

ST WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC CHURCH

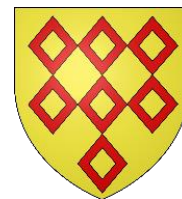
1 Du Cros Drive, Stanmore HA7 4TJ | 020 8954 1299 (Presbytery and Office) | stanmore@rcdow.org.uk
part of the Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity number 233699

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)



2—3 SEPTEMBER 2023 – 22nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

This week's Masses, Intentions and Rosary

Sat 2 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>Feria of 21st Week of the Year</i> Mass – Vincent Dias RIP (Anniversary)
SUN 3 8am 10am R: Glorious	22nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Ps Wk2 Mass – for Rita Carr Parish Mass – Vicki Armstrong RIP (Anniversary)
Mon 4 9.30am R: Joyful	<i>St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne, Memorial</i> Mass – for persecuted Christians
Tues 5 R: Glorious 9.30am	<i>Feria of 22nd Week of the Year</i> Mass and Rosary – Sam Wadood RIP (Birthday remembrance)
Wed 6 9.30am R: Sorrowful	<i>Feria of 22nd Week of the Year</i> Mass – Canon Michael Roberts RIP (Anniversary)
Thurs 7 No mass R: Luminous	<i>Feria of 22nd Week of the Year</i> [Gospel of the Day: Luke 5.1-11]
Fri 8 7pm R: Sorrowful	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass – Dennis Allman RIP (Wedding anniversary) Friday abstinence
Sat 9 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>St Peter Claver, Memorial</i> Mass – Anna & Vincent Rodrigues RIP (Anniversary)
SUN 10 8am 10am R: Glorious	23rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Mass – Alec Moody RIP Parish Mass – for the people of the parish

- ◆ **Reconciliation (Confession)** 20 mins before any week-day Mass; or Saturdays from 4.30 to 5.15pm; or at anytime by appointment
- ◆ **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Friday after Mass until 8pm
- ◆ **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** useful. (It's a free telephone helpline.) 4–7pm, Mon, Tues and Fri, on 0800 448 0704 or catholiclisteners@gmail.com



Prepare for **next week's Mass** readings – **Ezekiel 33.7-9, Romans 13.8-10; Matthew 18.15-20** – with wednesdayword.org

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 begins to ring**: 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, now keep silence together until Mass begins.*

◆ **Parents and carers**, during Mass please feel free to do what you need to keep children quiet and content. Do not hesitate to move around with them. (The service is “piped” into the Narthex too.) And, for everybody's safety, please accompany any child who needs to use the toilet while you're in church. Thanks.

◆ **The ORDER of Mass** is in the **orange Parish Mass Book**. Start on **p.7**; then, after the Creed, go to **p.15**; and then, from the Lord's Prayer, go to **p.56**.

◆ **Today's readings** are to be found **pp.122-25** of the *Parish Mass Book*. And the psalm response is: **For You my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.**

◆ **AFTER the 10am Mass**, refreshments and an opportunity to meet in the Church Hall.

REFLECTIONS on today's Scriptures - Jeremiah 20.7-9; Romans 12.1-2; Matthew 16.21-27 In today's Gospel Jesus explains to his disciples that he must 'go to Jerusalem ... suffer many things from the chief priests and scribes ... be killed, and ... on the third day be raised' (Mt 16:21).

Everything seems to have been turned upside down in the disciples' hearts! How could last Sunday's declaration, 'You are Christ, the Son of the living God' (v. 16) have become Christ sufferer unto death? Power become weakness; glory become disgrace?

So, understandably, the apostle Peter rebels. He refuses to accept Jesus's destiny, His course of action. He rebukes his Teacher saying: "God forbid, Lord! This shall never happen to you." (v. 22). The gulf between the Father's loving plan on the one hand (which even went as far as the gift of the Only-Begotten Son 'to the very limit' to save humanity), and the disciples' expectations, wishes and projects on the other, is deep and wide. And in our lives today this gulf is repeated: when the reasonable fulfilment of human life is aimed

exclusively at social success, and physical and financial well-being, we stop reasoning according to the mind of God but according to men (v. 23). Thinking as the rest of the world thinks involves setting God aside, not accepting his plan, preventing him, let's say, from doing his wise will in your life. For this reason Jesus turns on Peter with a particularly sharp rebuke: "No! Satan! Get behind me! In front of me and you're a barricade". The Lord teaches that the way of discipleship literally involves getting *behind* Jesus, *staying* there, and learning to *follow*! In all three Gospels this decision to *follow* on the path toward the Cross is "the indispensable way for man to 'lose his own life', without which he'll never truly 'find' himself" (Pope Benedict, *Jesus of Nazareth*, p. 287).

