



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

4 Brockley Park, Forest Hill, SE23 1PS

Clergy:- Fr Habte Ukbay, Deacon Amgad Gerges

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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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

18 FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Parishioners

The beginning of this week has been particularly a difficult one for our parish community here at SWOY, Gerald Gunasingham, who has been a parishioner and who had for a long time carried out with passion, simplicity and attention the role of a sacristan suddenly passed away on Tuesday 13th February at home. We all have a great respect for his commitment and presence.

His unexpected death has painfully affected our parish community, he was a kind and devoted man to his wife and family, generous and dedicated to our community here in our parish.

The sudden death of Gerald reminds us the words of Scripture and capture the spirit of the Lenten season, reminding us of our mortality. In the Bible, human life is often compared to that of grass and flowers:-

All flesh is grass and its beauty like the wild flowers. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows on them.
quote; (Isa 40:6-8)

We will all miss Gerald dearly, it is our strong hope and prayer that God embraces our beloved Gerald into his kingdom, please pray for the repose of his soul and comfort and strength for his family at this very difficult time.

We will communicate the funeral arrangements in due course.

God Bless

Fr Habte

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS -

Genesis 9:8-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:12-15

THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - Before Jesus started his ministry he went to the desert for 40 days where he was tempted by Satan. He stood up to Satan and spent the time in discernment and prayer before starting his ministry. Jesus gives us a good example about making time for discernment for important decisions and making time for private prayer. There are opportunities to sign up to Lent email reflections, Lent meetings on zoom and other initiatives within the Diocese and further afield. As we begin Lent let us make more time for private prayer and take advantage of opportunities available to deepen our prayer and spirituality in preparation for the great season of Easter.

LBr.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS -

Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18, Romans 8:31-34, Mark 9:2-10

CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION - THIS WEEKEND -

The clergy in our Archdiocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have done for parishes.

You make supporting our clergy in retirement possible, find out how to donate to the Clergy Support Fund at www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF or scan QR code. You can also donate via telephone office hours Mon-Fri 020 7960 2504 or by using the Clergy Support Fund envelopes available today at the back of Church.



Please continue to keep our Priests in your prayers

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - LENT APPEAL This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope, or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our brothers and sisters around the world have what they need to feed their families. If you would like to learn more about how CAFOD works around the world, and hear from some of the people involved, there is a CAFOD podcast available, **Voices of Change**, through the website, and wherever you get your podcasts.

STITCH UP - We had a very generous response to last year's appeal for knitted squares, and have enough left over to make a blanket or two. Help is needed to stitch them together! **Please join us on Wednesdays during Lent after morning Mass in Cafe York.** Thank you!

MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

July 13th, at St George's Cathedral

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, **and no later than May 31**, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Email us at mflse@rcaos.org.uk As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Forest Hill and please copy in the parish email foresthill@rcaos.org.uk

Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Souls of

CARMELA LUCHMUN RIP

(Marina Begg's mother)

HONORINE TIA RIP

(Niece of Viviane Irihari-Goubo)

RENATE BETSON RIP

(wife of Fennell Betson)

**Renate will be received into St William of York on Monday 19 February at 4pm
Funeral to take place on Tuesday 20 February at 11.30am**

GERALD GUNASINGHAM RIP

**It is with great sadness we received the devastating news that Gerald died unexpectedly
at his home this week**

Please pray for Gerald and his family and many friends 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

27/28 January - 282 3/4 February - 315 10/11 February - 272

PARISH DIARY

Sun 18 Feb 5pm	Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Tues 20 Feb 8pm	RCIA Gospel Reflection Refreshments afterwards	Church Lower hall
Wed 21 Feb 10am	Stitch up knitted squares	Cafe York
Thurs 22 Feb 7pm	SWOY Listening Campaign Citizens UK Meeting	Cafe York
Thurs 22 Feb 8pm	Singers Practice	Church
Fri 23 Feb	CAFOD Family Fast Day	
Sat 24 Feb 9.15am	Instrumentalists	Church
Sun 25 Feb 6pm	Confirmation session 3 Parents meeting	Church School hall

LENT LEAFLET please collect a Lent leaflet in church or download a copy [Lent leaflet](#) you will find lots of information about the meaning of Lent and some ideas for making it special.

LENTEN SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: This Lent, Fr Habte and the parish RCIA team would like to invite all parishioners to take advantage of the Gospel reflections on Tuesday evenings at 8:00pm, followed by light refreshments in the lower hall. All are welcome.

STATIONS ON THE CROSS IN LENT - There will be Stations of the Cross and Eucharistic exposition and benediction On Fridays at 10:00am after the morning Mass.

LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE will be **Friday 22nd March at 7:30pm**, we also have the weekly time of confession every Saturday morning from 11:00am to 12noon.

DIOCESE LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Sign up for the Daily Reflections from the Diocese. Go to www.southwarkdsc.org.uk and click on Lenten Reflections. If you've used them in the past they'll arrive automatically.

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.

