

# St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

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Mass - Sunday  
 Sat 5.30 pm (1st Mass of Sunday)  
 Sunday 8 am & 10 am  
 Weekdays  
 Mass Monday Tuesday & Saturday 9.30 am  
 Thursday As announced  
 Mass on Friday 7 p.m.  
 Confessions: Saturday 10 am – 10.30 am & on call

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

**5/6 December 2020**

Saturday 5th December

5.30pm People of the parish

Sunday 6th December  
 2nd Sunday of Advent

8am Martha Ride RIP

10am Eileen O'Brien RIP

Monday 7th December  
 St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor

9.30am Ronald Yep RIP

Tuesday 8th December  
 The Immaculate Conception of  
 the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 Patron of the Diocese

9.30am Deborah Brophy  
 Intention (Hartnett)

Wednesday 9th December

NO PUBLIC MASS  
 Stephen Cahillane RIP

Thursday 10th December

NO LITURGY

Friday 11th December

7pm Eileen O'Connor RIP

Saturday 12th December

5.30pm McCarroll Intention

Sunday 13th December  
 3rd Sunday of Advent

8am People of the parish

10am Maureen Moloney RIP

## Welcome! Our churches re-open for Advent and Christmas

### Joy to the world!

### A new beginning: Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord: Advent 2

John the Baptist is one of the great figures of Advent; so many times we hear that John was sent to announce the coming of Jesus. Of course, he was quite different in his appearance and preaching. John pointed to Christ as the Messiah - 'someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am...' John spoke of a new beginning! The readings this weekend seem, to me, to highlight a fresh hope and a powerful start; something perhaps which speaks to our current situation. Dear brothers, sisters, families, friends - welcome Jesus this Advent and this Christmas. No more tired repeats of the past. COVID has shifted the whole world. It is no longer simply a question of getting back to last year, to the past. A new courage is required. Let us enter into the marvellous words from the Prophet Isaiah in the first reading - 'here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things...He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to rest the mother ewes'. As we light another candle on our Advent wreath - we hear again the response to the psalm - "let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help". A new beginning in one way or another for us all.

### Open for Christmas

*There will be two Masses on Christmas Eve: 5.30pm and Midnight. There will be challenges! Our numbers are limited under COVID guideline - 48! No singing! No Christmas carols! Shorter Masses. On Christmas Day - Masses will be at 8am and 10am - with the same restrictions. ALL Masses will require tickets - which are available from this weekend. Please note that the tickets will be for specific Masses. Subject to the demand for tickets, a third Mass may be arranged on Christmas Day at 11.15am.*

### Congratulations to our Confirmation candidates and their families

This Sunday, Father Michael will administer the Sacrament of the Holy Spirit for our nine candidates; a special Mass at 12noon. Their time of preparation has been limited - but God the Father through his Son Jesus supplies all that our candidates need through the Holy Spirit. It is a Sacrament of power and strength; truly a fire of the Father's love, planted in each of our young people for ever. Let us pray for them, rejoice with them- as they receive this Sacrament of Christian maturity. They also receive the help of the saint they have chosen as their Confirmation name. This celebration will be a joy for the whole parish!

### **Hidden tasks**

Throughout the months, the church grounds and gardens have been tended. When we were open - our stewards and others looked after the cleaning of the church. Our on-line Masses and parish website have been maintained and supported by willing technicians and liturgy folk. Flowers on the sanctuary have been arranged. So many people have stayed in touch with each other. Loyal parishioners have continued to 'fund' the parish, plus many other willing hands and kindnesses. May the Lord bless in abundance the whole parish family. Father M



### **2020-2021 Christmas and New Year**

#### **Thursday 24 December Christmas Eve**

5.30pm (Vigil) – ticket required

Midnight Mass – ticket required

#### **Friday 25 December Christmas Day**

8am – ticket required

10am – ticket required

#### **Saturday 26 December Boxing Day**

10am Mass for St Stephen's Day

5.30pm Vigil Mass of the Holy Family

#### **Thursday 31 December**

5.30pm Mass for New Year's Eve



#### **Sunday 27 December**

8am and 10am Mass of the Holy Family

#### **Friday 1 January**

10am New Year's Day Mass 2021

### **SAVE THE DATE – SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER 2020 at 3pm**

The Christmas Carol sing-a-long will be going ahead this year but will be moving to ZOOM. As you know, we are not allowed to sing together in church, however holding this event on Zoom will allow us to sing to our heart's content in the safety of our own homes. I hope many of you will be able to join and if you are able to lead a carol (in a similar way to what our musicians do on Sunday) then please let Janice know on Pereira\_janice@hotmail.com. Similarly if you need any help connecting on Zoom, either over the internet or phone, please let her know. Further details to follow but in the meantime, save the date and time – Sunday 13th December between 3pm and 4pm and don't forget to start baking those mince pies. A lovely way for us all to be "together" before Christmas.

### **SUNDAY MASS OPPORTUNITIES !!! - a widespread invitation!**

At this time and trying to respect guidelines and social distancing - the available Sunday Masses are

**Friday 7pm; Saturday 5.30pm**

**Sunday 8am and 10am**

**Monday 9.30am**

**Additional weekday Mass on Tuesday 9.30am : no public Mass on Wednesday or Thursday**

### **Church Safety Arrangements – A Reminder**

- Face Masks must be worn at all times whilst in the Church,
- Please observe safe distancing and the one-way traffic flow system that is in place,
- Please follow the direction of the Marshals on the seating arrangements, and stay in the assigned pew seat, a restricted number of 48 remains in place which will be adhered to.
- Holy Communion is distributed after the final Prayers and Blessing, with Parishioners expected to exit the Church, not returning to their seat,
- The Toilet facility remains out of use,
- Hand sanitizers are sited at the Entrance and Exit from the Church for personal use,
- The weekly newsletter will be available for collection on leaving, with baskets placed for the Offertory offerings,
- If you are feeling unwell, suffering from a cold or cough, please do not attend Church.

### **Counters Rota**

**13 December**

Richard Afonso, Walter Acuti, Beatrice Mc Adam

**20 December**

Judith Brightwell, Monica Assoku, Funmi Da Silva