



**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 -3rd Sunday of the month at 5pm

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)
8 JANUARY 2023**

Dear Parishioners

This weekend 8th January 2023, our parish confirmation programme begins. The Sessions are held on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm, each catechetical session includes prayer, catechesis and some activities that help the candidates to bond together as a team and members of the parish community.

Parents/guardians as the first educators of their children, also have their part to play. They are expected and encouraged to attend the parent's sessions during the year. This involvement of the parents' in the catechesis, and in assisting the catechists and the candidates in their journey in faith is considered as a vital element in the children's preparation for Confirmation.

The parish community also plays its role in encouraging and praying for the candidates, their parents/guardians and the confirmation catechists' team in their journey. Therefore, I ask you to pray for a successful time of preparation in the coming six months.

God Bless

Fr Habte

TODAY'S READINGS -

Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7, Acts 10:34-38, Matthew 3:13-17

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION -

The account of the baptism of Jesus in Mark, the earliest gospel, is also the simplest. In Mark the Voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus himself, and there is no sign that others heard it; it is an experience of Jesus: 'You are my Son'. In Matthew the Voice is addressed to the bystanders: 'This is my Son'. This makes the private revelation into a public scene, a declaration that Jesus' work is about to begin. In the same way our baptism is a public scene, a declaration that we are committed to Christ in his Church – even if we don't remember it! Matthew also records the little dialogue of John's unwillingness to baptise Jesus. Why should Jesus enter into the community of repentance which John was forming? He was no sinner! However, it was a gesture that Jesus was entering fully into the condition of all humanity. He shared fully in human nature, the nature of a humanity which had fallen even though he himself was sinless. At the outset of his ministry Jesus must reveal the fullness of his humanity, for only so could he redeem the fallen human race. Jesus is not merely passive, for he himself joins with John in making the positive step: 'We must do all that righteousness demands'.

A quick review: what difference has baptism made to my life

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS -

Isaiah 49:3,5-6, 1 Corinthians 1:1-3, John 1:29-34

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS

Our Sacramental preparations continue on Sunday 8th January 2023:-

3pm - Reconciliation Session 4 in the church

3pm - Reconciliation Group Parents meeting in the school hall

6pm - Confirmation Session 1 in the church

Please keep the children, young people, families and catechists in your prayers.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Please pray for the children who will be making their First Reconciliation on Saturday 14th January 2023 at 10.00am.

(Please note there will be no 10.30am Mass that day)

A Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 15th January 2023 at 9.30am.

PEACE SUNDAY - 15 JANUARY 2023

This year the message from Pope Francis tells us: 'No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace'.

He asks us: 'What did we learn from the pandemic? What new paths should we follow to cast off the shackles of our old habits, to be better prepared, to dare new things? What signs of life and hope can we see, to help us move forward and try to make our world a better place?'

A vaccine has been found for Covid-19, says the Holy Father, but we still need to tackle the virus of war, and of inequality, and this can only be done together.

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which aims at working together to promote peace through parishes, schools and social media.

Click for the [WORLD PEACE DAY MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS](#)

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going and we will have a second collection next weekend. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION - JANUARY 2023

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

CYCLE OF PRAYER - Intentions for Ordinary Time before Lent:

Peace on Earth - especially on the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Openness to the Word of God - especially on the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

For Justice and Peace in the World - especially on Racial Justice Day

(three Sundays before the first Sunday of Lent)

Christian Unity - especially during the Church Unity Octave

The Victims of Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it - especially on Thursday 8th February

The Sick and Those who Care for them especially on World Day of the Sick, 11th February

The Unemployed- especially on the Sunday before the 1st Sunday of Lent, the Day for the Unemployed

Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Souls of

Clare Bedding RIP

Funeral to take place at St William of York
Tuesday 24 January at 12.00pm

Pope Emeritus Benedict XV1 RIP

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

Pope Benedict's funeral "an unshakable expression of faith and trust in the promises of Jesus," said Cardinal Nichols

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, speaking shortly after the Requiem Mass in St Peter's Square for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, described the funeral as in one way "a straightforward celebration of a Funeral Mass," in another way, a uniquely historical event "of great emotional depth and stature."

The Requiem Mass, presided over by Benedict's successor Pope Francis, took place on Thursday morning, 5 January, after almost 200,000 pilgrims had paid their final respects to the Pope Emeritus during a period of his lying in state for the previous three days.

Cardinal Nichols said he was collecting his memories of Pope Benedict during the Mass and considered his last homily before retiring as pope. In it, Benedict used the image of Jesus asleep in the back of the boat when the storm came on the Sea of Galilee and the disciples were frightened.

[Click here to Read More](#)



FINANCES

DECEMBER 2022

The monthly Offertory Collection - £1,492.83
Donations for the Advent Homeless Fund - £2,170.41
Donations for the Parish Crisis Fund - £398.82
Donations for the Catholic Children's Society (Crib Collection) - £97.07
Donations for Fr Habte's Christmas Offering - £3,625.39
From monthly standing orders we collected - £4,463.00

Thank you for your continued support
Please Gift Aid where possible

ADVENT HOMELESS COLLECTION

The total collected during our Advent Homeless Collection was £2,567.84
The money will be divided between a few selected homeless charities.

Thank you very much for your generosity.

MASS ATTENDEES

17/18 Dec - 235 24/25 Dec- 551 31 Dec/1 Jan- 209

PARISH DIARY

| | | |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Sunday 8 Jan 3pm | Reconciliation 4th Session Parents Meeting | Church School Hall |
| Sunday 8 Jan 6pm | Confirmation 1st Session | Church |
| Wednesday 11 Jan 8pm | Choir Practice | Church |
| Saturday 14 Jan 9.15am | Instrumentalists | Church |
| Saturday 14 Jan 10am | Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation | Church |
| Sunday 15 Jan 5pm | Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | Church |

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)

Saturday 7 January 2023

18:00 Nicola Rolt

Sunday 8 January 2023

09:30 Adrian McGurran RIP

11:30 For the Parishioners

Monday 9 January 2023 - Feria

09:30 Sean Garvey RIP

Tuesday 10 January 2023 - Feria

09:30 Michael Jenvey RIP

Wednesday 11 January 2023 - Feria

09:30 Cassie McGlynn RIP **(live-streamed)**

Prayers for Sue Hepworth RIP

Thursday 12 January 2023 - Feria

09:30 Rose Smith (FM)

Friday 13 January 2023 - Feria

09:30 Genowefa (Gina) Szczegolski RIP

Saturday 14 January 2023 - The Blessed Virgin Mary

10:00 Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Peace Day

Saturday 14 January 2023

18:00 Mrs Bridie Cloono RIP

Sunday 15 January 2023

09:30 Thanksgiving for Reconciliation

Adrian McGurran RIP

11:30 For the Parishioners

Please access the live streaming by visiting:

www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/

Reconciliations - Saturday 11-12 noon