

ST WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC CHURCH

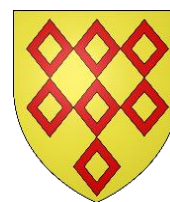
1 Du Cros Drive, Stanmore HA7 4TJ | 020 8954 1299 (Presbytery and Office) | stanmore@rcdow.org.uk
part of the Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity number 233699

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)



9—10 SEPTEMBER 2023 – 23rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

This week's Masses, Intentions and Rosary

Sat 9 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>St Peter Claver, Memorial</i> Mass – Anna & Vincent Rodrigues RIP (Anniversary)
SUN 10 8am 10am R: Glorious	23rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Mass – Alec Moody RIP Parish Mass – for the people of the parish
Mon 11 9.30am R: Joyful	<i>Feria of 23rd Week of the Year</i> Mass – Sam Wadood RIP (Birthday remembrance)
Tues 12 9.30am R: Sorrowful	<i>Most Holy Name of Mary, Memorial</i> Mass – Nora Balfe RIP
Wed 13 9.30am R: Glorious	<i>St John Chrysostom ['golden-tongue'], Memorial</i> Mass – John McGowan RIP (Anniversary)
Thurs 14 No mass R: Luminous	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Feast [Gospel of the Day: John 3.13-17]
Fri 15 7pm R: Sorrowful	<i>Our Lady of Sorrows, Memorial</i> Mass – Elizabeth (Dolly) O'Leary-Rice RIP followed by Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows Friday abstinence
Sat 16 5.30pm R: Joyful	<i>St Cornelius and Cyprian, Memorial</i> Mass – David Monblatt RIP (Anniversary)
SUN 17 8am 10am R: Glorious	24th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Mass – for the people of the parish Parish Mass – Fahrin (Private intention) [Annual Mass count begins next Sunday]

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.

◆ Before Mass, when the tower bell rings:

Pray together: 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, let's now keep silence together until Mass begins.*

◆ **During Mass**, parents and carers, please feel free to do what you need to keep children content and quiet. Do not hesitate to move around church with them. (The service is amplified into the Narthex too.) And, for everybody's safety, please accompany any child who needs to use the toilet while you're in church. Thanks.

◆ **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, from the Lord's Prayer, go to **p.56**.

◆ **Today's readings** are to be found **pp.125-127** of the *Parish Mass Book*. And the psalm response is: **'O that today you would listen to His voice! Harden not your hearts.'**

◆ **AFTER the 10am Mass**, join us in the church hall, for drinks, often with cakes, and a warm welcome.

REFLECTIONS on today's Scriptures Punishment is normally a last resort. Whether it be in families, associations, clubs, schools, professions, or in the work place – even in the Church – punishment is *the last resort*. Punishment may have a disciplinary purpose, but it is normally directed towards helping a person to understand both how his offence is at odds with the common good, and how to make better decisions into the future. The *aim* is not to humiliate, but to *help*; not to leave a person in their guilt, but to *guide* them to a better future.

All parents, teachers, bosses, those who administer justice, aim at achieving this with those under their authority. Those who deal professionally with offenders also have this aim in view. *Failure does not undermine the future* when it comes to human behaviour.

The scripture readings today direct us to right choices and right behaviour, thus reducing – even eliminating – the need for any resort to punishment.

First Reading (OT): Ezekiel 33.7–9 Ezekiel lived 600 years before Jesus, together with his fellow Israelites in Babylon, in captivity. His whole way of thinking is shaped by *exile and homesickness*. He sees the fall of Jerusalem, the

◆ **Reconciliation (Confession)** 20 mins before any weekday Mass; or Saturdays from 4.30 to 5.15pm; or at anytime by appointment

◆ **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Friday after Mass until 8pm

◆ **Baptism, Confirmation (First Communion), Anointing of the Sick, and Marriage:** all by appointment – please contact Fr Jonathan

◆ **Funerals:** by arrangement through 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



Come to Church ready to listen. Prepare for **next week's Mass** readings (**Ecclesiasticus 27.30–28.7, Romans 14.7-9; Matthew 18.21-35**) with wednesdayword.org

peoples' exile, and their decadence (in Babylon and back home), as the result of corrupt and unjust government by their rulers. So, in this passage, God instructs His prophet to invite the people to follow a different path. As the "sentry"—the lookout—of the people of Israel, Ezekiel sees it as his duty to warn them against error. If he, as a prophet (or any other person who recognizes wrong-doing) does not find a way of warning his brother or sister, he will have to answer to God for it. In our own day, not least in the chaotic times through which we are ourselves living, we need such voices—prophetic voices—to speak out for God's ways. That we may be rejected never releases us from speaking out.

