

ST WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC CHURCH

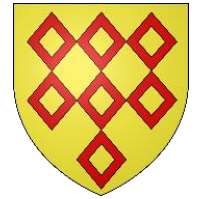
1 Du Cros Drive, Stanmore HA7 4TJ | 020 8954 1299 (Presbytery and Office) | stanmore@rcdow.org.uk
part of the Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity number 233699

Parish Priest: **The Revd Fr Jonathan Goodall**

Administrator: Mrs Frances Bright (10am-5pm Wednesday)

Safeguarding Representative: Mr Robert Chandler 020 8207 3509 or stanmoresg@safeguardingrcdow.org.uk

Hall Manager: Mr Marcello Borgese 07973 601208 (enquiries by text, with full name and preferred dates)



5—6 AUGUST 2023 – THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

This week's Masses, Intentions and Rosary

Sat 5 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>Dedication of St Mary Major Rome, Memorial</i> Mass – Neville and Janet Fernando RIP
SUN 6 Aug	THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
8am	Mass – for Kay Moody
10am R: Glorious	Parish Mass – Glory to God for his merciful kindness (Nwawulor family)
Mon 7 9.30am R: Joyful	<i>Feria of 18th Week of the Year Ps Week 2</i> Mass – Anastasia Anucha RIP (1 st Anniv)
Tues 8 9.30am R: Sorrowful	<i>St Dominic, Memorial</i> Mass – Ariam Nicholas RIP (10 th Anniv)
Wed 9 9.30am R: Glorious	St Teresa Benedicta, Feast Mass – Thanksgiving (Private intention)
Thurs 10 No mass R: Luminous	St Lawrence, Feast [Gospel of the Day: John 12.24–6]
Fri 11 7pm R: Sorrowful	<i>St Clare of Assisi, Memorial</i> Mass Alec Moody RIP <i>Friday abstinence</i>
Sat 12 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>St Jane Frances de Chantal, Memorial</i> Mass – for the people of the parish
SUN 13 Aug	19th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR
8am	Mass – Alec Moody RIP
10am R: Glorious	Parish Mass – James O'Reilly RIP (Birthday anniversary)

- ◆ **Reconciliation (Confession)** 20 mins before any weekday Mass; or Saturdays from 4.30 to 5.15pm; or at anytime by appointment
- ◆ **Mass:** see times above
- ◆ **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Friday after Mass until 8pm
- ◆ **Baptism, Confirmation (First Communion), Anointing of the Sick, and Marriage:** by appointment
- ◆ **Funerals:** by arrangement with Funeral Directors

Northwick Park Hospital: for a chaplain contact 020 8967 5130

Returning to faith? or to the Church? You may find **Catholic Listeners** useful. (It's a free telephone helpline.) 4–7pm, Mon, Tues and Fri, on 0800 448 0704 or catholiclisteners@gmail.com



Prepare for next week's Mass: reflect on the readings – 1 Kgs 19.9-13, Romans 9.1-5; Matt 14.22-33 – with wednesdayword.org

A WARM WELCOME to Mass today, especially if you are new to the parish. **Please take this newsletter home** and use the calendar in your daily prayer.

◆ **A prayer BEFORE Mass** 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, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. *Please, now keep silence together until Mass begins.*

◆ **The ORDER of Mass** is in the **orange Parish Mass Book**. Start on **p.7**; then, after the Creed, go to **p.15**; and then, at the Lord's Prayer, go to **p.56**.

◆ **Today's readings** are to be found **pp.173—5** of the *Parish Mass Book*. And the psalm response is, '**The Lord is King: the Most High over all the earth.**'

◆ **Angelus response reminder ... A B A**
We're good at the Hail Mary. Not so good at the responses. The **Angel ... And she conceived by the Holy Spirit ... Behold ... Be it unto me according to thy word ... And the Word was ... And dwelt among us.**

◆ **AFTER the 10am Mass**, thanks to Lawrence, there continue to be drinks in the Hall during August. Everyone is welcome.

REFLECTIONS on today's Scriptures - Daniel 7.9–10, 13–14, 2 Peter 1.16–19 and St Matthew 17.1–9

The Transfiguration of Jesus is one of the key events in His life. (We read it also every 2nd Sunday of Lent, but this year the feast itself falls on a Sunday.) Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a high mountain to pray. As they were praying, His appearance changed. His clothes became dazzling, as the light within Him shone through them. At that moment, Moses and Elijah appeared, and talked to Jesus about His upcoming death – His 'exodus' as St Luke says. A cloud overshadowed the six of them, and God the Father's voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!'

But there is another New Testament passage (not one of the Gospel accounts) that gives us a wonderful insight into the significance of the event for the eyewitnesses and for us.

As he neared his death (2 Pet 1.15) St Peter was deeply concerned that those Christians who would outlive him should never forget something he had witnessed 30 years before, something that with hindsight he could see was *the core truth* about Jesus. Something that made

the word of the ancient prophets 'even more reliable' for all Christian believers, he says, just as it had for Peter and his fellow apostles (2 Pet 1.19 cf. 3.2). Christians had better remember and believe Peter's testimony because many would be trying to change or dilute their faith in *Who Jesus Is* – and everything rests on that.

