



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

Eucharistic Devotion after Mass on Fridays during Advent

Reconciliations - Saturdays 11-12 noon

Any time during Advent by contacting Fr. Habte in advance.

Advent Penitential service on Tuesday 20th December at 7:30pm.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) 27 NOVEMBER 2022

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday we begin the new season of Advent that has a twofold character. Catholic tradition offers the Advent wreath as a sign of our preparation for the birth of Christ. It is a time of preparation for Christmas, when Christ's first coming is remembered and it is also a time to direct mind and heart to await his Second Coming.

The Signs of our preparation are our acts of charity and concern for one another. We reflect and consider our weaknesses and take advantage of the Sacrament of Penance either by coming to the weekly time of confession or the Advent penitential service. Our annual generosity includes offering our gifts on Gift Sunday and considering to give generously to our Advent Homeless collection that happens during the four Advent weekends.

I wish every member of our parish community a spiritual, fruitful and a Holy Advent season.

Fr Habte



TODAY'S READINGS -

Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:37-44

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

In each year of the three-year cycle the Advent Sunday gospel-readings have the same pattern: the first is about the final Coming of Christ. In the second John the Baptist is preparing a community of repentance to welcome Jesus' mission. In the third John the Baptist points out Jesus as the Messiah. On the fourth Sunday we look to Mary preparing for the birth of her Son. In this Sunday's reading about the Second Coming the accent is the same as in the Paul's letter to the Romans (today's second reading): we have a pressing and urgent need to take action without delay. The Second Coming will be sudden and unexpected as when a thief breaks in at night and no protective preparations have been made; it will also seem random and apparently without discernible cause, as when one person is taken, another left behind. We do not even know whether that final confrontation (when each of us is brought face to face with the awesome presence of God) will be a unique event for each of us at death, or whether it will be a group event, as is suggested by Matthew's parable of the sheep and goats sent to right and left. There is no time in eternity, no waiting-room! It will not be as any human mind can envisage it.

Should we look forward to or dread the final meeting with the Lord?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS -

Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-9, Matthew 3:1-12



BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

This weekend we baptised Una Astin, Holly Holme and Ava Ibbeston. Many congratulations to their parents Rachel and Christian, Hayleigh and Paul and Jade and Ben from all at St William of York and welcome Una, Holly and Ava Naomi to our parish family

12th FOREST HILL (St William of York) SCOUT GROUP - 50th ANNIVERSARY

We pray in thanksgiving for all our Scouts and their Leaders past and present who will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary this weekend and taking part in a Blessing and Promise Renewal at the 11.30am Mass on Sunday.



GIFT SUNDAY

We will once again be collecting gifts this year to pass on to local charities for their Christmas appeals. Voluntary Services Lewisham has now closed and their work has been passed on to other charities and groups. This year, we are collecting toys and gifts for the Salvation Army appeal and Christmas food items will be donated to the local food bank. We will be collecting gifts at all masses over the weekend of 26-27 November, during the following week and again on 3-4 December. This year, we are asking for donations of Toys or gift vouchers for children and teenagers, Small Christmas food and other items - e.g., Christmas puddings, biscuits, chocolates, crackers

RCIA JOURNEY IN FAITH

The next session of the RCIA Journey in Faith is on **Tuesday 29th November in the Lower Hall with refreshments at 7:45pm before the session at 8:00pm prompt, finishing at 9:10pm.**

All are welcome to come along and explore the **The Liturgical Year in Song and Colour** with our **enquirer Tabitha** and her sponsor **Sudha**. It will be a great support to them if you could find the time to join us for a friendly informative evening. This is last session before Christmas so do come along and help us sing our way through the seasons of the year. We look forward to welcoming you.

ADVENT LEAFLET

Please take a leaflet from the Narthex or click here [Advent Leaflet](#)
Advent is a busy time for all of us at church at home and work. Keep the leaflet handy so you know what we'll be doing together in our Church and Parish Community.

FAMILY MASS - SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER AT 9.30AM

We will have a Family Mass next Sunday 4th December at 9:30am, our liturgy will be fully animated by our children and year 6 students from SWOY school who will lead the singing. We hope to see many young families and children at Mass on that day.

A FREE SHORT DAILY REFLECTION DURING ADVENT:

Advent can be such a busy demanding time, but we encourage you to make some space to reflect and pray this advent. Sign up for our free Southwark Diocesan 'daily advent reflections' to aid your prayer. Every day during advent you will receive an email with a very brief thought for the day based on the daily reading. It is an opportunity to listen to Gods invitation to you this advent. All you have to do is sign up and then set aside a couple of minutes each day to reflect! Sign up via the Commission web site:

<http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/> clicking on the Advent Reflection box.

Alternatively, if you are viewing this online, you can sign up directly by clicking here: <https://southwarkdsc.us11.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=a3e1dce7f8f666e9d64edd867&id=4f880b3b9c>

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION DURING ADVENT

We will have Eucharistic adoration during Advent after the Friday morning Mass. Please come and join us.

ADVENT PARISH PENITENTIAL SERVICE - TUESDAY 20 DECEMBER AT 7.30PM

Advent is a good time to take advantage of the Sacrament of Penance, either at the Saturday 11:00pm- 12:00 noon parish confession times, or any time during advent by contacting Fr. Habte in advance. We will also be holding a parish Penitential service on Tuesday 20th December at 7:30pm.

SECOND COLLECTIONS DURING ADVENT WILL BE FOR THE HOMELESS

Please give generously!
THANK YOU.

SWOY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR

Sunday 4th December 2022 12.30-14.30

With festive food and drink, Santa's Grotto, Christmas family photos, and many more stalls to keep everyone entertained.

