



**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

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)  
26 March 2023**

Dear Parishioners

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the 9:15am and the 11:30am Mass begins at the school hall, please make sure that you arrive on time. The Vigil Mass at 6:00pm begins with the Palm Sunday Liturgy at the back of the Church. Please do try to arrive early.

With the celebration of Palm Sunday, the solemnity of this sacred time, Holy Week begins, we will be having morning, evening and night prayers, during the week, let us follow through on that experience in the Holy Week ceremonies of Holy Thursday night, Good Friday afternoon and the great Easter Vigil of Saturday night.

This Sunday, we celebrate the third and last of the Scrutinies. We pray that Tabitha and all the elect may be given the faith to acknowledge Christ as the resurrection and the life and that they may be filled with the hope of the life-giving Spirit as they prepare themselves for their birth to new life, we will also present the Lord's Prayer to the Elect—and "wait in joyful hope" until she can pray it with us as one of the faithful at the Easter Vigil.

Fr Habte

**TODAY'S READINGS** - Ezekiel 37:12-14, Romans 8:8-11, John 11:1-45

### **SCRIPTURE REFLECTION**

In today's Gospel we hear that Jesus receives a message from Martha and Mary saying 'Lord the man, you love is ill.' Jesus was indeed a great friend of this family, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he delays and says "This sickness will not end in death but through it the Son of God will be glorified." When he reaches them Lazarus has been in the tomb for 4 days.

Whilst this narrative contains a theological teaching (a prelude to the resurrection of Jesus), we see the very human side of Jesus. It is a story of human grief that brings sadness and heartache to all who mourn. Jesus weeps for the death of his friend, Lazarus and is moved with pity at the sorrow of his two sisters. He asks for the stone to be rolled away at the burial site and calls in a loud voice "Lazarus, come out." Lazarus appears still enshrouded; Jesus calls to those around to "unbind him - let him go free."

Do we, in life, hear when the Lord calls 'Come'? Can we let go of the ties that bind us? Blessed are they who mourn. KS

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS** - Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Matthew 26:14-27:66

### **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.

This weekend the Scrutiny will be celebrated at the Sunday 9.30am Mass.

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.



## HOLY WEEK NOTICES

### **Palm Sunday Greenery**

Please bring any greenery from your garden to share and use for the procession at all Palm Sunday Masses.

### **Bells for the Gloria on Maundy Thursday and Easter Vigil**

Everyone is encouraged to bring bells to Mass on Maundy Thursday and the Easter Vigil to ring during the *Refrain only* of the Gloria.

### **Maundy Thursday Café York**

On Maundy Thursday, Café York will be open after the Evening Mass until 23:30

### **Children's Services**

**Good Friday:** Service with Good Friday story at 10.30 lasting about 30 minutes.

**Easter Sunday:** Family Mass at 09.30. Let us know if your child would like to read. Please be aware that the adult services are longer than usual.

### **Parish Singers for Holy Week**

We welcome new people to join the Parish Singers for Holy Week. Our next practice is on Thursday, 30th March, 20:00-21:15 Come and join us!

### **Morning and Evening Prayer during Holy Week**

**Morning Prayer in church:** 09:30 Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday

**Evening Prayer in church:** 18:00 Monday and Wednesday

**Evening Prayer Zoom:** 18:00 Palm Sunday, Tuesday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday  
Meeting ID: 813 9177 6863 Password: 061154

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81391776863?pwd=STIHaktOb2xvNlByTnp3cUVoSjR3UT09>

**Night Prayer in church:** 23:45 Maundy Thursday, to conclude the time of watching.

### **Retiring Collections on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday**

**Maundy Thursday: Lenten Alms**

**Good Friday: Holy Places**

The Good Friday collection supports pastoral, charitable, educational and social works throughout the Holy Land.



**Donations:** in person with cash/cheque, by using the contactless card reader in the Narthex, by scanning the QR code or through our parish bank account. Please use "Lenten Alms" or "Holy Places" as a reference and include your name and Gift Aid number.

RCAS Forest Hill Sort code 60-50-01 Account 79124437

### **Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday**

There will be no individual Veneration of the Cross at the 3pm Good Friday service. There will be a time of silence for personal prayer and reflection focussed on the Cross, with parishioners remaining kneeling or seated in their places.

All main services will be livestreamed [www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/](http://www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/)

## **PENITENTIAL SERVICE IN LENT - FRIDAY 31 MARCH 7.30pm**

This is an opportunity to celebrate the Lord's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spend quiet time in prayer and contemplation. Visiting priests will be assisting.

## **TAKING THE HOLY SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND**

On the first Sunday of every month (after 9.30 Mass) Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist visit those in our parish who are unable, through health or disability issues, to attend Mass but wish to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

The Ministers take Holy Communion to them and offer it with a short service that can be built around the capacity of the person being visited. This can be done for someone who may be recovering from an injury and/or an operation or indeed someone who has a long-term condition.

Please contact Fr. Habte if you have a family member, friend or neighbour or know of anyone else who would like to receive Holy Communion at home once a month.

**SWOY ART GROUP** The Art Group is busy preparing for Easter and are calling on all your artistic talents to decorate our Easter people so that they are ready to dance for joy. Let your inner fashion designer run riot and decorate our people in every colour of the rainbow. Sparkle, glitter, feathers, anything goes.

The templates are in the narthex, 2 different types so you can do both or just one. Please return them either to the narthex or the presbytery by Sunday 2nd April after 11:30 mass at the very latest. We are really looking forward to seeing your Easter people in all their finery and making them part of our Easter celebrations.

