

ST WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC CHURCH

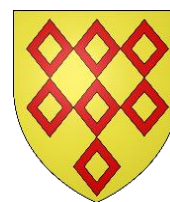
1 Du Cros Drive, Stanmore HA7 4TJ | 020 8954 1299 (Presbytery and Office) | stanmore@rcdow.org.uk
part of the Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity number 233699

Parish Priest: **The Revd Fr Jonathan Goodall**

Administrator: Mrs Frances Bright (10am-5pm Wednesday)

Safeguarding Representative: Mr Robert Chandler 020 8207 3509 or stanmoresg@safeguardingrcdow.org.uk

Hall Manager: Mr Marcello Borgese 07973 601208 (enquiries by text, with full name and preferred dates)



11-12 November 2023 – 32nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

This week's Masses, Intentions and Rosary	
Sat 11 R: Joyful 5.30pm	<i>St Martin of Tours, Memorial</i> <i>Armistice Day 1918</i> Mass – for Emil Fernando RIP (Anniversary)
SUN 12 R: Glorious 8am 10am 2.30pm	32nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR <i>Remembrance Sunday</i> Requiem Mass (Readings of the Day) – For Ann O'Grady RIP Parish Mass – for Clemente Del Ponte Blessing of Graves at Clamp Hill
Mon 13 9.30am R: Joyful	<i>Feria of the 32nd Week of the Year</i> Mass – for Kitty Kehoe RIP
Tues 14 9.30am R: Sorrowful	<i>Feria of the 32nd Week of the Year</i> Mass – for Neville and Janet Fernando RIP
Wed 15 9.30am R: Glorious	<i>St Albert the Great, Memorial</i> Mass – for Jerry and Mary Halpin (60 th Wedding Anniversary intentions)
Thurs 16 R: Luminous	<i>St Edmund of Abingdon, Memorial</i> No mass [Gospel: John 21.15-17]
Fri 17 7pm R: Sorrowful	<i>St Hild of Whitby</i> Mass – for the Burial of Joachim Mbazuigwe RIP
Sat 18 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>Basilicas of SS Peter and Paul, Memorial</i> Mass – for all Holy Souls
SUN 19 8am 10am	33rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Mass – for all Holy Souls Parish Mass – for Gus Burns RIP

- ◆ **Reconciliation (Confession)** 20 mins before any week-day Mass; or Saturdays from 4.30 to 5.15pm; or at any time by appointment
- ◆ **Baptism, Confirmation (First Communion), Anointing of the Sick, and Marriage:** all by appointment – please contact Fr Jonathan
- ◆ **Funerals:** by arrangement through Funeral Directors

Northwick Park Hospital for a chaplain contact 020 8967 5130

Returning to faith? or to the Church? You may find **Catholic Listeners** (a free telephone helpline) useful. 4–7pm, Mon, Tues and Fri, on 0800 448 0704 or catholiclisteners@gmail.com

Daily Christian art and faith on your phone Try it; you'll like it. <https://christian.art/daily-gospel-reading/>

Prepare for next Sunday's Mass

<https://instituteofcatholicculture.org/reflections/sunday-gospel> and

<https://www.wordonfire.org/videos/sermons/>

A WARM WELCOME to Mass today, especially if you are new to the parish. **Please take this newsletter home** and use the calendar in your daily prayer.

◆ **Before Mass, when the tower bell rings, pray together: 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. Please, let's now keep silence until Mass begins.**

◆ **Parents and carers** please do what you need to keep children content and quiet. Do not hesitate to move around at the back of the church. (The service is amplified into the Narthex too.) And, for everybody's safety, *please accompany* any child who needs to use the toilet. Thanks.

◆ **GIVE for GAZA: a plea from 'Embrace the Middle East'.**

If you missed last week's opportunity to contribute to the donation **to help the Christian parishes and institutions in Gaza** in the midst of the present this crisis for humanity, you can still do so. Simply place your donation in a sealed envelope marked 'Gaza', through the Presbytery letter box, **or give direct at embraceme.org/gazacrisis.**

◆ **The ORDER of Mass** on the new pew Mass Card.

◆ **Today's readings** are to be found on **pp.152-54** of the *Parish Mass Book*. The psalm response is: **'For You my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.'**

◆ **AFTER the 10am Mass** Drinks and often cakes, and *always* a chance to catch up and share fellowship.

REFLECTIONS on today's scriptures This Sunday's Liturgy invites us consider eternal life. On this point there is a clear difference between those who hope and those who don't. The Book of Wisdom says, 'Be alert for wisdom, and anxiety will soon leave you.' St Paul said to the Thessalonians: 'Don't remain in the dark about those who have died! Don't grieve like those who have no hope.' (4.13) He later reminded the Christians of Ephesus that before accepting the Good News they themselves 'had no hope, and were without God in the world' (Eph 2.12). The ancient pagan cults and myths, were unable to shed any light on the mystery of death; thus an ancient inscription said: 'How quickly we fall back from nothing to nothing.' If we remove God, we remove Christ and the world falls back into emptiness and darkness. It is a very clear contemporary problem—often unconscious—and unfortunately, touches the lives of a great many young people.

