

# ST WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC CHURCH

1 Du Cros Drive, Stanmore HA7 4TJ | 020 8954 1299 (Presbytery and Office) | [stanmore@rcdow.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:stanmoresg@safeguardingrcdow.org.uk)

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

| <b>This week's Masses, Intentions and Rosary</b> |  |
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| <b>Sat 18</b><br>5.30pm<br>R: Joyful             | <i>Basilicas of SS Peter and Paul, Memorial</i><br><b>Mass</b> – For all Holy Souls  |
| <b>SUN 19</b><br>8am<br>10am                     | <b>33rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b><br><b>Mass</b> – For all Holy Souls<br><b>Parish Mass</b> – For Gus Burns RIP                       |
| <b>Mon 20</b><br>9.30am<br>R: Joyful             | <i>Feria of the 33rd Week of the Year</i><br><b>Mass</b> – Thanksgiving for recovery from sickness – Maria Shukla                  |
| <b>Tues 21</b><br>9.30am<br>R: Sorrowful         | <i>Presentation of the Virgin Mary (see inset pic)</i><br><b>Mass</b> – For Nora Balfe RIP   |
| <b>Wed 22</b><br>9.30am<br>R: Glorious           | <i>St Cecilia, Memorial</i><br><b>Mass</b> – For all Holy Souls  |
| <b>Thurs 23</b><br>R: Luminous                   | <i>St Clement I, Memorial</i><br><b>No mass</b> [Gospel: Luke 19.41-44]  |
| <b>Fri 24</b><br>7pm<br>R: Sorrowful             | <i>St Andrew Dũng-Lạc and his Companions</i><br><b>Mass</b> – For all Holy Souls   |
| <b>Sat 25</b><br>5.30pm<br>R: Joyful             | <i>St Katherine of Alexandria, Memorial</i><br><b>Mass</b> – Thanksgiving for recovery from sickness – Prakash Joshi               |
| <b>SUN 26</b><br>8am<br>10am                     | <b>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, King of the Universe</b><br><b>Mass</b> – For all Holy Souls<br><b>Parish Mass</b> – For Gladys Knox 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](mailto: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.**



Presentation of Mary, Titian

◆ **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.

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

◆ **Today's readings** are to be found on **pp.155-57** of the *Parish Mass Book*. The psalm response is: **'O blessed are those who fear the Lord.'**

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

**REFLECTIONS on today's scriptures** The word of God of this Sunday (the second to last of the liturgical year) warns us of the briefness of our earthly existence and invites us to live our lives as a *pilgrimage*, keeping our gaze fixed on the *destination* for which God created us. Meanwhile, 'as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ', we're encouraged to be vigilant and hardworking. Since both our personal deaths and judgement, and the Lord's coming and the Last Judgement, will come 'like a thief in the night (that is when you're not ready), we must live watchfully, not forgetfully. This is the perspective of the first two readings: from Proverbs and St Paul.

So far so good, but what does Jesus make of this perspective on life? In the well-known Parable of the Talents Jesus draws a picture of three servants, to whom their master entrusted his property before he set out on a *long* journey. Two of them behaved impeccably, doubling the value of what they had received. The third didn't – he simply buried the money he received in a hole! On his return, the

master asked his servants for an account of what they had done with what he had entrusted to them. And while he was pleased with the first two, he was disappointed with the third.

Indeed, the 'third man' calculated badly. He behaved as if his master would never return, as if there would never be a day on which he would be asked to account for his actions. With this parable Jesus wanted to teach his disciples to make good use of his gifts. He had after all chosen them *in order to give them gifts*; gifts that would make them apostles; gifts that would make the Church apostolic.

These are not the things we mean when we say that someone is a gifted person – having a natural talent for this or that. We are talking about spiritual gifts, from the Holy Spirit for our spirits and characters.

**WARS DON'T STOP** 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. Be present to the suffering; 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 to believe, to hope, to act justly. 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.

**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.

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

**missio boxes** Those of you who have returned your collecting box recently, will see them on the window ledge in the narthex – some with names, others without. Please would you collect them, and start contributing again? Perhaps keep it near your front door, and ask visitors to contribute too? The boxes will be collected in again in April.

### Redundant Filing Units

There are three in the hall lobby, which are available for disposal if anyone can make use of them. Anyone interested would need to make their own arrangements for transport. Donations would be welcome.

**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.*

|                   |                                     |                |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>12/11/2023</b> | <b>Loose Plate</b>                  | <b>£335.52</b> |
|                   | <b>Envelopes</b>                    | <b>£274.07</b> |
|                   | <b>Standing Orders &amp; Online</b> | <b>£130.17</b> |
|                   | <b>Total</b>                        | <b>£739.76</b> |

And the primary gift of God, as we are reminded at every Mass, is not life, work, family, justice, freedom, or peace; the greatest is love - God's love poured into our hearts, and poured in words and actions into the hearts of others.

In commenting on this Gospel passage St Gregory the Great noted that the Lord ensures that no one lacks the gift of His charity, of His love. 'If someone loses this gift that God has given him, he loses every good he possesses, he is deprived of the talent he received, and finds himself in darkness.'

Friends, let us accept the invitation to be watchful, which the Scriptures constantly remind us of! Because that is the attitude of those who know that the Lord will return and that He will wish to see the fruits of His love in us.

**Looking ahead to Mark** from 3 December the Church will begin reading St Mark at Sunday Masses. Why not start as you mean to go on? and invest in knowing this gospel (which is the shortest) a bit better. There are 167 commentaries on the market!

([bestcommentaries.com/mark/](http://bestcommentaries.com/mark/)) But here are five recommendations you might look for on Amazon: All good. 3 Catholic (\*) 3 Anglican; 3 short; 2 bit longer (more detail); 1 a really rewarding big read.

1. \*Pope Francis: *The Gospel of Mark* – Excerpts from his homilies and reflections
2. Rowan Williams: *Meeting God in Mark* – "There could be no better introduction to this enigmatic but profound Gospel"
3. N T [Tom] Wright: *Mark for Everyone* – fresh new translation and commentary
4. \*Scott Hahn *Ignatius Gospel of Mark* – In depth; lively
5. \*Mary Healy *The Gospel of Mark* – a 'companion' to the text
6. R T France *The Gospel of Mark* – possibly the best; a serious read, but then you can let it take a year!

**First Confession and Holy Communion 2024** Starts in **January** with 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 with a child in year 3 or above.

**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.

### Readers rota

|        |        |                                    |
|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| 18 Nov | 5.30pm | Jennifer Bourke                    |
| 19 Nov | 8am    |                                    |
|        | 10am   | Nwawulor family, Monika Tabbarok   |
| 25 Nov | 5.30pm | Lily Meghji                        |
| 26 Nov | 8am    | Amalie Direkze                     |
|        | 10am   | Carol-Anne Chandler, Maureen Ruane |

### Church Cleaning rota

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>25 Nov Team A</b> | Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle, Lisa Harris, Beatrice McAdam            |
| <b>2 Dec Team B</b>  | Tim Goodger, Laura Willoughby, Indrè Balçaitė, Viktoriia Vrublievska |