Thank you, SWOY Art Group

## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES**

Please click [HERE](#) for our parish Easter Card containing the timetable for Holy Week and Easter. Copies also available in church and on the website.

## **EASTER FLOWERS**

*Can you help us to make the church look beautiful for Easter. This Sunday we will take a second collection when you can make a donation towards the cost of the flowers in our church at Easter. Many thanks*



## EASTER OFFERING TO FR HABTE

As we approach Easter, please see the Easter Offering envelopes, available in the Narthex, so you can make a donation, giving thanks to our Parish Priest for all his hard work and dedication to St William of York. If you are going away at Easter, please use the envelope and post it in the letter box of the presbytery whenever you can. For those of you in the gift aid scheme, please write your gift aid number on the Easter offering envelope as the parish will benefit. You may also give via the Contactless device. QR code or via the parish bank account details:- Sort Code 60-50-01 -Account number 79124437 - RCAS FOREST HILL Reference - Your surname/Gift Aid no/Easter.  
Many thanks



**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER MINISTRY:** Please look out for a special rota for Holy week and the Easter Triduum. We need as many collectors, Eucharistic ministers, Stewards, Readers and Altar servers as possible from Holy Thursday through to Easter Sunday. Thank you.

**LENTEN ALMS** - Almsgiving is one of the three pillars of our Lenten practice. Almsgiving is charity towards our neighbour. The parish is thankful for your donations during Lent and the money you place in the Poor Boxes near the Church entrances. The Lenten collection on Maundy Thursday, will be going in support of the parish crisis fund.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO KATHY DOYLE** \_our parishioner who raised almost £200 in the sale of her beautiful hand knitted Easter chick's. All proceeds have gone to (the church/ CAFOD). Thank you to everyone who bought them and contributed so generously.

## ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH DAY

A youth day for (10-16 year olds) will take place at St. George's Cathedral on Saturday 22nd April. The day will include a mixture of faith input, food, prayer and sport/crafts. Please see our website at <https://tinyurl.com/aprilyouthday>

For further details and how to register. Please contact [youth@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcaos.org.uk) for further information.





Southwark Archdiocese

# Life in the Spirit

Seminars 2023

THIS EASTERTIDE ACROSS SOUTHWARK

Explore what it means to be filled with the Holy Spirit

Weekly talks and discussion – Daily reflections – All day retreat

“A wonderful experience – perfect and glorious!” – 2022 seminar participant

At St George’s Cathedral or a ‘Hub’ location around the diocese or join on Zoom

On Tuesday evenings – 2, 9, 16, 30 May and 6 June  
(or otherwise as advertised for Hubs)

Plus All Day Retreat at St George’s on Sat 27 May



For more details  
and to register:

[bit.ly/SOUTHWARK2023](https://bit.ly/SOUTHWARK2023)

SOUTHWARK ARCHDIOCESE  
CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC TEAM



Agency for Evangelisation  
and Catechesis  
ARCHDIOCESE of SOUTHWARK

## SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

18th -25th August 7 Nights | from £925 18th - 25th August 2023  
by Air from London Stansted and Birmingham



Bishop Paul Hendricks of the Southwark Diocese is delighted to invite you to this wonderful Pilgrimage to Lourdes this Summer. This pilgrimage is now once more able to include support for pilgrims who need assistance for medical or mobility reasons. In Lourdes, those who are often marginalised will be placed at the centre, and we who travel with them are blessed by their presence. He warmly invites you to join them.



For details, please see: [https:// www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/southwark-ca](https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/southwark-ca)

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

**Aramide Johnson (Nicky) RIP**

one of our housebound parishioners who died recently

**John Cooper RIP**

Husband of Margaret Cooper

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

**Jerome O'Connor RIP**

a long standing parishioner who died recently

**Funeral to take place at St Mary Magdalen, Brockey on Wed 29 March at 9.30am**

**Angela Pigott RIP**

(Mother of Simon Pigott)

**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**

4/5 Mar - 345    11/12 Mar - 282    18/19 Mar - 266

**PARISH DIARY**

Sunday 26 March 6pm	Confirmation 6th Session with parents	Church
Tuesday 28 March 8pm	Lenten Service followed by refreshments	Church Lower Hall
Thursday 30 March 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Friday 31 March 9.30am	Mum & Toddler's group	Cafe York
Friday 31 March 7.30pm	Penitential Service	Church
Saturday 1 April 9.15am	Instrumentalists	Church
Sunday 2 April 3pm	Eucharist 3 Session	Church



**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)**

**Saturday 25 March 2023**

**18:00** John Garvey RIP

**Sunday 26 March 2023**

**09:30** Martin & Anne Delaney

**11:30** For the Parishioners

**Monday 27 March 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Kay Krauze RIP 1st Anniversary

**Tuesday 28 March 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Katy Duffy RIP

**13:00** Funeral of John Cooper RIP

**Wednesday 29 March 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Mr & Mrs John Chester **(live-streamed)**

**Thursday 30 March 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Mr & Mrs Henry Graham-Helwig

**Friday 31 March 2023 - Feria**

**09:30** Mr & Mrs Peter Stone

**Saturday 1 April 2023 - Feria**

**10:30** Holy Souls

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (A)**

**Saturday 1 April 2023**

**18:00** For the Parishioners

**Sunday 2 April 2023**

**09:15** Cecilia Orji Idodo Birthday Blessings

**11:30** Michael Doherty RIP 2nd Anniversary **(live-streamed)**

Please access the live streaming by visiting:

[www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/](http://www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/)