

ST WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC CHURCH

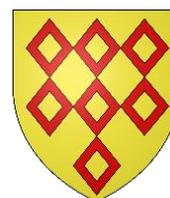
1 Du Cros Drive, Stanmore HA7 4TJ | 020 8954 1299 (Presbytery and Office) | stanmore@rcdow.org.uk
part of the Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity number 233699

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)



25-26 November 2023 – Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Christ is our victorious king: not in spite of the Crucifixion, but because of it.

“I call Him king, because I see Him crucified.” (St John Chrysostom)

This week's Masses, Intentions and Rosary	
Sat 25 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>St Katherine of Alexandria, Memorial</i> Mass – Thanksgiving for recovery from sickness – Prakash Joshi
SUN 26 R: Glorious 8am 10am	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, King of the Universe Mass – for peace in Ukraine Parish Mass – for Gladys Knox RIP
Mon 27 9.30am R: Joyful	<i>Feria of the 34th Week of the Year</i> Mass – for Maria Mendes RIP (1 st Anniversary)
Tues 28 9.30am R: Sorrowful	<i>Feria of the 34th Week of the Year</i> Funeral Mass – for the repose of the soul of Andrew Cusick
Wed 29 9.30am R: Glorious	<i>Feria of the 34th Week of the Year</i> Mass – for David Mullins RIP (Anniversary)
Thurs 30 R: Luminous	St Andrew the Apostle, Feast No mass [Gospel: Matt 4.18-22]
Fri 1 7pm R: Sorrowful First Friday	<i>Feria of the 34th Week of the Year</i> Mass – for Gerard O'Boyle RIP (Anniversary)
Sat 2 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>Feria of the 34th Week of the Year</i> Mass – Private Intention
SUN 3 R: Glorious 8am 10am	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT <i>Lectionary year of St Mark begins</i> Mass – for John Goodall RIP (Anniv.) Parish Mass – for effective unity of Christians

- ◆ **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

◆ **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 to the toilet. Thanks.

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 together until Mass begins.*

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

◆ **Today's readings** are to be found on pp.158-60 of the *Parish Mass Book*. The psalm response is: **'The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.'**

Hymn:

COME Christians join to sing, Alleluya! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King, Alleluya! Amen!
Let all with heart and voice
Before His throne rejoice
Praise is His gracious choice, Alleluya! Amen!
Come lift your hearts on high, Alleluya! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky, Alleluya! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend
To us He'll condescend
His love shall never end . Alleluya! Amen!
Praise yet our Lord again, Alleluya! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain, Alleluya! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore
His goodness we'll adore
Singing forevermore, Alleluya! Amen!

Please, now gather in all the orange Parish Mass books.

REFLECTIONS on today's scriptures Today, the last Sunday of the liturgical year, we are celebrating the Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. We know from the Gospels that Jesus *refused* the title of king when it was meant politically, by the standards of the 'rulers of the Gentiles' (Mt 20.25). On the other hand, during his Passion, he *claimed* a unique kingship before Pilate, who explicitly asked him 'So you are a king?', and Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king' (Jn 18.37). However, moments before, he's qualified it ... 'My kingship is *not the worldly sort*' (Jn 18.36). The Father entrusted two missions to His Son: (1) to give mankind eternal life by loving us 'right through to the end'



Relic of the Crown of Thorns, Paris

as St John puts it. And, having done so, being mankind's strongest advocate (2) He gave Him power to judge humanity.

Today's Gospel insists *precisely* on the universal kingship of Christ the Judge, with the stupendous parable of the Last Judgment. The images are simple, the language is popular, but the message is extremely important: it tells about our ultimate destiny and about how we will be evaluated. "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Mt 25.35) and so forth.

