



**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, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday - 9.30am

(Please note on Thursdays the church will be open for private prayer from 9.30am-10.00am except on Holydays of Obligations & special occasions)

Reconciliations - Saturdays 11-12 noon

Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

1st & last Friday of the month after Mass & 3rd Sunday of the month at 5pm

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

21 January 2024

Sunday of the Word of God

Dear Parishioners

Yesterday Saturday 20 January we celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation in our parish. Twenty-one children received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time: accompanied by their parents and guardians, families and catechists.

The Church, home for children of God, of those who, in baptism, received the life of Jesus the Son of God. Here, in Church, we come to love God, and our neighbour.

The Church is the place of Love and therefore also of forgiveness! Jesus did not come for the righteous but for sinners, and he instituted the Sacrament of Confession when he said to the Apostles, on Easter day: "whose sins you forgive, they will be forgiven...".

The grace of forgiveness is given to us in the sacrament of reconciliation: "let yourselves be reconciled with God" St. Paul tells us.

We were already forgiven on the day of Baptism, on that day we were given the white robe as a sign of our new dignity, that is, from creatures of God, as we are all born, we became sons and daughters of God, Christians.

It is wonderful that we celebrate a Thanks Giving Mass for the grace received and for the love given. I hope parents and guardians mark the day by continuing to celebrate the day at home as well.

Finally, I would like to say thank you for everybody who contributed preparing our children for this day,

God Bless
Fr Habte

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS -

Jonah 3:1-5,10, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20

THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE REFLECTION -

In this Sunday's Gospel, the first followers of Jesus saw something in him and wanted to know more. They might have heard from John the Baptist that Jesus was calling for positive behaviour change - repentance. At this stage, they did not yet know the detail of the message of Good News Jesus was bringing. But they were attracted to his positive message, a new way of thinking, a different vision for what mattered to God.

Our readings invite us to be curious and open-minded when we see people doing good things for others and living the values of God's kingdom - forgiveness, healing, putting others first, being generous or peacemakers.

This week we could look out for goodness and peacemaking. Wherever we see it, we can learn from those who make positive change happen in our communities. Jesus used the language of fishing and social connection when inviting the fisherman to follow him. When we spread the good news of the kind actions and selfless values that we notice, we too can try to choose words and ideas that the people we're talking to relate to.

MMcD

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS -

Deuteronomy 18:15-20, ! Corinthians 7:32-35, Mark 1:21-28



BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS - This weekend we baptised Georgie Elizabeth Stella Weatherill and Effie Adwoa Riordan-Nash. Congratulations to Georgie and Effie and their parents Rebecca and Albert and Clarissa and Peter from all at St William of York and welcome Georgie and Effie to our parish family.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME - Sunday 21 January at 6pm in Church

This weekend, 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.

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

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

LISTENING CAMPAIGN - 27/28 JANUARY 2024 - St William of York have been members of Citizens UK for over 15 years. Citizens UK is an alliance of local communities working together for social justice and the common good. They bring together everyday people and local organisations to build a better, fairer society, listening and discussing changes members want to see in their community. For example, issues such as immigration, the living wage and affordable housing. St Williams of York Citizens together with London Community Land Trust recently completed a project and successfully delivered 11 affordable homes in Citizens House, Unity Way, Sydenham. The project which began in 2014 has received positive press coverage in a number of national newspapers and specialist architectural journals. In May the project won a highly coveted Pineapple Award for Community Engagement. Building on this excellent work we would like to invite the parish to participate in another listening campaign, to find out what issues are important to us today and from there create a St William of York Citizens group who will represent our views on the Lewisham and Greenwich Citizens alliance. **The Listening Campaign will take place on 27/28 January after each Mass.**

Below is the link to the questionnaire or scan the QR code. <https://forms.office.com/r/3H8LbYiLWY?origin=lprLink>



Janet Emmanuel

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY - SATURDAY 27 JANUARY

Fragility of Freedom is the theme for 2024

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is marked on 27 January each year and is a time to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in the genocides which followed.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



NEXT SUNDAY IS RACIAL JUSTICE DAY

There will be a second collection for the Catholic Association for Racial Justice to support the work of the Catholic Church to promote racial justice in our schools, parishes and in the wider community.

