

St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

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(Marcello – via text message)

Mass – Sunday
Sat 5.30pm (1st Mass of Sunday)
Sun 8am & 10am
Weekdays
Mass Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.30am
Thursday as announced
Friday 7pm
Confessions Saturday 10.30am and on call

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

18/19 September 2021

Saturday 18th September

This weekend – arguments about ‘status’

5.30pm Maria Smith Intention

In the Gospel today – Jesus notices the dispute between his disciples. Are they discussing their work for the poor, their preaching of the kingdom, the devotion to Jesus and the work he had come to do? The Gospel text tells us that they were arguing about ‘which of them was the greatest’. In reply, does Jesus give an explanation about dangerous ambition? With total simplicity ‘Jesus took a little child and set him in front of them’. Our Lord reminds his disciples and US – that such simplicity and straightforwardness should characterize his followers. Living and praying PLAINLY is our calling.

Sunday 19th September
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Taylor Family Intention

10am People of the parish

Monday 20th September
St Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, Priest
Paul Chõng Ha-sang and
Companions, Martyrs

9.30am Bill Lynch RIP (Anniv)

Tuesday 21st September
St Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

9.30am Herodiana Fernandes RIP

Wednesday 22nd September

9.30am Marco Fiori RIP (Ruane)

Thursday 23rd September
St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

NO LITURGY

Friday 24th September
Our Lady of Walsingham

7pm Patrick & Deirdre Kehoe
(Anniv)

Saturday 25th September

5.30pm Matthew Sinnott RIP

Sunday 26th September
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Sister Bernadine (Moody)

10am Chris Taylor RIP
(Martins Family)

An historic moment – prayer, fasting and penance

Pope Francis and many others remind us that we are living through a very particular time! The Holy Father writes- “It is not Lent! Yet it is a turning point in our personal lives and in the history of the Church and of the world. There are moments when we ought to kneel down and raise our supplication to God. There are moments when we ought to fast and do penance because we believe that God can be moved to respond with pity and compassion. We believe in a merciful God who can be moved by prayer and acts of penance. The Bible is full of such moments. We are living through such a time of challenge and hope.” We can all play a part in various ways – crying out to God for the poor and for the earth. From Stanmore – let us raise a great song of intercession and sacrifice – using the traditional words of the psalm – ‘Lord, spare your people, show us your mercy, grant us your unfailing help.’

Mass Count

Every year, the diocese requests a Mass count over the last two weekends in September and the first two in October. It will be interesting to ‘read’ 2021.

In the Church

The heating pipes have now been completely removed and the main grounds work has commenced. Various meetings are scheduled which will determine the project completion date. Once known, parishioners will be advised. (Tony Murphy)

Meet-up: weather permitting

Perhaps after Mass in the car park, it is possible for us to have a chat? Parish social events have been ‘out of the picture’ for a long time; but it is

still life-blood for our parish for us to be together. Being British we tend to be reluctant to talk to 'strangers' – which of course we are not, as brothers and sisters in Christ. Although we are not shaking hands yet, at the sign of peace – Father Michael will suggest, this weekend, that we say names as we acknowledge each other: a community of believers. Remember that, as brothers and sisters in Christ, we don't have to be introduced after Mass in the car park.

CAFOD – protecting God's creation

CAFOD have written to all parishes as part of their 'climate crisis appeal'. There are special envelopes available – which can be dropped into the regular collection. Thank you.

Calling parents for our First Holy Communion Programme 2022

We will have our usual First Holy Communion Programme in 2022. This will be for children who are just now starting in year 3, or above, in school. If you would like more information at this stage, please make yourself known to Carol-Anne after the Sunday 10am Mass. Any of the stewards can point you in the direction of Carol-Anne to say hello. Father Michael will announce dates and provide application forms in a couple of months' time.

Thank you to our regular and dependable stewards

We had a big funeral on Tuesday and, as always, parish stewards were around to help and support, ensuring that everything went smoothly. For Tuesday and for all our Masses – a big thank you to those who assist in so many different ways.

Father Michael writes

'As I shared with you recently dear brothers and sisters – at some time in the near future I will be stepping down as Parish Priest of Stanmore and moving into retirement. Of course, priests never really STOP! Mass and daily prayer, service of others and the wider needs of the Church continue. I will be helping out in various places where priests are away or indisposed. The diocese has now indicated a future 'home' where I will reside. It is in Bushey – so it is nearby, which I am happy about, yet not too near for the sake of the new priest!! In Bushey it is a house around the corner from the Catholic church. More details eventually.'

A Papal statement to ponder and pray over

During his visit to Slovakia over the last few days – Pope Francis said this, speaking to the Catholic people of that land, but to US also: ***"we need the 'creativity of the Gospel' not a 'defensive Catholicism'."*** It is amazing how the Holy Father always challenges us! We are not simply defending and protecting a private conviction. We have something to say and something to offer to the world!

Notification from the Bishops of England & Wales

At the beginning of the pandemic and lockdowns – the bishops announced that the 'Sunday obligation for Catholics to attend Sunday Mass had been lifted/removed for the time being'. We all understood the reasons for this. Now, our bishops have written to say that the obligation to attend Mass (preferably in person will be re-imposed on the first Sunday of Advent – 28 November. Being physically together for the Eucharist, for us as Catholics is not just a requirement – it is also our weekly chance to meet and receive Jesus our Lord.

Readers Rota

<u>18 September – 5.30pm</u>	John McIntyre	<u>19 September – 8am</u>	Rosemary Chukwulobelu
<u>25 September – 5.30pm</u>	Noretta Reece	<u>26 September – 8am</u>	Daphne Byron
<u>2 October – 5.30pm</u>	Lily Meghji	<u>3 October – 8am</u>	Rose Okosi

Counters Rota

<u>19 September</u>	Richard Afonso, Walter Acuti, Beatrice McAdam
<u>26 September</u>	Judith Brightwell, Monica Assoku, Funmi Da Silva
<u>3 October</u>	Richard Wong, Pearly Jesuthasan