As he invited the disciples, Jesus also addresses us: "If any of you would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and *follow* me" (Mt 16:24). When a Christian lovingly shoulders his own cross, which people motivated by worldly values see as some kind

of defeat or surrender, he or she knows that they are not carrying it alone, but *with* Jesus, sharing his same journey of self-giving. "In a mysterious way", wrote St Paul VI, "Christ himself accepts death, in order to remove from man's heart the sins of self-reliance and autonomy, and to reveal to the Father a complete filial obedience" (1975).

St Cyril of Jerusalem commented: "The luminous glory of the Cross steered into the light those whose ignorance had left them blind, released all who were gripped by sin" (Catechesis).

Dear friends, let us entrust our prayers to the Virgin Mary, so that each one of us may be able to follow the Lord on the way of the cross and let ourselves be transformed by divine grace, renewing — as St Paul says in the liturgy today — our minds so that we "may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Rom 12:2).

Mass intentions and offerings can be for many more of your needs and concerns than you perhaps realise. See the list on the notice-board for starters. Let's *expand* the range of our prayers, and our trust in God!

Pope Francis's intention for October:

"Let us pray for those people living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions, and never considered of lesser importance."

Catholic Classics podcast Sign up wherever you get your podcasts, and, **starting 2 Oct**, 'read' *The Confessions of St Augustine*. In each short episode discover why this saint is such a sure guide in the spiritual life.

PARISH BARBECUE! – After 10am Mass on Sunday 24 September (the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham) at the hall entrance. A range of BBQ food will be available plus alternative offerings. Dishes will be very reasonably priced. Drinks also available. Bring your family and friends to have an outdoor lunch with your fellow parishioners." *This would be a good chance to bring a friend, or someone 'lapsed' since before covid, to church with you.* FrJ

Help needed in UGANDA Remember Fr David Masaba Kolo, of the Diocese of Gulu? He used to minister here each August in pre-pandemic days. He is now Dean of Gulu Deanery, which in part explains why he can no longer visit our diocese. He is anxiously looking for help with repairs to his car which is absolutely essential to his pastoral work in a far-flung deanery. He needs around 350GBP. If you would like to help him, his bank details can be got from Juliet or Dominick Martins (020 8385 7669)

Between 16 and 25? Want to go to Walsingham?

On 23 Sept, as part of the Diocesan Pilgrimage, the Diocesan Youth Ministry team is taking 45 under 25s. Coach leaves Westminster 7am, returns c 8pm. Booking open **until 16th Sept**. Sign up at youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/pilgrimage-to-walsingham/ The cost, is £35. **Would you like to go? Can't afford it? Speak to Fr J.**

An opportunity to help UKRAINE Many of you will know Yuri, Viktoriia and their children who have all been worshipping with us for this past year. We hear appalling daily news reports from Ukraine, reminding us of this country's darkest days during the Second World War. *But they* hear, also daily, from friends defending themselves against deadly and unjust aggression.

"My two brothers are in the war", writes Yuri. "And one of my closest friends, near Bakhmut, is asking me for help. They urgently need a pickup-truck for the local transportation of people, goods and supplies. But it will be very difficult for us to raise these funds alone. I am asking for your help to reach out and help Ukraine."

There are envelopes for donations in the Narthex, or if more convenient use BACS: Viktoriia Vrublievska | 24614662 | 30-94-87. FrJ

Readers rota

2 September 5.30	Martin Rush
3 September 8.00	Daphne Byron
	10.00 Maureen Ruane, Carol-Anne Chandler
9 September 5.30	Jennifer Bourke
10 September 8.00	Rose Okosi
	10.00 Patrick & Joseph Arthur, Derrick Pereira & family

Church Cleaning rota 9 Sep Team B Tim Goodger, Laura Willoughby, Indrè Balçaitè, Viktoriia Vrublievska
16 Sep Team C Dominick Martins, Elaine & Derrick Pereira