Today's Gospel is a famous parable that speaks of 10 maidens invited to a wedding feast: the key symbol of heaven and eternal life (Mt 25.1-13). It is a joyful image, but through

it Jesus teaches a truth that *challenges us personally*. In fact 5 maidens were admitted to the feast because they had brought oil for their lamps, but the other 5 were left outside because they were foolish enough not to have. What is this 'oil' that's so important for admission to heaven?

St Augustine and other ancient Christian writers interpreted the oil as a symbol of love which we can't buy,

which we're given, which we keep safe within, and use in charitable actions. True wisdom is making the most of earthly life with such acts of mercy, since, after death this will no longer be possible. Our personal judgement will be on the basis of how in this world we used the love that the Holy Spirit poured into us. Such love gives hope – like a lamp gives light through the night leading us to 'the Supper of the Lamb'.

IN TIME OF WAR For use daily at home Perhaps keep this near your TV or radio and pray in response to news?

Prayer for Israel-Gaza Mother of God and our Mother, Queen of Peace, we appeal for peace in the Holy Land! Touch the hearts of those imprisoned by hatred; turn those who fuel and foment conflict. Dry the tears of children and grieving parents – so many are weeping! Be present to the elderly; strengthen the wounded and the sick; protect those forced to leave their lands and their loved ones; give grace to every need. Through Christ our Lord.

Peace in Ukraine Mother of God, Our Lady of Kiev, intercede for the people of Ukraine and their government, and all who suffer as a result of war. Be with them as you stood by your Son. Give them strength and courage through faith, hope and justice. May we in our turn support them through prayer and generosity: so that lives may be saved, injuries healed, the dead may rest in peace, and there will be just peace after war. Through Christ our Lord.



Rarely has the Innocent Victims memorial at Westminster Abbey seemed so very relevant as in the last few weeks

Winter weather safety As the weather gets wetter, leaves fall, and then ice even snow appears: please take care in the car park, on the steps and approaches to the church and sacristy. They will be gritted, but please use your common sense too.

Looking ahead to Mark From Advent Sunday, which is two weeks away, we shall be reading St Mark's Gospel through the whole of next year's Sunday Masses. Why not dive deeper this year, buy a Gospel commentary and get to know the gospel as a *whole book*, not just weekly readings? Suggestions of what you might get, in next week's newsletter.

Weekly Almsgiving It is our aim to give an account of weekly collections and planned giving so that the parish has a clearer picture of our financial situation, which we shall have to address in the coming year.

No Christians in the Holy land? In 100 years the Christian population of Palestine has, astonishingly, fallen from 28% to 2%. Even before the present war, violence and oppression had caused Christians to migrate. The land so precious to the world-Church may soon be devoid of native Christians. **Please support them through a fund raising concert (hosted by the Friends of The Holy Land) on 14 December at 7.30 at Our Lady of Victories, Kensington High St W8 6SA** There is the a ticket price for the concert only (£30) and one to include a pre-concert Palestinian-themed buffet (£50 all in). www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/event/Christmas-concert-2023

First Confession and Holy Communion 2024 Starting in **January**, there will be classes most Sundays until First Holy Communion Mass at the end of May. **The application forms are now available – in the Narthex.** Please pass them to any Catholic family that has a child in year 3 or above.

November is the month of **Holy Souls**. St John Chrysostom said: 'Don't hesitate to help those who have died, and to offer prayers for them.'

All Souls envelopes for the lists of your departed loved ones together with a Mass offerings are available at the back of the church and in the pews. Those lists will then rest on the altar and be remembered throughout the month. November.

Week-long votive lamps From Advent Sunday, 3 Dec, we shall launch a new prayer initiative here that happens in many other parishes. A week-long lamp (£10 per lamp) will burn for your intentions in one of three places: the altar of Our Lady, or in the Sanctuary. The intention will appear in the Newsletter. Separate envelopes will be available.

Where do you get your news of the Church?

Have you tried these? The Church faces many challenges to its future: increase your faith, be informed!

- <https://catholicherald.co.uk/>
- <https://www.thetablet.co.uk/>
- <https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/>
- <https://cruxnow.com/>
- <https://www.pillaratholic.com/>

Christmas Cards are in! ... the Repository. They're from Aid to the Church in Need. Please support this.

Readers rota

11 Nov	5.30pm	Noreta Reece
12 Nov	8am	Audrey Da Costa
	10am	Tim & Mel Goodger, Robert Chandler
18 Nov	5.30pm	Noreta Reece
19 Nov	8am	Audrey Da Costa
	10am	Tim & Mel Goodger, Robert Chandler

Church Cleaning rota

18 Nov Team C	Dominick Martins, Elaine & Derrick Pereira
25 Nov Team A	Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle, Lisa Harris, Beatrice McAdam