The Annual Racial Justice Sunday Mass at St. George's Cathedral, will take place at 10 am on Sunday 28th January 2024 and will be celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson. All are welcome.

The Racial and Cultural Inclusion Commission, coordinated by Canon Victor Darlington, would like to invite all parishioners to this event. Please come in your traditional attires and costumes and possibly bring a flag of your country of origin. This will add vigour and colour to the occasion.

Mass will begin at 10.00am and everyone is gently requested to be seated at least 15 minutes before.

HIGHER EDUCATION CHAPLAINCY EVENT - SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

The Higher Education Chaplaincy in the Archdiocese of Southwark would like to invite all those in higher education to a Q&A event with the Archbishop on Saturday the 3rd February 2024 at St George's Cathedral.

The event starts at 3.45pm with a tour of the Cathedral followed by the Q&A session and Vigil Mass at 6pm. Refreshments and pizzas at 7pm in Amigo Hall. Everyone in Higher Education are welcome to attend. For further details visit

<https://fb.me/e/4PmFDo5ll>

CARITAS SOUTHWARK ANNIVERSARY

This March is the first anniversary of Caritas Southwark. To mark the occasion, Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass at St. George's Cathedral on Saturday 16th March at 12.30pm. There will be an event in Amigo Hall afterwards, highlighting some of the wonderful projects taking place in various parishes across the archdiocese. All are welcome.

MASS ATTENDEES

30/31 December -262 6/7 January - 296 13/14 January -312

PARISH DIARY

Sun 21 Jan 9.30am	Thanksgiving Mass for Reconciliation	Church
Sun 21 Jan 5pm	Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sun 21 Jan 6pm	Confirmation 1st Session	Church
Thurs 25 Jan 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Fri 26 Jan 9.30am-12pm	Mother's & Toddlers	Cafe York
TBC	Instrumentalists	Church
Sat 27 & Sun 28 Jan - after Masses	Listening Campaign	Church



Challenge yourself and take on The Big Lent Walk! Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. [SIGN UP TODAY HERE](#)

CAFOD and SCIAF are teaming up to bring the Big Lent Walk to Great Britain! Read more about us and our decision to join forces. Thousands of walkers from England, Wales, Scotland and beyond, will be tying up their purple laces and walking an incredible 200km this Lent to fight global poverty.

So, sign up to do the Big Lent Walk yourself, or join in with your school or parish. Then put your best foot forward with the biggest group of Big Lent Walkers yet.



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Sunday of the Word of God

Saturday 20 January 2024

18:00 James Maguire RIP

Sunday 21 January 2024

09:30 Thanksgiving Mass for 1st Reconciliation Children,
Families & Catechists

11:30 For the Parishioners

Monday 22 January 2024 - Feria

09:30 Ann Mellon RIP

Tuesday 23 January 2024 - Feria

09:30 Meg Gallagher RIP

Wednesday 24 January 2024 - St. Frances de Sales, Bishop & Doctor

09:30 John McGlynn RIP Junior (live-streamed)

Thursday 25 January 2024 - The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

09:30 Private Prayer

Friday 26 January 2024 - Sts. Timothy & Titus, Bishops

09:30 Dan Morley

Saturday 27 January 2024 - Feria

10:30 Martin McNicholas RIP

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Racial Justice Day

Saturday 27 January 2024

18:00 For the Parishioners

Sunday 28 January 2024

09:30 Michael Ryan RIP

11:30 Michael Guilfoyle RIP

(FM) Foundation Mass

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page

www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY



28 JANUARY 2024, 10 AM

@

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS AT AMIGO HALL



ARCHDIOCESE *of*
SOUTHWARK