

St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

Canon Michael Munnelly
1 Du Cros Drive
Stanmore
Middlesex HA7 4TJ
Telephone: 020 8954 1299
Email: stanmore@rcdow.org.uk
<http://swoy.weebly.com>
Hall enquiries: 07973 601208
(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

1st Sunday of Advent

27/28 November 2021

Saturday 27th November

5.30pm Emil Fernando RIP

Sunday 28th November
1st Sunday of Advent

8am People of the Parish

10am Private intention

Monday 29th November

9.30am Betty Fernandes RIP
(de Souza)

Tuesday 30th November
St Andrew, Apostle
Patron of Scotland

9.30am The Faithful Departed

Wednesday 1st December

9.30am Pat Cusack RIP

Thursday 2nd December

NO LITURGY

Friday 3rd December
St Francis Xavier, Priest

7pm Sister Carmel (Thanksgiving)
(Ruane)

Saturday 4th December

5.30pm Liam Curran:
Gallagher Family Intention

Sunday 5th December
2nd Sunday of Advent

8am People of the Parish

10am Mikel Cihak RIP (Taylor)

Today - Sunday: Christians together in Stanmore - 5pm today!

This evening at 5pm in Saint John's Anglican Church - we are invited to an Advent reflection. The Rector - Revd Matthew Stone has kindly organised this ecumenical opportunity, inviting the local Christians to come together at the start of Advent. **See you there: Father Michael.**

Good advice as we begin Advent

We begin the four weeks of Advent 2021 this weekend, with some challenging phrases in the gospel. They include: "hold your heads high..... your liberation is near at hand.... watch yourselves, stay awake praying at all times." Yes, Advent invites us to wait and watch for Christ. It is really a season of LONGING. Our Lord responds when we declare our honest need - for his presence and power. He promises us that his coming will be our completion. We sing out our Advent anthem - 'come Lord Jesus. Come in glory. Come and save your people'.

2021-2022 – Christmas & New Year

Thursday 23 December The Sacrament of Confession 5pm till 7pm

Friday 24 December – Christmas Eve 5.30pm Christmas Vigil Mass

11pm Carols leading into Mass – ending at Midnight

Saturday 25 December- Christmas Day 8am and 10am Christmas Masses

Sunday 26 December - Holy Family 8am and 10am Masses

Monday 27 December Mass at 10am



Congratulations Crystelle !!

An unforgettable evening on Tuesday last! As well as all those watching the Great British Bake Off at home, more than 60 people assembled with Crystelle and her family in the Spice Rack to share the experience. It was a wonderful gathering. Thank you to everyone, to Janice who organised and all who supported. In every sense - Crystelle was the "winner", though of course congratulations to Giuseppe.

November Tuesday Remembrance

Our Tuesday 9.30am Mass on 30th November will be an opportunity to remember those who have died recently, other deceased members of the Parish Family, those on the November Dead List, members of the Clergy who faithfully served this Parish down the years and Parishioners whose Requiem Masses have been held in this church or hall this calendar year.

Mirko Cihak RIP

Very much part of our parish, mainly through his dear wife Valerie (and

family). Received wonderful care at Saint Luke's hospice, Mirko's funeral will take place on November 29 at Breakspear Crematorium. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Calendars and Christmas cards and Advent booklets

Yes, there are a few of these available in the hall/Church; more next week. Specifically, the annual Advent books with thoughts, prayers and Scripture for each day will be ready next weekend.

Flooring works update from Tony Murphy

Since the last update, the rebuild stage is well underway with the main flooring work completed and 2nd concrete pour undertaken. The different floor levels have been established, and preparation for reinstating the top Altar started. The following two weeks will see the underfloor heating pipework installation as well as the electrical, audio and hearing loop systems to the Altar areas. The contractor expects to have both Altars in place for Christmas and available for Masses. There will remain certain outstanding work that is scheduled for the new year, which will mean the choir loft and Our Lady's Altar remaining out of use for the Christmas period. Photos are weekly updated on the website.

A personal word or two from Father Michael

In last weekend's newsletter I outlined details about my retirement and 'exit' from Stanmore. I am grateful that many of you have said nice things about my ten years in this parish without drawing attention to my many shortcomings. There is no such thing as a perfect priest so I am especially grateful that you have 'put up with me'. I have so much to thank God for when I recall the many ways in which, together, we have reached out and celebrated our beautiful Catholic faith. Presently packing and clearing out cupboards, I find so many reminders; support for the homeless through the Friars of the Renewal (literally bags and bags of clothes donated by YOU); an unforgettable MISSION WEEK led by the Friars. Another highlight for me was the YEAR OF MERCY, with special extra liturgies, plus many visitors from surrounding parishes and beyond. All with papal approval. Then there were the many visiting speakers (often during Advent or Lent); ALPHA courses, parish pilgrimages to Lourdes, Rome and shrines. I recall the plethora of hall events with a very hardworking Committee, the celebration of my 40 years of priesthood, visits by the Cardinal and our local bishop. All these prompted and supported by YOU - the parishioners of Saint William of York. In addition - we have the turn-over of seasonal liturgies, Sacramental preparation celebrations and much more. For all of these I was on the receiving end of your goodness, generosity and support. Above all else I recall you, God's family in Stanmore. If I have dealt with parishioners in a cruel or inappropriate way, I ask forgiveness. I am so grateful for the hard work and kindness of you, for the weekly ministry in Stanmore Orthopaedic Hospital and much, much more. Sadly, the last couple of years have been lived under the enforced restrictions of COVID. May the Lord bless and restore us. In this regard, I am convinced that the Synod-listening pathway of Pope Francis is an important life-giving moment. **Father Michael**

Father Michael's Retirement – Michael Goode, Chair of the Finance Committee

Parishioners will join me in thanking Fr. Michael for his loving service to the Parish and in wishing Fr. Michael a long, happy and healthy retirement. It is intended that a special event will be held at a suitable date in Spring 2022 for Parishioners to both formally and informally thank Fr. Michael. Your active support and involvement will be sought in making this a truly celebratory event of Father Michael's Ministry.

Readers Rota

<u>27 November 5.30pm</u>	Martin Rush	<u>28 November 8am</u>	Daphne Byron
<u>28 November 10am</u>	Readings Robert Chandler, Bidding prayers		Maureen Ruane
<u>4 December 5.30pm</u>	Jennifer Bourke	<u>5 December 8am</u>	Rose Okosi
<u>5 December 10am</u>	Readings John McIntyre, Bidding prayers		Ray & Alex

Counters Rota

<u>28 November</u>	Richard Afonso, Walter Acuti, Beatrice McAdam
<u>5 December</u>	Judith Brightwell, Monica Assoku, Funmi Da Silva