

St. William of York Catholic Church



PARISH PRIEST
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(Marcello – via text message)

MASS TIMES

Sunday
8.00 am & 10.00 am

Weekdays
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.30am
Thursday No Mass
Friday 7.00 pm
Saturday 5.30 pm (Vigil of Sunday)

Confessions on Saturdays 4.15-5.15pm in church,
or by personal arrangement with Fr Jonathan

Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year C)

28/29 May 2022

Saturday 28 May

17.00 Rosary
17.30 Vigil Mass of Sunday
Nancy & Michael Quille RIP
(Anniv)

SUNDAY 29 May

Seventh Sunday of Easter (Yr C)
8.00 Mass People of the parish
10.00 Parish Mass
To give God thanks for life

Monday 30 May *Easter feria*

9.30 Mass & Rosary
Sr. Veronica

Tuesday 31 May

The Visitation of
the Blessed Virgin Mary *Feast*

9.30 Mass & Rosary
Emma Annessa

Wednesday 1 June

St Justin, Martyr, Memorial

9.30 Mass
Ann & John Hampshire

Thursday 2 June *Easter feria*

(Thursday and Friday are
Bank Holidays in honour of
The Queen's Jubilee)

No Mass

Friday 3 June

*St Charles Lwanga and
his Companions, Memorial*

No Mass

Saturday 4 June *Easter feria*

No Mass of the day
16.15-17.15 Confessions
17.00 Rosary
17.30 Vigil Mass of **Pentecost**
Spadoni Family

SUNDAY 5 June

Pentecost (Year C)
8.00 Mass People of the parish
10.00 Parish Mass
Roque Dias RIP

Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year C – Luke)

The readings for today's Masses can be found in the Parish Mass Book, pp.281-2

There are many reasons to be glad that our bishops restored the celebration of the Ascension to Thursday. It took place 40 days after Easter (Acts 1.3b), and it enables us to make a novena (nine days) of prayer to the Holy Spirit in anticipation of Pentecost. It also puts the Catholic Church here in the UK in union with our sister Catholic Churches on the continent who celebrate Ascension on Thursday (and make a long weekend of it!), as well as with the Church of England, here.

We saw at Ascension that, although the apostles and disciples were sad at Jesus' departure from them, and not a little perplexed, they gained *great self-confidence* from the knowledge that the on-going proclamation of the kingdom of God, with which Jesus launched his public ministry, now depended *on them*. The Ascension, then, is the "coming of age" of Christian adults. The mission of the Church *has been entrusted to us*. We gain in self-confidence through the trust Jesus has placed in us, even as we also realise that the task is enormous, and that, from our own resources alone, we are not adequate to it. Then we remember that Jesus promised to send the Spirit, the Paraclete, the 'advocate', who will guide and direct our efforts, and constantly remind us of Jesus. The readings this Sunday catch the Church in precisely that moment - between the moment of growing up, and the moment of being resourced for the mission by the Spirit.

First Reading (NT): Acts of the Apostles 7, 55 – 60: Jesus has ascended and entered into glory. And young Stephen, a Greek-speaking Jewish convert to Christianity, is the first person on record to have seen Jesus in his new, heavenly, and permanent state. This is not strictly speaking a 'resurrection appearance' or vision, but it is comparable to what Paul experienced on the road to Damascus, which Paul was absolutely convinced was no different to that experienced by the women at the empty tomb and the apostles, and that it gave him the authority to preach as an apostle. Paul (Saul at this moment) plays a cameo role in the aftermath to Stephen's vision, and one cannot help feeling that as Stephen gazed into heaven he was *already* in that other world into which his subsequent martyrdom would usher him.

Second Reading (NT): Apocalypse 22, 12 – 14, 16 – 17, 20: This short passage from the Book of Revelation sets Jesus in the glory which Stephen saw. Indeed specific reference is made to the martyrs: those who have 'washed their robes clean in the blood of the Lamb'. They are the ones who will gain entry to the city. Jesus is clearly *there* while John, author of the Book of the Apocalypse, realises that he is *here*. And yet he knows that Jesus promised that he would soon return and one of the earliest prayers Christians made was 'Come, Lord Jesus.'

Gospel: John 17, 20 – 26: Here is another extract from Jesus' great priestly prayer at the Last Supper. Conscious that he will soon enter into glory, he promises to enable his disciples to share that glory already – in this world – and involves them in the life and communion he enjoys with his heavenly Father, at whose right hand he now sits.

Prayer of Preparation for Mass

After this prayer until the bell at the start of Mass is an opportunity to pray silently together in preparation.

ALMIGHTY GOD, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, so that we may truly love you and worthily praise your holy name; through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Confirmation – Repeat notice

After the uncertainties of the pandemic some people have been asking about confirmation. I am very pleased to say that Bishop John Sherrington has reserved **25 September 2022** to come to celebrate Mass for us and to confirm both young people and adults who, after proper preparation, may ask for this sacrament.

Please would you spread the word? to anyone you know may want – or *ought to be* – confirmed, and to any family who regularly comes to Mass here with children over 13 or 14. They should in the first instance contact me and Frances on stanmore@rcdow.org.uk. Frances and I will gather names. The preparation course will probably be for an hour on a Monday or Tuesday evening – yet to be decided.

Returning to Sunday Mass from Pentecost

Following their Spring meeting the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales made an announcement about the so-called "Sunday Obligation"

"The challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. *We therefore believe that the reasons that prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.*

"It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick, or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation."

Preparing for next week's Mass

I want to encourage you all to prepare more for Sunday Mass. You may have a Sunday Missal or app like 'Universalis' that helps you find them quickly. But if not, these are the readings for next Sunday, Pentecost: **Acts 2.1-11; Romans 8.8-17; John 14, 15-16, 23-26**. Knowing and loving the Scriptures is key to insight and confidence as Catholic Christians.

Saturday 4 June 2022 – 12th National 'Divine Mercy Pilgrimage' to Walsingham

organised by Divine Mercy Apostolate of the Marian Fathers will take place on. Its theme will be 'The Merciful Lifestyle'. The principal celebrant will be Bishop David Oakley of Northampton. *Coaches to depart from Ealing Broadway and Westminster Cathedral.*

- **Coach from Ealing Broadway - Departure at 7:15 am** please call the Apostolate on 020 8998 0925
- **Coach from Westminster Cathedral - Departure at 7:00 am** please call Emmanuel 07721 362000 or Caroline 07960 466377

More information from Divine Mercy Apostolate, 020 8998 0925 or info@divinemercury.org.uk

Readers Rota

I am keen that the readers rota is organised and circulated by email. If you use email please send your email address to stanmore@rcdow.org.uk so that a full list can be compiled. [Fr JMG]

Readers Rota

<u>28 May 5.30pm</u>	Lily Meghji	<u>29 May 8am</u>	Rosemary Chukwulobelu
<u>29 May 10am</u>	Readings Monika Tabarrok, Bidding prayers Tim & Mel Goodger		
<u>4 June 5.30pm</u>	Monica Clifford	<u>5 June 8am</u>	Daphne Byron
<u>5 June 10am</u>	Readings Aude & Eduardo, Bidding prayers Carol-Anne Chandler		

Counters Rota

29 May Judith Brightwell, Monica Assoku, Funmi Da Silva
5 June Richard Wong

Church Cleaning Rota

4 June Team C: Dominick Martins, Elaine & Derrick Pereira and Elvira De Souza
11 June Team A: Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle, Lisa Harris, Beatrice McAdam and Zizo Ziwanah