



**THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
ST. WILLIAM OF YORK**

4 Brockley Park, Forest Hill, SE23 1PS

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**Mass Times**

Saturdays 10.30am, 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sundays 9.30am, 11.30am Monday - Friday 9.30am Mass

**Reconciliations** - Saturdays 11-12 noon

**Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

1st & 4th Fridays of the month after Mass & 3rd Sunday of the month at 5pm

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)  
26 FEBRUARY 2023**

Dear Parishioners

Today I would like to congratulate Tabitha, who begun the second part of her journey in faith that will be concluded at Easter by receiving the sacraments of Christian initiation.

“The rite of election which usually coincides with the opening of Lent” took place in the Cathedral yesterday. Tabitha was accompanied by Sudha her Sponsor and the RCIA team. This is a joyful moment “that marks the period of the final, more intense preparation for the Sacrament of initiation”

I entrust the rest of Tabitha’s journey to our Lord, to the prayers and full support of her Godparent Sudha, the RCIA team and of our parish community.

The whole community also begins the journey towards repentance and renewal in the season of Lent, the annual call to repent and return to God’s way, let us take advantage of this opportunity in Lenten observance of prayer, fasting, and generous giving to those who are less fortunate than us.

God Bless  
Fr Habte

## **TODAY'S READINGS -**

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

## **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION -**

As we start Lent we see Jesus alone in the desert, a place without distraction, with nowhere to hide and nowhere to shelter. The desert isn't a place of escape but of utter honesty, a place of learning and formation.

In the starkness of the desert Jesus is tempted to dishonestly avoid the reality of human suffering with quick fixes (turning stones into bread). He is tempted to treat the love of his Father as an owned privilege rather than a pure gift (by throwing himself from the temple and being miraculously saved). And he is tempted to be served rather than to serve (worshipped by the kingdoms of the world). The characteristics of Jesus' mission – empathy with the suffering, loving service to all and a deep relationship with the will of his Father – are forged during these 40 days in the desert.

This Lent, Jesus asks us to face ourselves with truthfulness. To try and find a little quiet time when we can go to a "desert" - a place in our hearts where it is just God and me. And to spend time praying honestly about our lives. To listen and learn about what God want us to do and who he wants us to be. JD

## **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS -**

Genesis 12:1-4, 2 Timothy 1:8-10, Matthew 17:1-9

## **CLERGY SUPPORT FUND - SECOND COLLECTION TODAY**

The Clergy Support Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark provides care for priests in their old age and retirement, and in their time of ill health. A gift to this worthy fund will ensure a dignified retirement for our priests, after they have dedicated a lifetime of service to Christ, His Church and His People.

In 2022, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 73 retired priests, at a cost of £1.33 million. With the number of priests over the age of 65 steadily increasing, so too will the financial obligation to the Archdiocese.

Please be generous today with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers. Thank you! ·

Donate Online: <https://rcaos.org.uk/donate/csf>

- QR Code (see right)
- Telephone Mon-Fri 9am-5pm: 020 7960 2504
- Cash / Cheque – please use the Clergy Support Fund envelopes at the back of church.
- Contactless device in the Narthex



## **FAMILY FAST DAY - FRIDAY 3 MARCH – LENT APPEAL**

This Lent, CAFOD is supporting families with the skills and tools they've asked for to fight the climate crisis. In Bangladesh, 14-year-old Dristy and her mum Rupali are building seed beds and planting palm trees to protect their crops from flooding and cyclones. Give today to help families grow in strength to adapt to the climate crisis. Use the envelope or give online at [cafod.org.uk/lent](https://cafod.org.uk/lent)

We will have a second collection on Sunday 5 March 2023.

Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

## **EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF BISHOP PHILIP MOGER**

Many congratulations to Bishop Philip Moger, who was ordained Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Southwark on Tuesday 21 February at 12.30pm in St George's Cathedral, Southwark.



Cardinal Arthur Roche, prefect of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, and Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster, were in attendance, along with many of the bishops of England and Wales, and the priests of the Archdiocese of Southwark. Thank you to all who joined us in person or online, to the Schools, Diocesan and Cathedral Choirs and all whose effort granted us a truly joyful celebration.

The Archdiocese is delighted to share a number of excellent professional images of this wonderful occasion.

<https://flickr.com/photos/27340278@N03/sets/72177720306174255>

## **EASTER RETREAT AT HOME**

Our Archbishop John Wilson is again teaming up with the members of the Spirituality Commission to lead us through the Lent to prepare ourselves for the Easter. This year's theme is Renewed in Hope. Once you register online, you will receive daily reflection and weekly video clip link accompanied with prayers. Please register here: [www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/renewedbyhope](http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/renewedbyhope)

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## **POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE FOR LENT 2023**

**“In addition to the Scriptures, the Lord speaks to us through our brothers and sisters, especially in the faces and the stories of those who are in need.”**

In preparation for Lent 2023, Pope Francis has released his annual message, which this year reflects on the story of Jesus' Transfiguration.

