

St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

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Pentecost Sunday

30/31 May 2020

Saturday 30th May

People of the parish

Sunday 31st May
 Pentecost Sunday

First Holy Communion children
 and families

Monday 1st June
 The Blessed Virgin Mary
 Mother of the Church

June Holland RIP (Chapman)

Tuesday 2nd June
 St Philip Neri, Priest

Dynan & Perkins Intention

Wednesday 3rd June
 Ss Charles Lwanga & Companions
 Martyrs

Wight & Osmer Intention

Thursday 4th June
 Our Lord Jesus Christ
 The Eternal High Priest

Private Intention

Friday 5th June
 St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr

Carey Intention

Saturday 6th June

Piedade Dias RIP

Sunday 7th June
 The Most Holy Trinity

In honour of St William of York

The Holy Spirit – an inside job

Father Michael writes - “someone said recently that we are living through a turning point in history; in the future they might speculate about BV (before the virus) and AV (after the virus)! Only time will tell. In the main the pattern has been for human beings to work things out for ourselves. After all, we are so ‘clever’ –so ‘advanced’ –so ‘amazing’. Yet suddenly we find ourselves locked (in countless ways); from being powerful and able we find ourselves powerless and cornered. We work hard to dig deep into our courage and abilities. Somehow - even with our best efforts we find events and threats overwhelming. Our resources are simply not enough. We need help. We need strength over and beyond our own. Where?

On this Pentecost Sunday - we need more than human stamina. We need the life and hope and vigour of God Himself; something beyond ourselves even at our best. Closed in the darkroom of our fears, Jesus breathes on us as he did on his original followers - saying ‘receive the Holy Spirit’. The Holy Who? Our faith tells us that the Holy Spirit is not simply a spiritual injection of extra help. When you sit down to pray - imagine this..... opening your heart and life - the living God ‘walks in to live within you’. The Father and Creator, Jesus the Son and Messiah together invade in their fullness. They invade in the form of the third person of the Trinity - the Holy Spirit; not as an added extra push but as an occupying presence of God totally flooding our souls and hearts. This is the ‘inside job grace of God’ freely available. When at prayer - we no longer have to ‘keep trying’. God is simply waiting for the invite each day.”

Reopening of the Church

As we prepare for the reopening of the Church in early July (subject to Government Guidelines), it is very clear that opening the Church will not be as easy as closing the Church. There will be restrictions and measures that will need to be put in place to comply with the safety guidelines, including adherence to safe distancing. These safety requirements will affect the normal pattern of Church life and will require some adjustments on our part, in participating in the Mass and in private devotions.

We will keep you posted in relation to the opening date and give you more information on the arrangements in the coming weeks.

Tony Murphy

Finance Committee / Property & Safety Matters

Catch-up and reminders

1. This weekend would have been our First Holy Communion Sunday. Next weekend we would have been celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation. Let us hold before the Lord the children, young people, families and catechists involved. We look forward to completing their preparation and Sacraments.
2. June 8 is our patronal feast day - Saint William of York. 'Normally' we would have had a 'bring and share' meal in the hall on the previous Sunday. Currently too, we would have been promoting and encouraging our Parish Summer Fayre; another 2020 casualty of the virus!
3. The Wifi in the church is going ahead. Currently we are waiting for a 'diocesan faculty' because our church has listed and protected status.
4. We remember those who have recently died. Keith Stephens RIP the brother of May - herself a long term member of our parish choir and other involvements. Patricia Nolan RIP - mother of Karen Elliston who, with her husband Richard, is a regular Saturday 5.30pm Mass supporter, as well as being on the hall committee and 'topically' looking after our parish website. Other parish-connected funerals taking place soon are Owen Kelly RIP and Vincent David RIP. Father Michael is also assisting at funerals for those who, though not directly 'Stanmore' - need a Catholic priest in distressing times. May those who have died rest in peace and rise in glory.
5. This weekend we complete the season of Easter. It means that on Monday we enter into what is called 'ordinary time' week 9: year 2 of the readings. Through the seasons and calendar of the Church's year we travel though almost the whole of the Old Testament and the entire New Testament.
6. Thank you to all who continue to support the parish - with donations in various ways.
7. If you are aware of anyone who would appreciate a phone-call from Father Michael - please let him know. Thank you.

An ancient hymn to the Holy Spirit

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| 1. Holy spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height,
Thy pure beaming radiance give. | 2. Come thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live! |
| 3. Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow; | 4. Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe. |
| 5. Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill: | 6. If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill. |
| 7. Hear our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away: | 8. Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray. |
| 9. Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend: | 10. Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end. |

