



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

4 Brockley Park, Forest Hill, SE23 1PS

Clergy:- Fr Habte Ukbay, Deacon Amgad Gerges

Telephone:- 020 8690 4549 mobile 07307 869565

email:- [foresthill@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:foresthill@rcaos.org.uk)

Safeguarding:- Carol Kinch 07710 324683



**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

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)  
19 FEBRUARY 2023**

Dear Parishioners

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a special time of prayer, penance, reflection, sacrifice and good works in preparation of the celebration of Easter, through which we attain redemption. As we mark ourselves with Ashes as a sign of Penance we also commit to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

We usually think of and try to “give up something” for Lent. The sacrifices in Lent are really penance, in the same spirit as the Ninevites that repented at the preaching of Jonah. Throughout our history, Christians have found prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to be an important part of repentance and renewal.

Let us all try to add something during Lent rather than focusing only on giving up something, either to address personal habits that need work or to add some outreach to others in need. If you feel that you have the desire to become deeper connected to your faith and your church, consider if you may have a talent you can offer for our parish. Our music ministry is always welcoming new people that wish to participate in the Mass through a joyful signing to the Lord.

You can consider joining any of the parish ministries and groups according to your talents and interest.

Take advantage of the Bible reflection on Tuesday evenings at 8:00pm, followed by refreshments in the lower hall, and Benediction and Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 10:00am after the morning Mass.

God Bless  
Fr Habte

### **TODAY'S READINGS -**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 1, 1 Corinthians 3:16-23, Matthew 5.38-48

### **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION -**

It's a big ask to love someone who thinks, says or does something that hurts us or others. Yet our Gospel asks us to extend our love generously to all, including our enemies. Sometimes we limit our love, excluding an individual or group. Praying for someone who we find challenging, reminds us that God loves them too, unconditionally. We are invited to reflect on the circumstances that may have influenced their opinions or actions and look for good intentions. Generous-spirited prayer can change how we feel, speak and act, and can encourage us to build an inclusive kingdom in which all are loved.

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

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

### **New AUXILIARY BISHOP for the ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK**

Bishop-Elect Moger's Episcopal Ordination will be on **Tuesday 21 February 2023 at 12.30pm** in St George's Cathedral, Southwark. For those unable to attend in person, it will be possible to join the service via live-stream:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hqaJ3\\_Qp80](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hqaJ3_Qp80)

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Lent commences on **Wednesday 22nd February**. There will be two Masses at 10:30am and 8:00pm. Ashes will be distributed at each Mass symbolising a forty-day period of fasting and penance.

## **LENT LEAFLET**

In the special leaflet with today's newsletter, you will find lots of information about the meaning of Lent and some ideas for making it special.

**Please click here to access the Lent leaflet**

## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

During this Lenten season we will have Stations of the Cross every Friday after the morning Mass.

## **LENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, almsgiving and reconciliation. We will have a parish penitential service with visiting priests on Friday 31st March at 7.30pm.

## **JOURNEYING THROUGH LENT - EVENINGS OF SCRIPTURE, REFLECTION & PRAYER**

Fr Habte and the RCIA team, would like to especially invite you to join us for evenings of Scripture reflection and prayer during lent on Tuesday evenings at 8pm.

The services will last for 40 minutes, after which light refreshments will be available afterwards.

If you would like help getting to church, please let us know via the Parish Office.

## **SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION - DIOCESAN LENT RETREAT**

### **RENEWED BY HOPE**

Lent is nearly upon us. It is a time of preparation as we anticipate Christ's Passion and Resurrection. To support our hopeful journey together, the Diocesan Spirituality Commission has prepared a Lenten retreat experience based upon the Sunday Mass readings. There will be a weekly 10-15 minute video, accompanied by suggested exercises for prayer and reflection, all available to download in advance.

