



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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)
12 MARCH 2023

Dear Parishioners

School and Parish Penitential Services in Lent

In this Lenten time of renewal, conversion and retuning to the Lord, our parish provides the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation for every parishioner by holding School and parish Penitential Services.

On Tuesday 24th March, at 1:45pm, we will have our School reconciliation service for our children, parents and parishioners are welcome to receive the sacrament after the children.

Also, on Friday 31 March at 7:30pm we will have another opportunity.

All are welcome.

Many thanks

Fr Habte

TODAY'S READINGS -

Exodus 17:3-7, Romans 5:1-2,5-8, John 4:5-42

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

In the middle of the day a Samaritan woman comes to draw water from Jacob's well, where Jesus is resting. He asks her for a drink, which surprises her because Jews avoid all association with Samaritans. Responding to her incredulity, Jesus tells her that if only she knew him and what God was offering, she would be asking him for water and he would give her living water. As she persists in her disbelief, Jesus tells her that his water will become a spring inside her, welling up to eternal life. She accepts his offer with scepticism, saying that she will never need to draw water again. When he says that first she should call her husband, she says that she has no husband and Jesus agrees, telling her that although she has had five husbands, the man she lives with now is not her husband. Such knowledge of her life persuades her that Jesus is a prophet and she reveals her own search for truth when she asks where God should be worshipped and expresses hope in the coming of the Messiah. Jesus tells her that salvation comes from the Jews, that God is spirit and wants to be worshipped in spirit and truth. He reveals that he is the Messiah which makes her so excited that she leaves her water jar and hurries back to her town to spread the good news of the coming of the Messiah. There must have been a longing for God in that place, because the townsfolk come out to meet Jesus, welcoming him and asking him to stay awhile. We are not told how the seeds of faith were sown in that community, but the people were longing for the Messiah and open to receiving the Good News of salvation. Jesus tells his disciples that the harvest is rich and the reaper reaps where he has not sown. We too may bring the Gospel message to fruition in people, who have the seeds of faith already; reaping where we have not sown. But also, we may sow seeds of faith in people we meet, by what we say and do. The way in which we lead our lives is a light by which those who are searching may find God.

PB

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS -

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7,10-13, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

This will be marked over two periods on **Friday 17th & Saturday 18th March.**

We will have Mass at 6pm on Friday 17th March, and the church will remain open afterwards for quiet prayer and reflection with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, finishing with Night Prayer at 11pm. On Saturday 18th March, we start again with Morning Mass at 10.30am and the church will remain open until 12 noon with the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

CARITAS SOUTHWARK

At the initiation of Archbishop John Wilson, our diocese has been working to establish “Caritas Southwark”. The purpose of creating Caritas within the diocese is to have an umbrella to every charitable work that we do, and to build upon existing structures and to take the active love of God beyond our parishes.

Please click [HERE](#) to access a copy of a Pastoral message from Archbishop John regarding the launch of Caritas Southwark or pick up a hard copy from the Narthex.

Canon Victor Darlington the Episcopal Vicar for the Southeast area, with his team has been working towards achieving the establishment of “Caritas Southwark”. The inauguration will be on **Saturday 18th March 2023 at 12:30pm at St George’s Cathedral**, with a Mass presided by Archbishop John, followed by a Roadshow of the numerous social and religious activities operating within the diocese.

Here at SWOY, we live and express our solidarity in many different ways by taking part in the many charitable initiatives, we can be part of this umbrella by linking up with Caritas and the many groups it brings together. I encourage anybody who is involved in charitable works and has the interest, to join our Diocesan family on this day of Inauguration.



RACIAL JUSTICE & CULTURAL INCLUSION NEWSLETTER & CARITAS SOUTHWARK

Please click [HERE](#) to access a newsletter for the Commission for Promoting Racial Justice and Cultural Inclusion. It is intended to circulate this newsletter 6 times a year.

This edition includes articles on:

- Racial Justice Sunday 5 February 2023, including the Homily by Archbishop John Wilson;
- A spotlight on Saint Oscar Arnulfo Romero;
- Details of forthcoming events, including The Commission for Racial & Cultural Inclusion Fellowship Day on Saturday 25 March 2023; and
- Contact details for our Team.

DIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT: “Renewed in Hope”

It isn’t too late to sign up to receive the weekly Reflection (video) each Monday.

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

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.

RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH

On the 3rd, 4th, and 5th, Sundays of Lent we will be having a Scrutiny for Tabitha, now one of the elect, who is preparing for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist supported by her Godparent Sudha.

Each Scrutiny will be celebrated at a different mass time each week.



The Scrutinies are a vital part of the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults known as the RCIA and occur during the period of Lent. They are Rites of self-searching and repentance and have above all a spiritual purpose. The Scrutinies are meant to heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good.

The Scrutinies are celebrated to protect the elect against temptation and to give them strength in Christ who is the Way the Truth and the Life.

These Rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and carry out their decision to love God above all.

