism, “the light of unchangeable life”, but also to work to spread this revelation and Good News brought about in the life and love of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 17.1–9 Only after Jesus had risen from the dead could the three apostles who were present with him at His transfiguration understand (at least a bit better) what they had witnessed. The cloud of light, and the voice from heaven, affirmed for them that Jesus was indeed Christ, the Son of the living God, the definitive new beginning for human beings. The Law and the Prophets (represented here by Moses and Elijah) pointed to this identity. The “beloved Son” was destined to suffer, and *that too* revealed Him: did not contradict His identity. It was a unique moment in the public life of Jesus and one which is described, in virtually identical terms, by Matthew, Mark and Luke. It marked a new beginning, not least in Jesus’ earthly life for it set him resolutely towards his passion and cross ... His ‘hour’.

UPCOMING ...

PRAY!

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: 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

FAST and GIVE!

Friday 3 March CAFOD ‘Family Fast Day’ **Please take an envelope.** Once you have filled the envelope and completed the Gift Aid form, **return it this Sunday or either of the next two.** Come Mothering Sunday (19 March) you will have an extra reason to thank God, having helped mothers in Bangladesh with the tools and training they need to fight climate changes beyond their control.

50% off Bach St John Passion in the Cathedral. No, not half as long, half the cost! Discount tickets for all parishioners. Thursday 16 March 7.30. Take advantage of a special offer of 50% off ticket prices. Go to <https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F005D88A31F16CD?did=saint50john>. Entering the offer code **SJP50** will unlock the discount for you. Why not plan to go with one or two fellow parishioners? Please mention it as widely as you like.

Grateful for your marriage? Thanksgiving Mass on 13 May 2023 at 2:30pm in the Westminster Cathedral. Please give Fr Jonathan **your names and postal or email address by 1 April**, so that you can receive a formal invitation around Eastertime.

Early notice! Monday 3rd April, at the start of Holy Week, the 7pm Mass will be followed by a performance of **Giovanni Battista Pergolesi’s** celebrated setting of the “Stabat Mater” – his last work, which he wrote at the age of 26 just before his death. (Running time approx 35 mins.) Soprano: Daniela Amasanti- DeBono; Mezzo soprano: Miho Sugita; Piano/Keyboard: Deborah Miles-Johnson.

Monthly service of song and prayer at St John’s Open to everyone. Marcello and Daniela play with the band. Next service Sunday 12 March at 5pm. Refreshments provided afterwards.

Readers Rota

4 March 5.30 Noretta Reece

5 March 8.00 Georgina Martins

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

11 March 5.30 Martin Rush

12 March 8.00 Rosemary Chukwulobelu

12 March 10.00 Readings Robert Chandler, Bidding prayers Nwawulor Family

Church Cleaning Rota

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

18 March Team B: Tim Goodger, Laura Willoughby and Indrè Balçaitè