Second Reading (NT): Romans 13.8–10 It is obvious that both in the Church and in society regulations and laws need to be adapted to the times: to regulate what kinds of variety is compatible, and exclude what is incompatible. And yet there are certain principles and moral laws that do not need to be corrected or updated. Principles and moral laws that, Christians believe, are permanently true.

Mass intentions and offerings can be for many more of your needs and concerns than you perhaps realise. See the list on the notice-board for starters. Let's expand the range of our prayers, and our trust in God!

Pope Francis asks us during **September** to pray, "for those people living on the margins of society, in inhumane conditions; that they may not be over-looked by institutions, and never considered of lesser importance."

Catholic Classics podcast Sign up wherever you get your podcasts, and, **starting 2 Oct**, 'read' *The Confessions of St Augustine*. In each short episode discover why this saint is such a sure guide to spiritual life. www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVZ_HJq5xjQ

Thank you for the goodwill donations collected to support Fr David Masaba Kolo's ministry. **Please catch Dominick or Juliet in church today** if you didn't get the chance to make a donation last week.

Next Saturday (16 Sept) **A Day with Mary** at St Joseph's Wembley, 9.30-4.30 A day of instruction, liturgy and prayer based on the message of Our Lady Fatima. More details on the Narthex noticeboard.

Wednesdays in September 7.30-8.45pm, Westminster Cathedral is offering its annual **Grand Organ Festival**. "The sheer impact is unforgettable"
 13th - Peter Stevens Westminster Cathedral
 20th - Martin Schmeding Leipzig
 27th - Johann Vexo Notre-Dame, Paris

Next month will see the first of two major global meetings of the Church in Rome – the so-called 'Synod on Synodality' exploring how the whole universal Church can better walk together in its discernment of the faith, evangelism, and right ethical thinking. The Cardinal has written a Pastoral Letter which will be read next week. But, for starters, watch and listen at <https://youtu.be/JFvfixE07iY>.

To pick an obvious example: when Jesus affirmed loving our neighbour as ourselves, He affirmed one of the *oldest* texts of the Bible, *Leviticus 19.34*. Already then, many centuries before Christ, the Jews understood that this moral obligation extended *beyond* their own period and race. When it came to moral teaching, Our Lady, Our Divine Lord Himself, and all the principal characters of the new testament, emerged from this same tradition.

Gospel: Matthew 18.15–20 This text must have been shaped by the need to resolve conflicts that arose in the early Christian community. Before *and after* someone offends God's law, or the community, or you personally, he/she is not a law-breaker but a brother, not a sinner but a sister. To resolve the conflict, and bring about restoration of relationship, there must be an incremental pathway. The aim is to bring the brother or sister to his or her senses, in order that forgiveness may prevail. And the passage ends with Jesus's assurance that where two or more disciples agree—even where the *most costly* reconciliation has been necessary—Jesus is with them, and in *those* circumstances Jesus *can act*.

For a last time, Rose Okosi will read at 8am Mass today. Like her daughter, Rosemary Chukwubelu, Rose has for many years read at Mass, and I have no doubt that their strong and faith-filled voices will be missed. They would be the first to say that proclaiming the word of God in the midst of the Lord's people is an absolute blessing to the reader, as well as being an instrument in the hands of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of we who listen. Sadly, they are moving out of the area soon. But we will see them back, so occasionally we may hear them too. For now, we thank them deeply and hold them in our prayers.

If any of you would like to be involved in this essential and wonderful ministry, at any of the Masses, please speak to Fr Jonathan. (He'll be dead pleased.)

There is still an opportunity, this Sunday and next, to help Yuri and Viktoriia to help their friends and family near Bakhmut, precisely where it is reported Ukraine is making progress. "One of my closest friends is asking me for help" writes Yuri. "They urgently need a pickup truck for the local people, goods and supplies. Help me to reach out to Ukraine." Please respond to Yuri. *There are envelopes for donations in the Narthex, or if it's easier for you, use BACS:* Viktoriia Vrublievska | 2461466 | 30-94-87.

DON'T FORGET! the **Parish Barbecue** after the 10am Mass on in two weeks' time. Come hungry!

Readers rota

9 September	5.30	Jennifer Bourke
10 September	8.00	Rose Okosi
	10.00	Patrick & Joseph Arthur, Derrick Pereira & family
16 Sep	5.30	Noreta Reece
17 Sep	8.00	Freda Adzinku
	10.00	Tim & Mel Goodger, Robert Chandler

Church Cleaning rota 16 Sep Team C: Dominick Martins, Elaine & Derrick Pereira
 23 Sep Team A: Caroline Boyle, Niamh Boyle, Lisa Harris and Beatrice McAdam