Pope's prayer request Each month, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention. In December the Pope asks the Church to pray daily **for persons with disabilities** that they may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Holy Land The Archbishop's Council has discussed how our diocese can support the overwhelming needs in Israel-Palestine, and the cardinal has written to say:

- 1 The **crib offerings** this year will be applied, as always, to the **Catholic Children's Society** for the relief of poverty at home.
- 2 a **special collection** in response to the appeal of the **Latin Patriarch** will be taken in the diocese immediately after Christmas
- 3 In the meantime **donations** can be given for immediate use in the following networks:

- cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/
- embraceme.org/gazacrisis
- abcbethlehem.org/abcd-news/abcd-crisis-appeal

Next Sunday evening, 6pm @ St John's will be the Stanmore churches' annual Advent joint evening prayer. The preacher will be the Revd Andy Rider, Dean of Mission in the Stepney Area of the Anglican Diocese. I encourage you to join me there. Fr JG

16 December Fr Jonathan will be leading an Advent retreat morning (10-2) at **St John Fisher** 80 Imperial Close HA2 7LW

First Confession and Holy Communion 2024 Starting in **January**, there will be classes most Sundays until the end of May. The application forms are now available. **Please return them to Fr J or Carol-Anne by mid-December.**

Winter weather safety As the weather gets colder, and ice and snow appear: please take care in the car park, on the steps and approaches to the church and sacristy. They'll be gritted for your safety, but use your common sense too.

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

Readers rota

25 Nov	5.30pm	Lily Meghji
26 Nov	8am	Amalie Direkze
	10am	Carol-Anne Chandler, Maureen Ruane
2 Dec	5.30pm	Noretta Reece
3 Dec	8am	Daphne Byron
	10am	Joseph Arthur, Patrick Arthur

Church Cleaning rota

2 Dec	Team B	Tim Goodger, Laura Willoughby, Indrė Balčaitė, Viktoriia Vrublievska
9 Dec	Team C	Dominick Martins, Elaine & Derrick Pereira

Who does not know this passage? It is part of our basic civilization. It has deeply marked the history of the peoples of Christian culture: the scale of values, the institutions, the laws, the welfare state, multiple charitable and social bodies. Though the kingdom of Christ is not of a worldly sort, it brings to fulfilment all the good that exists in humanity and in history. If love for our neighbour is put into practice in accordance with the Gospel, room is made for God's rule and his reign is made real among us. If, instead, each one thinks only of their *own* interests, the world can *only* go to ruin.

Week-long votive lamps From next Sunday, we shall launch a new prayer initiative here that happens in many other parishes. A week-long lamp (£10 donation per lamp) will burn for your intentions in one of three places: the altar of Our Lady, or beside St William or St Catherine on the Sanctuary. It will be noted in the Newsletter. **Collect envelopes today ...**

Stuck for a Christmas present? Why not consider giving a copy of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*? Either the full thing: £15 paperback; or the Compendium version: £9 hardback. Get those questions answered ...

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. Here are six recommendations you might look for on Amazon: A = short; B = bit longer C = a rewarding big read.

Pope Francis	<i>The Gospel of Mark</i>	A
Bishop Rowan Williams	<i>Meeting God in Mark</i>	A
Bishop Tom [N T] Wright	<i>Mark for Everyone</i>	A
Scott Hahn	<i>Ignatius Gospel of Mark</i>	B
Mary Healy	<i>The Gospel of Mark</i>	B
R T France	<i>The Gospel of Mark</i>	C

Readers and servers We need to expand our lists of readers and servers at Mass, younger and older; male or female. Support and training will be given. **Please speak to Fr J.**

Know St William's past? The remaining copies of the parish history, written by Carol-Anne Chandler, are available in the Narthex for a suggested price of £5 (to parish funds).

So you can plan, Christmas Mass times will be as follows

Sat 23 Dec	5.30pm Vigil Mass
Sun 24 Advent 4	8am Mass
	10am Mass
Christmas Eve	5.30pm Christmas Vigil for families
NB...	10pm Carols, Readings and 'Mass during the Night'
Mon 25	8am 'Mass at Dawn'
CHRISTMAS DAY	10am 'Mass during the Day'

There will be plenty of opportunities for Confession throughout the week before. Please do not neglect it.

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.

19/11/2023	Loose Plate	£241.83
	Envelopes	£186.00
	Standing Orders & Online	£ 60.00
	Total	£487.83