PASSING ON THE FAITH - How do we start? How do we continue? What works well for children at different stages? Four online sessions for parents starting Wednesday 28th February, 8pm – 9:30pm. And for grandparents, focusing specifically on the conversations which can help to anchor faith, four online sessions starting Thursday 18th April, 7:30 – 9pm. Email Lisette on mflse@rcaos.org.uk

SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY 9 JUNE - PARISH FEAST DAY AND INTERNATIONAL DAY

We look forward to this great day of celebration within our parish. Please suggest and advise us of any hymns in your language that we can all learn and sing together on the day. We encourage you to contact us as soon as possible so that we have sufficient time to learn and prepare. Please contact Maria Noronha from the music group, Fr Habte in person or Mary in the parish office, using our parish e mail or telephone number. We look forward to hearing from you.

VACANCY: FUNDRAISING & SUPPORTER CARE ASSISTANT–

Archdiocese of Southwark, Located: Bowen House, near Waterloo.

4 days a week (£25k pro rata) office based. Seeking an enthusiastic individual to provide administrative support within the Diocesan Fundraising & Gift Aid Team.

Deadline: 23 February 2024. Interviews: w/c 25 February 2024.

Apply: <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/get-involved/vacancies/vacancies-in-southwark/>

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA - 10th-16th October 2024.

Cost £765 for 7days/6nights, Twin bed and half board . This includes trips to various Holy places. Contact Juliet Eseinune 07729391661

Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Church, Balls pond road N1

Deposit of £250 to secure flight and hotel which is non refundable .

Full payment due by 28th February 2024



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Saturday 17 February 2024

18:00 For the Parishioners

Sunday 18 February 2024

10:30 Alan Barber RIP

Monday 19 February 2024 - Feria

09:30 Mary & Jack O'Connor RIP

16:00 Reception of Renate Betson RIP

Tuesday 20 February 2024 - Feria

09:30 Monsignor John Kofi Banin Acquah RIP

11:30 Funeral of Renate Betson RIP

Wednesday 21 February 2024 - Feria (live-streamed)

09:30 Ron Howell RIP

Thursday 22 February 2024 - The Chair of St Peter the Apostle

09:30 Private Prayer

Friday 23 February 2024 - Feria

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

09:30 Susanna Dereani Personal Intentions

Saturday 24 February 2024 - Feria

10:30 For the Parishioners

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Saturday 24 February 2024

18:00 Kevin McGuinness RIP

Sunday 25 February 2024

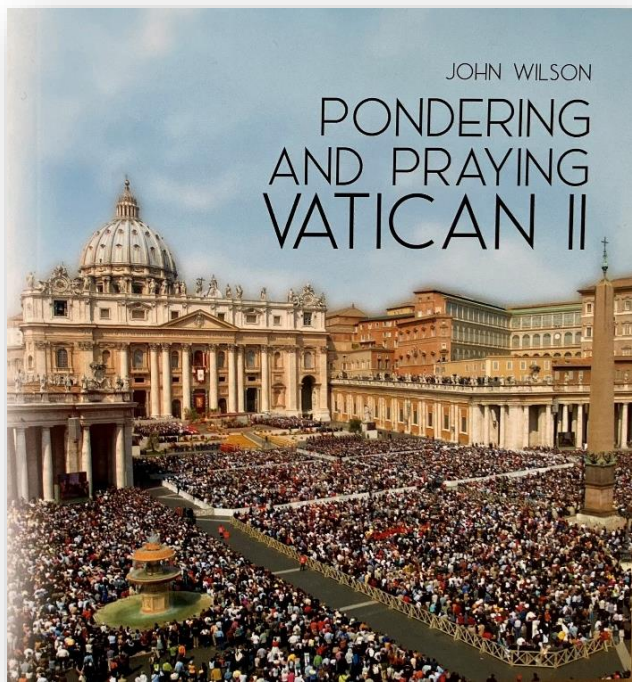
09:30 Fr Mike RIP

11:30 Claire & Harry Bedding RIP

(FM) Foundation Mass

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page

www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/



Book Launch

Wed 6th March 2024
6.00pm for 6.30pm

Amigo Hall, adjacent
to St George's
Cathedral,
Southwark, South
London

Pondering and Praying Vatican II

Archbishop John Wilson

Have you heard about Vatican II, and want to know more, but are not sure where or how to begin? Then this little introduction is for you. It will help you start a journey of discovery by pondering and praying some essential themes. Please do not be daunted. This resource requires no previous or specialist knowledge. It has been written for easy access to what the Church said at Vatican II, and what this means for our life of faith in the Body of Christ.

Although many people have heard of Vatican II, few have actually read or

considered the documents, not even the four key Constitutions. This resource offers an introduction to these main texts and their themes.

Hopefully, Pondering and Praying Vatican II will encourage more people to read the full documents for themselves. Significantly, it will help readers ask themselves what the teaching of the Second Vatican Council might mean for them and how they might pray in light of it. Anyone can begin these reflections and see where the journey leads.

There will be refreshments and a short presentation
Books for sale on the evening, also available at
www.PaulineUK.org and www.Amazon.co.uk

All Welcome



Pauline
BOOK CENTRE