Here then is the passage (a bit condensed by me): "So, friends, I intend to go on, and on, and on! – reminding you [that God has called you and chosen you]. I know it's right to do this; and, since I know I'm going to die soon, I do not intend to stop. So that, when I'm gone, you will have no trouble remembering all I've said! Because when we apostles told you about the power and the appearing of the messiah, Jesus Christ, we were not peddling cleverly made-up myths! We were **eyewitnesses!** We **saw** His glory! When He received honour from God the Father, and the voice said to Him, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased", we **heard** it! We were **there** with Him on the holy mountain. What the prophets said was confirmed beyond any doubt. You remember this, and it will be like having a bright lamp in a dark place. Because it is going to get dark in the world!"

You see, the disciples had been around Jesus for a while by then. And he took some of the quicker

learners with Him to pray. Perhaps they were beginning to realise – probably with increasing panic – that He was going to ask quite a lot of them. Then suddenly 'the skies opened'; and there was light brighter than the sun at noon coming from Jesus! They were very frightened. If Jesus is going to be this surprising; Help!

Our lives of faith may be surprising too. But that great surprise of Jesus' glory, laid bare on the mountain top in that wonderful moment, is also a promise for us that, in the words of St John (another eyewitness) 'we simply *do not know* what we shall be' (1 Jn 3.2). We get glimpses. They keep us going. But we simply *don't know* what Jesus will make of us.

The only way of living with that knowledge, and perhaps with the insecurity that *really* following Jesus can sometimes bring, is to keep our eyes on the *beauty*, to keep our eyes on the *light!* The surprises of Jesus are a shock, and even a terror if He asks great things of us. But they are also the most *beautiful*, the most *worthwhile*, the most *real* things in the entire universe.

If we can trust Him for all that, then, perhaps, we can take a deep breath, and swallow hard, and say to Him, "Alright then. I'll only live once! I'm prepared to be surprised by You, and Your will for me; and I'm prepared to surprise my fellow Christians in the process too!"

A prayer you can easily learn during this month:

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You!
And I ask pardon for those who do not believe,
do not adore, do not hope and do not love You!
Prayer of the Angel, Fatima, Spring 1916

It's August so, no choir, and we will have a reduced amount of singing this month. But if you *like* to sing you are invited to sit where the choir usually sits and help lead our praises. I *know* there are good voices out there!

Confirmation Who can be confirmed? Anyone who is baptized, even if they have already begun to receive Holy Communion, and are 14 by 2024. So, **first**, I'm asking for names of *young people* who wish to be prepared for Confirmation next year. But, **second**, I'm encouraging *adults!* Do you receive Holy Communion but have never been confirmed? Please put that right. Be strengthened by the Holy Spirit! The course will begin in the autumn.

Accommodation needed A newly qualified young female member of our congregation is urgently looking for a room at an affordable rent in a house or apartment. If you know of—or can offer—such a room, please speak to Fr J.

Sunday Missal 2024 At £9.95, the Catholic Truth Society has produced a beautiful Missal, including Masses and readings for all Sundays and solemnities from Advent this year, all in calendar order; with an introduction by the Pope; music; Acts of Spiritual Communion; prayers for before and after both Mass and Holy Communion. All in a light-weight paperback - perfect for preparation during the week and bringing to church on the day. If you want to order one add your name to the list in the Narthex.

Check out this month's **Catholic Herald** in the Narthex. £5 per month. Good value. Lots of content (nearly 100 pages). Order through the parish. I have 5 sample copies for sale this month.

Tuesday 15 August is **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. Masses at both 9.30am and 7pm.

SEPTEMBER SATURDAYS ...

- **Taste of Lisbon World Youth Day, 2 Sept**, Westminster Youth Ministry's Summer Picnic. Sign up at youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/world-youth-day-summer-picnic/
- **Divine Mercy Afternoon Retreat** St John Fisher, Harrow HA2 7LW, **9 Sept**, 1.30-4.30pm. All welcome. No advance booking or registration required.
- **Young People to Walsingham 23 Sept** as part of the Diocesan Pilgrimage. Westminster Youth Ministry will be taking 45 16s-25s. The coach leaves Westminster at 7am, returns around 8pm. Booking open until 16th Sept. The cost, is £35. **If you want to go but cannot afford it, speak to Fr J.** Sign up at youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/pilgrimage-to-walsingham/

Did you know Alec Moody was a *great* fan of EWTN GB Catholic Television, which broadcasts round the clock every day? You can get it through NowTV, AppleTV, or via the EWTN-GB website. See the noticeboard for a sample programme. Or explore www.ewtn.co.uk

Readers rota

5 August	5.30	Martin Rush
6 August	8.00	Audrey Da Costa
	10.00	Carol-Anne Chandler
		Emma Nwawulor
12 August	5.30	Jennifer Bourke
13 August	8.00	Georgina Martins
	10.00	Derrick Pereira & family
		Patrick & Joseph Arthur

Church Cleaning rota

12 August	Team A
19 August	Team B