The Holy Father encourages us to listen to what Jesus wants to tell us through the Scriptures and through others, reminding us our Lenten path is a synodal journey. He writes: "Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is 'synodal', since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master." Read the full text of the Pope's [Lent's message](#).

## **EVENING PRAYER**

If you're looking for something new for Lent, why not spend 15 minutes at the end of your day sharing Evening Prayer with other parishioners. We meet at 6pm on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday over Zoom to say Evening Prayer together. Evening Prayer is part of the Daily Office, prayed by lay and ordained Christians around the world every day. We share the words on screen so you don't need your own copy.

Contact [liturgy.swoy@gmail.com](mailto:liturgy.swoy@gmail.com) to find out more.

Evening Prayer: Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday at 6pm

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391776863?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391776863?pwd=STIHaktOb2xvNlByTnp3cUVoSjR3UT09)

[pwd=STIHaktOb2xvNlByTnp3cUVoSjR3UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391776863?pwd=STIHaktOb2xvNlByTnp3cUVoSjR3UT09)

Meeting ID: 813 9177 6863 Password: 061154

## **DO YOU KNOW OF A ROOM AVAILABLE FOR RENT?**

Jagoda, Polish Catholic female, is looking to rent a reasonably priced place, ideally a double room in a homely house share in the area of Honor Oak Park, Forest Hill, Dulwich, Brockley, long-term let, with the possibility to store bikes and access to a garden and a walking distance from the train station if possible. Jagoda works full-time (9am-5pm) as a clinician for the NHS psychological service; mostly remotely at the moment. She likes dogs, skiing, gardening and cooking.

If anyone can help, please contact Jagoda on 07845853112 or email [jagoda.therapy@gmail.com](mailto:jagoda.therapy@gmail.com)

## **POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION - MARCH 2023**

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Please pay for the Peaceful Repose of the Soul of

**Anthony Warner RIP**

Funeral to take place at St William of York  
on Friday 10 March at 12pm

Please remember Anthony's family and friends in your prayers at this difficult time.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light  
shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen

**MASS ATTENDEES**

4/5 Feb - 331 11/12 Feb - 249 18/19 Feb - 271

**PARISH DIARY**

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Sunday 26 Feb 6pm</b>                | <b>Confirmation Session 4</b>                                   | <b>Church</b>   |
| <b>Monday 27 Feb 8pm</b>                | <b>Baptism Course Session 1</b>                                 | <b>Lower Hall</b>   |
| <b>Tuesday 28 Feb 8pm</b>               | <b>Lenten Service<br/>followed by refreshments</b>              | <b>Church<br/>Lower Hall</b>  |
| <b>Thursday 2 March 8pm</b>             | <b>Singing Practice</b>   | <b>Church</b>   |
| <b>Friday 3 March<br/>9.30am - 12pm</b> | <b>Mum's &amp; Toddler's group</b>                              | <b>Cafe York</b>  |
| <b>Friday 3 March</b>                   | <b>CAFOD Family Fast Day</b>                                    |   |
| <b>Friday 3 March 2pm</b>               | <b>World Day of Prayer Service<br/>followed by refreshments</b> | <b>New Testament<br/>Church of God<br/>Rehoboth,<br/>159 Perry Rise,<br/>SE23 2QU</b> |
| <b>Saturday 4 March 9.15am</b>          | <b>Instrumentalists</b>   | <b>Church</b>   |
| <b>Sunday 5 March 3pm</b>               | <b>Eucharist Session 2</b>                                      | <b>Church</b>   |
| <b>Monday 6 March 8pm</b>               | <b>Baptism Course Session 2</b>                                 | <b>Lower Hall</b>   |



**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)**

**Day for the Unemployed**

**Saturday 25 February 2023**

**18:00** Jeremy O'Mahony RIP

**Sunday 26 February 2023**

**09:30** For the Parishioners

**11:30** Michael & Nancy O'Connor RIP

Prayers for Samuel Wyse RIP Anniversary

**Monday 27 February 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Sue Hepworth RIP

**Tuesday 28 February 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Frances Ellis (FM)

**Wednesday 1 March 2023 - St. David, Bishop, Patron of Wales**

**09:30** Charles Edwards RIP Anniversary **(live-streamed)**

**Thursday 2 March 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Teresa Loftus in Honour of Our Lady of Perpetual

**Friday 3 March 2023 - Feria**

**CAFOD Family Fast Day**

**09:30** Holy Souls

**Saturday 4 March 2023 - Feria**

**10:30** Margaret Jones (FM)

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (A)**

**Saturday 4 March 2023**

**18:00** Margaret Stomboli RIP

**Sunday 5 March 2023**

**09:30** Family Mass

Pedro Alberto Gonzalez RIP

Prayers for Cecilia Orji Idodo Birthday Blessings

**11:30** For the Parishioners **(live-streamed)**

Please access the live streaming by visiting:

[www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/](http://www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/)