Bring your friends, family and neighbours – EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Thank you for your support!



ART at CHRISTMAS

The Art Group are busy making preparations for the celebration of Christmas in our community. This year, with your help, we plan to create a choir of angels for our church and are looking for your creativity to help us make this happen. There are templates of the Angel in the Narthex and we invite you to take one, and decorate it with your customary flair, colour and sparkle so that our choir of angels will be a glorious riot of joy.

Please return your finished angels to us by **Sunday 11th December** at the latest, you can leave them in the Narthex or the presbytery.

It is always a pleasure to see your beautiful creations and we look forward to bringing your angels together for Christmas.



Knit n' Natter

Please continue to join us **every Tuesday at 2pm in Cafe York** to share ideas or just have a chat while you knit or crochet the Christmas Angels to decorate the Church ready for Christmas. All are welcome!

Please get busy and bring your angels to church by 17th December.

At our carol service this year we want to have a host of heavenly angels to share with the congregation

Knitted angel <http://www.christmasangel.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Christmas-Angel.pdf>

Crochet angel [https://Christmas angel crochet pattern \(version 2\)](https://Christmas%20angel%20crochet%20pattern%20(version%202))

STEWARDS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

In order to plan and arrange the Christmas Masses once again this year we need the help of Stewards. The more stewards we have easier it is during this busy festive season. Please contact Mary if you will be able to assist.

foresthill@rcaos.org.uk or 020 8690 4540

Many thanks

THE HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE SOUTH-EAST PASTORAL AREA

All parishioners in the deaneries of Bexley, Bromley, Camberwell, Greenwich Lambeth and Lewisham are warmly invited to a Christmas Carol Service to be held at St Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, 103 Woolwich New Road, SE18 6EF on Sunday 11th December 2022 at 7.30pm.

The Reverend Canon Victor Darlington will be the Principal Celebrant.

SAVE THE DATE! RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY MASS

To mark this important day, Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass at 10 am in St George's Cathedral, in collaboration with the Commission for Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion which is led by Canon Victor Darlington. It will be a great opportunity for all Catholics in our Archdiocese to join together in reflecting on the importance of our oneness in Christ. All are invited to this Mass which will be celebrating our oneness in our diversity. It would be a beautiful opportunity to see many countries and cultures represented. It is also an opportunity to give thanks for the work of our Commission for promoting racial and cultural inclusion. The clergy, parishioners, school pupils and staff, as well as leaders and members of ethnic chaplaincies are all warmly invited to join Archbishop Wilson in celebrating Racial Justice Sunday. Those attending are encouraged to wear cultural dress and are asked to be seated by 9.45 am for a prompt start at 10 am in St George's Cathedral.

MASS ATTENDEES

5/6 Nov - 314 12/13 Nov -298 19/20 Nov - 269

PARISH DIARY

Tuesday 29 Nov 2pm	Knit n Natter	Cafe York
Tuesday 29 Nov 7.45pm	RCIA/JIF - The Liturgical Year in Song & Colour	Lower Hall
Wednesday 30 Nov 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Friday 2 Dec 10.00am	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
Saturday 3 Dec 9.15am	Instrumentalists	Church
Sunday 4 Dec 12.30-14.30	SWOY School Christmas Fair	School
Sunday 4 Dec 3pm	Reconciliation 3 Session	Church



First Sunday of Advent (A)

Saturday 26 November 2022

18:00 John Costello RIP

Sunday 27 November 2022

09:30 Holy Souls - For the Parishioners

11:30 12th Forest Hill (St William of York) Scout Group
50th anniversary - Blessing & Promise Renewal

Rita Tildesley RIP

Monday 28 November 2022 - Feria

09:30 Forgotten Souls

Tuesday 29 November 2022 - Feris

09:30 Adrian McGurran RIP

Wednesday 30 November 2022 - St. Andrew Apostle, Patron of Scotland

09:30 Mrs Cecilia Okeke RIP Anniversary ([live-streamed](#))

Thursday 1 December 2022 - Feria

09:30 Penny Baker Birthday Thanksgiving

Friday 2 December 2022 - Feria

09:30 Anne Orieso Thanks to Our Lady

Saturday 3 December 2022 - St. Francis Xavier

10:30 Lord William Carron (FM)

Second Sunday of Advent (A)

Saturday 3 December 2022

18:00 For the Parishioners

Sunday 4 December 2022

09:30 [Family Mass](#)

Thanksgiving Grace & Matthew Medupin
40th Wedding Anniversary

11:30 Robbie Sharp RIP Anniversary & Genowefa Szczegolski RIP
([live-streamed](#))

Please access the live streaming by visiting:

www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/

Reconciliations - Saturday 11-12 noon



You are warmly invited to the:

Christmas Carol Service

Of the South-East Pastoral Area, Archdiocese of Southwark
Parishes in the deaneries of Bexley; Bromley; Camberwell; Greenwich; Lambeth and Lewisham



Date:

Sunday 11th December 2022

Gaudete Sunday

Time:

7.30pm

Venue:

**St Peter the Apostle Catholic Church, 103 Woolwich New Road
London, Woolwich, SE18 6EF**

Theme:

Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel shall come to you

Featuring:

**St Peter's Chior
Voice of Africa Choir
St Paul's Thamesmead Choir**

Principal Celebrant:

The Reverend Canon Victor Darlington

Episcopal Vicar for the South East; Episcopal Vicar for the Commissions for Education; Promoting Racial & Cultural Inclusion; and Director of CARITAS for the Archdiocese of Southwark, London

