

St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

Canon Michael Munnelly
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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

The Baptism of the Lord

8/9 January 2022

Saturday 8th January

5.30pm Mark O'Grady RIP

Sunday 9th January
The Baptism of the Lord

8am Barbara Wensley RIP
(Dias family)

10am Barbara Chandler RIP
(Birthday)

Monday 10th January

9.30am Bridget McGowan RIP
(Anniv)

Tuesday 11th January

9.30am Josephine & Frank Nolan
Brigid & Sean O'Leary Intention

Wednesday 12th January

NO LITURGY

Thursday 13th January

NO LITURGY

Friday 14th January

7pm Chris Taylor RIP (1st Anniv)

Saturday 15th January

5.30pm Denzil Francke RIP
(Wadood)

Sunday 16th January
2ND Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am People of the parish

10am Jean & Bill Gabriel

'God does not have favourites' - a radical message from Saint Peter!

In the first reading today – we hear Saint Peter preaching. He was a faithful and observant Jewish man who became a disciple of Jesus - eventually one of the 12 apostles. Jesus appointed him the ROCK, the foundation on which the Church is built and our Catholic faith secured in truth. Yet, with his orthodox Jewish heart - part of the chosen people - Peter is eventually able to say in today's first reading that 'anybody of ANY nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to the Lord'. Peter must surely have come under criticism and even attack for such a radical teaching. Yet this is the beautiful truth of Christmas and the Epiphany and today's solemnity of the Baptism of Christ in the River Jordan. GOD DOES NOT HAVE FAVOURITES. We are all (and each) the beloved daughters and sons of the Father.

Welcome to Bishop John Sherrington

A warm welcome to our local bishop - +John celebrating the 10am Mass. Bishops are the successors of the apostles so it is a profound opportunity for us to realise again that OUR parish is part of the larger family of the Church. Through the presence of Bishop Sherrington today - we are joined in the vibrant journey of our Catholic faith through time and in every place.

Mill Hill Missionaries - Red Boxes

Thank you to the many parishioners who support the Missionary work of the church using the famous Red Boxes. The annual return for 2021 amounted to £987.02 – a remarkable total in these challenging times.

Sacramental preparation

If you are an adult interested in the Catholic faith, please send an email to the Parish. See contact details at the top of this newsletter. For babies to be Baptised sometimes called christening - once again - please email the parish. Holy Communion children should by now have completed the application form. Later in the year - there will an opportunity to learn more about the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Father Michael diary details NO 9.30am Mass ON WEDNESDAY

This coming Wednesday 12 January - there will be an early morning removal van outside the parish house - to take Father M's modest belongings to Bushey. This is an emotional and difficult time for Father. Of

course - he will be here next weekend for his farewell Masses. Father M is very happy that he remains within the 'orbit' of Stanmore. Perhaps he will be around from time to time as a 'supply priest' (locum).

From one priest to another!

After the departure of Father Michael, there will be a gap before a new priest is appointed. It means that the parish will have to depend on the goodwill of priests in the deanery and surrounding parishes. They of course, have their own timetables to maintain, so it is proposed that the weekday Mass schedule in Stanmore should be reduced. Masses will be on Monday 9.30am and Friday 7pm for the time being. There will be no Masses on Tuesday and Wednesday. This is to be regretted – but it is the pastoral reality.

Have you noticed the image of our Patron Saint?

A parishioner recently gave an image of St William of York to the parish. As you leave the church look up – it is hanging from the choir loft and it is good, at last, to have our saint in our place.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love You above all things and I passionately desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul

So that I may unite myself wholly to You now and forever. Amen

Father Michael's Retirement - Message from Michael Goode, Chair of Finance Committee

Dear Friends,

As you are no doubt aware, we had to postpone Fr. Michael's official celebration due to our on-going church works and Covid restrictions. Fr. Michael will return in the Spring/Summer when we can come together as a parish to suitably commemorate his retirement. Full details of this will be announced nearer the date. However, parishioners may wish to personally acknowledge Fr. Michael's loving service on the weekend of 15/16th January.

As we approach Fr. Michael's retirement and the sad farewell, I am sure all parishioners will join me in asking God to reward him with years of health and happiness for his lifelong Ministry of tireless service, devotion and compassion. We have been blessed to have had Fr. Michael with us these last few years and his lasting legacy will be a parish that is dynamic, welcoming and faithful. Over the years Fr. Michael has enriched our spiritual lives in so many ways, be it our powerful Parish Mission and our on-going support with the Franciscan Friars of Renewal, pilgrimages (international and national), Alpha, numerous presentations in the hall, our involvement with Stanmore churches in the Easter Walk of Witness, our outreach to local Jewish and Muslim congregations, Time and Talents, the celebration of marriage, and the list could go on!

On a personal level, we will all have our cherished memories of Fr. Michael who has made such a difference in the lives of so many.

As Fr. Michael retires, may the Lord continue to richly bless him and keep him in his loving care.

Readers Rota

<u>8 January 5.30pm</u>	Martin Rush	<u>9 January 8am</u>	Audrey Da Costa
<u>9 January 10am</u>	Readings Tim & Mel Goodger, Bidding prayers Carol-Anne Chandler		
<u>15 January 5.30pm</u>	Noreta Reece	<u>16 January 8am</u>	Georgina Martins
<u>16 January 10am</u>	Readings Georgia Nwawulor, Bidding prayers Robert Chandler		
<u>22 January 5.30pm</u>	Martin Rush	<u>23 January 8am</u>	Rosemary Chukwulobelu
<u>23 January 10am</u>	Readings Ray & Alex Kulanthai, Bidding prayers Monika Tabarrok		

Counters Rota

<u>9 January</u>	Judith Brightwell, Monica Assoku, Funmi Da Silva
<u>16 January</u>	Richard Wong, Pearly Jesuthasan
<u>23 January</u>	Amal Graham, Patricia Cleary, Marcello Borgese