

# St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No. 233699

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**The Sacrament of Confession**  
 Father Michael is available every Saturday morning 11am – 12 noon – outside the Parish Hall, in the car park. The free gift of God's mercy.

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**12/13 September 2020**

Saturday 12th September

5.30pm David Blatt RIP

Sunday 13th September

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am John McGowan RIP

10am Sebastian Dias RIP

Monday 14th September

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**NB 9.00am** Nora Balfe Intention

Tuesday 15th September

Our Lady of Sorrows

9.30am Eileen Blatt Intention

David Blatt RIP

Wednesday 16th September

Ss Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

Eileen O'Sullivan RIP

NO PUBLIC MASS

Thursday 17th September

NO LITURGY

Friday 18th September

7pm University Girls' Intention

Saturday 19th September

5.30pm Helene Amasanti RIP

Sunday 20th September

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am James Balfe RIP

10am Paul Amasanti RIP

## **As often as seven times?**

*“With no hymns books or singing in church (humming only) and no Mass books - we really have to LISTEN carefully to the readings. The gospel this weekend has Peter (again) asking a question. ‘Lord’ he says ‘how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me?’ He suggests - 7 times, which is the PERFECT (complete) number in the Hebrew Scriptures. Jesus replies with one of his most powerful parables! It is a really challenging reply to Peter and a challenge to us today. Researchers looking across all the different world faiths wanted to locate the unique teaching of Christianity. They landed on today’s gospel of limitless forgiveness and the Sermon on the Mount with the words of Jesus: ‘love your enemies’. Listen with holy attention to the gospel; it is always a word of life and hope. With my prayers for you all. Father Michael*

## **The Sacrament of Confirmation**

‘Normally’ of course the Bishop visits parishes regularly to celebrate the Sacrament of the Holy Spirit. This has not happened anywhere in the diocese for many months since the beginning of lockdown; impossible for four bishops to catch-up. With a huge backlog of parishes and candidates- the Cardinal has written recently to all Parish Priests delegating them to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation in their own parishes. Here in Stanmore- we had an enrolment of 11 candidates at the beginning of the year. Father Michael will be writing to each of them - asking whether they would be happy to go ahead now or wait in hope of a real, live Bishop next year!?! For those wishing to proceed now- Father Michael has suggested 3 preparation sessions in the church - which would allow ‘social distancing’. Father Michael would confer the Sacrament at a date to be fixed - but under COVID restrictions. All ‘live events’ as they are called in the government guidelines (funerals, weddings, Baptisms, Confirmation etc.) are limited to 30 people in the church. Candidates will have a choice of waiting until 2021 or moving ahead sooner!

## **Extra collections (and Father David Kolo)**

‘Normally’ throughout the year - in addition to the offertory collection taken up during Mass, there would often be an extra collection at the door (e.g. CAFOD Fast Day, Peter’s Pence, Holy Places etc. etc.) These have all been cancelled - though people may wish to contribute directly. The only Diocesan extra collection will be on Sunday 8 November - for ‘the sick and retired’ priests of the diocese. We remain in contact with Father David who

struggles on in Uganda. If you would like to help support Father David - you can place a donation in an envelope marked 'Father David' and drop it into the basket at the church door with the normal collection or perhaps through the front door of the house.

**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 (please note change of time to 9.00am this week)**

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

**Moving on!**

Congratulations again to our younger parishioners taking up their place at University/as apprentices or in college. Hard work has brought good results - though sometimes not quite what was hoped for. Leaving home for universities at home or overseas will bring its own challenges. Where results did not quite match expectation - we continue to 'listen to the voice of the Lord'.

**The Mass of the Holy Oils**

This couldn't take place during last Holy Week. It will be celebrated by the Cardinal on Monday (14 September) under COVID restrictions. Only the diocesan Deans will attend - plus limited numbers in the Cathedral. It means that on Monday the morning Mass in the church will be at 9am. **PLEASE NOTE!**

**The church grounds and house garden**

Many thanks to the willing hands who help out and clear up. Recently, Lawrence, Martyn and Anthony have been so helpful and active.

**Ralph - the family dog**

Father Michael will be 'dog sitting' again this week. His brother and family will be away - celebrating his brother's 60<sup>th</sup>. Happy birthday Paul!

**Supporting the parish**

'So many of you, dear parishioners, have been so thoughtful during this time; remembering to regularly donate for the support of the parish - using weekly envelopes, standing orders or cheques - and other means. It really helps. As you can imagine - after all this time - the parish resources are really stretched and the bills continue. Please know that the Lord sees such generosity'. (**Father Michael**)

**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 42 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 September** Aldrich Menezes, Pearly Jesuthasan

**20 September** Amal Graham, Patricia Cleary, Marcello Borgese

**27 September** Eddie Whittaker, Anthony Owolabi, Mary Kehoe