Further details, and the opportunity to sign up can be found here:

Please visit <https://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/renewedbyhope>

## **TRAINING FOR NEW ALTAR SERVERS**

Thank you to those who came to the recent Servers' training session. There will be another session on **Saturday 25th February at 4-5.15pm in church**. Children in Year 4 and above who have celebrated their First Eucharist are welcome to come along and learn about serving at mass. The number of children we can have at the session is limited, so please email us at [swoy.altarserving@gmail.com](mailto:swoy.altarserving@gmail.com) to let us know if you are coming. This helps us to plan the session and know how many children to expect. If you cannot come, please let us know and we will try to arrange another time. If you would like to start serving at Mass, you need to come to a training session first.

## PARISH SINGERS

The Parish Singers are changing day for their weekly practice from Wednesday to Thursday, starting from **Thursday 2nd March**. If you can't usually come on a Wednesday, you might like to come and join us on Thursdays! Singers for both the Sunday morning masses will meet at 8-9pm on Thursday evenings. We sing through the music for the coming Sunday including any new songs. During Lent we will also be learning the music and songs for our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. You don't need to read music. New singers are always welcome.

## CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION - SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2023

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.

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

## CAFOD SYRIA-TURKEY EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE - SYDENHAM & FOREST HILL

will be held on **Friday 3rd March at 2pm** at New Testament Church of God Rehoboth, 159 Perry Rise, Forest Hill, SE23 2QU. Refreshments will follow the service and everyone is welcome.

## CYCLE OF PRAYER: Intentions for Lent

Candidates for the Sacraments *especially on the Sundays*

The Needy and Hungry of the World *especially on Lent Fast Day, Friday of the First Week of Lent.*

Penitents and Wanderers.

Women *especially on Women's World Day of Prayer, first Friday in March*

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST ANDREWS, BELMONT HILL, LEWISHAM

### A FOUR WEEK INDIVIDUALLY GUIDED RETREAT

Sun 26th Feb to Sun 26th March 2023 Each week, you are invited to meet with your spiritual accompanier at any of the following: Lewisham, Brockley, Sidcup, West Wickham, Bexley, Swanley, or online. You can find information about the retreat at [welcome@sisters-of-st-andrew.com](mailto:welcome@sisters-of-st-andrew.com)

Contact us via email or via the website:- <https://sisters-of-st-andrew.com>

### LENTEN QUIET DAY

Sat, 4 March 10– 4 , at Srs of St Andrew, Belmont Hill, Lewisham – with Sr. Sigrun.

### WEEKDAY RETREAT

Monday, 13 March, 'Nothing can be loved at speed' – 10.30 am for 11.00 start and ends 3.30pm, with Sr. ChrisJane and/or Sr. Regula.

Further information at [welcome@sisters-of-st-andrew.com](mailto:welcome@sisters-of-st-andrew.com)

### MASS ATTENDEES

28/29 Jan - 269 4/5 Feb - 331 11/12 Feb - 249

### PARISH DIARY

Sunday 19 Feb 5pm	Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Saturday 25 Feb 9.15am	Instrumentalists	Church
Saturday 25 Feb 4-5.15pm	Altar Server training	Church
Sunday 26 Feb 6pm	Confirmation Session 4	Church
Monday 27 Feb 8pm	Baptism Course Session 1	Lower Hall
Tuesday 28 Feb 8pm	Lenten Service	Church
Thursday 2 March 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Friday 3 March	Family Fast Day	

**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**Saturday 18 February 2023**

**18:00** Catty Harding

**Sunday 19 February 2023**

**09:30** Kian Channing Wellbeing

**11:30** For the Parishioners

**Monday 20 February 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Ron Howell RIP 5th Anniversary

**11:45** Funeral of Hannah Janiszewska RIP

**Tuesday 21 February 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Herbert Denton-Ingram (FM)

**The Season of Lent**

**Wednesday 22 February 2023**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**10:30** Louise Thompson (FM)

**20:00** For the Parishioners ([live-streamed](#))

**Thursday 23 February 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Agnes Orieso RIP

**Friday 24 February 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Kevin McGuinness RIP

**Saturday 25 February 2023 - The Blessed Virgin Mary**

**10:30** Clement Spooner (FM)

**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

Please access the live streaming by visiting:

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