

# 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

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

13/14 May 2023

**Sat 13** *Our Lady of Fatima*

4.30 **Confessions**

5.30 **Vigil Mass** and Rosary

Yvonne Jansz RIP &  
Natalie Koelmeyer RIP  
(Birthday anniversaries)

**SUNDAY 14 May**

**SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER** *Psalter wk 2*

8.00 **Mass** People of the parish

10.00 **Parish Mass** and Regina caeli  
Eric Chandler RIP (Anniv)

**Mon 15 May** *Feria of Easter 6*

9.30 **Mass** and Rosary

Robin Rodé (91<sup>st</sup> birthday)

**Tues 16** *Feria of Easter 6*

9.30 **Mass** and Rosary

Bridget Murphy RIP

**Wed 17** *Feria of Easter 6*

9.30 **Mass** and Rosary

Thanksgiving for the joy of Easter  
(Maria Shukla)

**Thurs 18** **ASCENSION DAY**

*Holy Day of Obligation*

9.30 **Mass** and Rosary

Josephine Austin (80<sup>th</sup> birthday)

7pm **Mass** Tricia & John Annessa

**Fri 19** *Feria of Easter 6*

*Friday abstinence*

No Mass Day

**Sat 20** *St Bernadine of Siena, Memorial*

4.30 **Confessions**

5.30 **Vigil Mass** and Rosary

Inez Amandini RIP

**SUNDAY 21 May**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY of EASTER**

*Psalter wk 3*

8.00 **Mass** Bill Gaynor RIP

10.00 **Parish Mass** and Regina caeli  
Charles RIP

**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. Fr Jonathan is away this weekend, and is delighted that **Fr Tony Pellegrini** is able to celebrate the masses for the parish.

◆ **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.268-70**. The **psalm response** is, '**Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**'

◆ **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.**

**Collection after Mass today – St Anne's Home for the Elderly** The Little Sisters of the Poor has been entrusted with special care for the elderly poor, of all nationalities and beliefs: welcoming and serving them with love and respect until death. Sr Marie will be with us at the Masses this weekend, and speak after Holy Communion about the mission and needs of the Sisters' work in Stoke Newington, founded in 1867 but rebuilt in 2005. *Please be as generous as you can.* You have a chance to use the 'contactless' donation machine that we're hoping to introduce in the parish.

**Today is also the Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians**, especially in the Middle East. May the Christians in these lands, of whichever allegiance, Catholic or Orthodox or Protestant, be strengthened in their faith so that they may continue steadfastly to give witness to Jesus Christ.

To learn more see our noticeboard; 'like' FACECharityUK on Facebook; or look up [www.facecharity.org](http://www.facecharity.org). To donate £10 text DAYOFPRAYER to 70450.

**This afternoon** at 3pm is the annual **Procession in honour of Our Lady** at the diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, NW10 9AX. The preacher will be Fr Alan Robinson.

**REFLECTIONS on today's readings** The Apostles and the growing circle of disciples – in their thousands – in the primitive Church, never forgot that prior to his departure Jesus gave them a **command**: to go to all nations. Indeed, one of the earliest sources of conflict among the members of the primitive Church (between those who had been brought up as Jews and those 'God-fearers' who had offered themselves for Baptism) was precisely the issue of *how open the community should be* to converts from the non-Jewish world.

They were also aware that Jesus had made them a **promise**. When He hinted that He might soon be leaving them, they questioned Him anxiously. Knowing their deep sense of insecurity and alarm at the thought of being 'abandoned' by Him, Jesus promised them that He would continue to be present among them in a new way. Soon they understood that Jesus was referring to his Spirit, who would be 'another' Advocate for them, like Himself. These two things – the **command** to preach and baptise, and the **promise** of the Spirit are spelled out in the first two readings.

**First Reading (NT): Acts of the Apostles 8.5–8, 14–17** Last week we heard of the selection of seven deacons. One of them, Stephen, was soon stoned to death for his powerful witness to the Word of God. As a result, many disciples fled to safety outside Jerusalem. One of them, Philip (another of last week's seven deacons, not to be confused with the Apostle Philip – he's a different man) fled north to Samaria. At that time the Samaritans (who were not quite gentiles, but certainly not Jews!) had been greatly impressed by a magician named Simon. But Philip's powerful preaching quickly changed all that. Astounded at the words that Philip spoke, and the miracles he performed in the name of Christ, this Samaritan town dropped the magician, were baptized, and fully embraced Christianity. But they needed the Spirit! So the Apostles Peter and John came down from Jerusalem, the Spirit was given to them. The mission to non-Jews had begun. The Spirit's presence *makes secure* all the other gifts the Lord has given us, and His presence enables us to give a braver and more powerful witness than we might ever believe! That is why any Catholic who is baptised, but not confirmed, should *think seriously* about being confirmed. And why those who are confirmed should stir up the Spirit in them!

**Second Reading (NT): 1 Peter 3.15–18** With the witness of Philip the Deacon-Evangelist ringing in our ears, St Peter tells the early Christians that there was no need to be afraid or hesitant about explaining to others what it was about Jesus that gave them so much hope. We live in depressing and worrying times, which can frighten us as much as others. But Christians ought to be able to give an account of the hope that comes from 'Christ in our hearts' (v.15). The Spirit is key.

**Gospel: John 14, 15 – 21:** It is important to reflect on his choice of words and on the role of the Spirit. An advocate pleads a person's cause, is on his or her side, He is there as a defender and guarantee that his client's voice will be heard. As the Church grew and expanded to other parts of the world, the Apostles and their fellow workers were keenly aware that in order to carry out the mission Jesus had given them they would need this advocate—an advocate who would stay with them—to sustain them and advance the cause of the Kingdom Jesus had commanded them (that is, us!) to proclaim.

## FUTURE EVENTS

**Next Thursday, 18 May, is ASCENSION DAY**, a holy day of obligation. Masses will be at **9.30am and 7pm**. Consequently, Fr Jonathan will take his day off on Friday which will be a No Mass day.

**Next week** is designated by the Vatican **57<sup>th</sup> World Communications Sunday**. You can find the Holy Father's message for the day at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wcd23-papal-message/>. Vital to the command of Jesus to preach the Good News is good communication, especially at a time of unprecedented disinformation which falsifies and exploits the truth. There will be a **second collection at all Masses next week**, if you feel you can donate to support the work of the new Communications Directorate of the Bishops' Conference. It works hard to forge positive relationships with the media to communicate news relating to every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church and her people.

**Our four First Holy Communion candidates** have been enthusiastically preparing for their special day on **Pentecost Sunday, 28th May**, at the 10am Mass. Last weekend at the 10am Mass, their parents passed to them their baptismal candles, re-lit from the Paschal Candle and signifying, as Fr Jonathan said, 'their decision to proceed in the light of faith and to enter into full communion with the Church in the Holy Eucharist'. **Please pray** for Anthony, Kaikenenna, Marco and Michael every day for the next two weeks.

## Readers Rota

13 May 5.30 Noreta Reece 14 May 8.00 Rosemary Chukwulobelu 10.00 Tim & Mel Goodger, Carol-Anne Chandler

20 May 5.30 Lily Meghji 21 May 8.00 Daphne Byron 10.00 Nwawulor family, Maureen Ruane

**Church Cleaning Rota** 20 May Team A: Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle, Lisa Harris and Beatrice McAdam

27 May Team B: Tim Goodger, Laura Willoughby, Indrė Balčaitė and Viktoriia Vrublevska