POOR PARISHES

Our second collection next week will be for the poor parishes, formerly, the Needs of the Diocese collection, which enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the diocese. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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 to find out more.

Evening Prayer: Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday at 6pm

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391776863?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391776863?pwd=STlHaktOb2xvNlByTnp3cUVoSjR3UT09)

[pwd=STlHaktOb2xvNlByTnp3cUVoSjR3UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391776863?pwd=STlHaktOb2xvNlByTnp3cUVoSjR3UT09)

Meeting ID: 813 9177 6863 Password: 061154

GETTING MARRIED?

At least six months' notice needs to be given for marriages whether they are taking place at SWOY or elsewhere to give time for the necessary pastoral and administrative preparation. Please speak to Fr. Habte in the first instance.

GIFT AID

Envelopes for the period April 2023 to March 2024 are now available for collection from the Narthex for those parishioners who are currently using envelopes.

Please collect the envelope number that you have been using through 2022 as you leave the church. If you need a reminder of your gift aid number, please contact Mary via the parish office foresthill@rcaos.org.uk or 020 8690 4549.

There are also supplies of white gift aid envelopes in the Narthex for one-off donations, second and special collections and for use by visitors to our parish. Please remember to add your gift aid number when using the white envelopes. Many thanks for your continued support.

If you are a UK tax payer, please sign up for gift aid as we will be able to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you donate at no cost to yourself. It makes a huge difference to us.

Please scan the QR code with your phone camera to access the secure Dona online portal or access via our website www.swoy.org.uk or use the contactless device facility in the Narthex to make a donation and sign up to Gift Aid or if you prefer download a [Parish Pledge and gift aid form](#) and email or post back to the parish office.

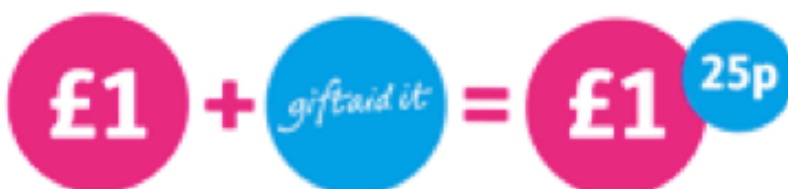


Since the installation of the contactless device in April 22 an additional 70 parishioners have signed up for gift aid which is great news as previously we were receiving an average of 4-6 new gift-aiders each year.

Please make a note to advise the parish office via email if you change your address or if your tax status should change so we may update our records accordingly. If you should require a report of your gift aid donations or if you have any questions regarding gift aid, please do not hesitate to contact Mary.

Please click the link to download a [Gift Aid Information leaflet](#)

Many thanks for your continued support.



Please continue to pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Souls of

John Cooper RIP

Funeral to take place at St William of York on Tuesday 28 March at 1pm.

Please remember John's wife Margaret and his family and friends
in your prayers at this difficult time.

Angela Pigott RIP

(Mother of Simon Pigott)

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

**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**

MASS ATTENDEES

18/19 Feb - 271 25/26 Feb - 283 4/5 Mar - 345

PARISH DIARY

| | | |
|---------------------|--|----------------------|
| Sun 12 March 6pm | Confirmation Session 5 | Church |
| Tues 14 March 8pm | Lenten Service followed by refreshments | Church Lower Hall |
| Thurs 16 March 8pm | Singing Practice | Church |
| Fri 17 March 9.30am | Mum & Toddler's group | Cafe York |
| Fri 17 March 6pm | 24hrs for the Lord begins | Church |
| Sat 18 March 9.15am | Instrumentalists | Church |
| Sun 19 March 5pm | Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | Church |



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Saturday 11 March 2023

18:00 Frances Cummins Get Well

Sunday 12 March 2023

09:30 For the Parishioners

11:30 Samuel Wyse RIP

Monday 13 March 2023 - Feria

09:30 Clare Bedding RIP

Tuesday 14 March 2023 - Feria

09:30 Holy Souls

Wednesday 15 March 2023 - Feria

09:30 Angela Pigott RIP ([live-streamed](#))

Thursday 16 March 2023 - Feria

09:30 John Cooper RIP

Friday 17 March 2023 - Feria

09:30 Fidelis Dako RIP

START OF 24HRS FOR THE LORD

18:00 Adrian McGurran RIP

Saturday 18 March 2023 - Feria

10:30 Daniel Hanus RIP

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Laetare Sunday

Mothering Sunday

Saturday 18 March 2023

18:00 Bridget Cummins

Sunday 19 March 2023

09:30 For the Parishioners

11:30 Sue Hepworth RIP

Please access the live streaming by visiting:

www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/

COLOMA CONVENT GIRLS' SCHOOL

WE ARE RECRUITING

OPPORTUNITIES ARE
AVAILABLE TO WORK AT
ONE OF THE TOP GIRLS'
COMPREHENSIVE
SCHOOLS IN THE
COUNTRY

× **TEACHING
& SUPPORT
STAFF
POSITIONS**



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