



**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

Friday 8th & 15th December after Mass & 3rd Sunday of the month at 5pm

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

3 December 2023

Day of prayer for Migrants and Refugees

Dear Parishioners

Advent is a time of joy, because it relives the wait for the happiest event in history: the birth of the Son of God from the Virgin Mary. But it is also a time of penance and conversion to prepare for the coming of the Child God. It is a time of spiritual preparation for Christmas, a time of waiting and prayer. Let us take advantage of our parish Advent Penitential Services taking place Wednesday 20th December.

The Advent wreath, represents the approach of Christmas especially for children. This tradition serves to prepare for Christmas, encouraging common prayer and demonstrating that Jesus is the true light that conquers darkness and evil.

During this season of advent, the themes of the season are hope, peace, joy, and love. As Christians we will strive to be formed and prepared by scripture, by what we do and how we do it in preparation for the coming of God into human history at Christmas.



Our celebrations of the four Sunday's of advent, Therefore, will be inspired by the four themes, we will continue to pray for peace and the people who are suffering war and violence in many parts of the world, for families amongst us who may need our prayer for peace and joy in their personal life. We have gift Sunday, we bring gifts to help local charities in our area and homeless collection throughout Advent to help charities who specially work to alleviate the problem of homelessness.

May we all have a fruitful and blessed season of Advent.

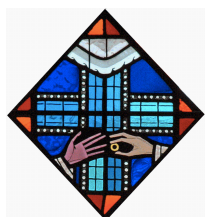
Fr Habte

TODAY'S READINGS - Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:33-37

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - This brief parable of the master returning unexpectedly is typical of Jesus' vivid way of speaking. The message is typical, too, because Jesus was constantly stressing that there is no time to lose. When he came in his earthly ministry he again and again challenged his hearers to make up their minds NOW, to change their ways NOW. He challenges us to do the same. We can hear the rattle of the returning Master's key in the lock. There is no time to hide the contraband, to pull our uniforms straight before greeting the Master at his entry. Even if we do not think that the world's end is imminent, even if death is not threatening, every moment counts, every decision is for or against Jesus. Saints are rumoured to have said that, if they received the news that they were to die that night, they would carry on doing what they were doing anyway. Saints can do this, because they are ready for the coming of the Lord. But what about us? If we need to put things a bit more in order to prepare for the Lord's coming, is there any valid reason to delay? The four weeks of Advent are a good time to clean things up for the Lord's coming. *What would you like to change about your life in preparation for the coming of the Lord?*

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11, 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8



MARRIAGE CONGRATULATIONS

Christopher Thomas O'Carroll
&
Elizabeth Alice Foster

Our prayers and best wishes go to the happy couple on their marriage this weekend

GIFT SUNDAY - As in previous years, we will be collecting gifts again this year to pass on to local charities for their Christmas appeals. Our gifts this year will go to 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 this weekend 2-3 December, during the following week and again on 9-10 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



GIFT BOXES FOR CHRISTMAS - The Art Group is making preparations for Christmas and once again we are calling on you to embrace the glitter, stickers and all things Christmassy to help us create beautiful gift boxes. Please take a template from the narthex, decorate it and return it by 9/10 December. Do not cut them out as we will do that before we hang them up.

It is always a joy to see your work, thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with us and for making our church a place of joy at Christmas. The Art Group

HEARTS FOR CHRISTMAS - This year we want to spread a little love by giving everyone at the carol service a heart to take home and hang on their Christmas tree. So we need you to get busy- knit, crochet or stitch a heart! Please pick up a flier with a knitting and a crotchet pattern and a heart template that you could use to make a heart out of felt or other fabric.

If you don't have yarn or needles please help yourself from the supply in the Narthex. If you would like to share ideas while you get creating, please come along to **Café York at 10.00am on a Wednesday morning (straight after the morning Mass)**. There will be tea and biscuits! Please leave your completed hearts in the basket in the Narthex by **Saturday 16th December**. If you want to know more please contact Maureen Swift on 0776 5428299



ADVENT PARISH PENITENTIAL SERVICE & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION - This will take place on **Wednesday December 20th at 7:30pm**. It is a good way to make our confession before Christmas, if you can't make it on this day, please come to the weekly Saturday Confession times or please book the date and time with Fr Habte.

SECOND COLLECTIONS DURING ADVENT WILL BE FOR THE HOMELESS

Please give generously! THANK YOU.

ADVENT LEAFLET - Please take an 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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION DURING ADVENT - We will have Eucharistic Adoration after the Friday morning Mass on **8th & 15th December**. Please come and join us.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE - Our Carol Service will take place on **Sunday 17th December at 4.00pm** followed by refreshments in the school hall. Come and enjoy this great celebration for everyone.

POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER - We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



Online Advent calendar of daily prayer and reflection will offer an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action as we prepare for Christmas. Join us as we journey through the season of Advent with our global family. Sign up [HERE](#) for daily reflections straight to your inbox

ADVENT REFLECTIONS - Why not try to make space for spiritual reflection this advent. Southwark Diocese Spirituality Commission will send a brief daily reflection to your own email! It is focused on the readings of the day, short and relevant to daily life! Sign up at <https://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/>

CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE - WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER AT 7.30PM The annual Cathedral Carol Service, led by Archbishop John Wilson will take place on **Wednesday 13 December at 7.30pm** at St. George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road SE1 7HY. All are welcome so please invite family and friends to join in the service.

SOUTH EAST PASTORAL AREA, CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the South East warmly invites you to the Christmas Carol Service of the South East Pastoral Area, Archdiocese of Southwark on **Sunday 17th December 2023 Gaudete Sunday at 7.30pm** at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Brixton Hill 11 Trent Road, London, SW2 5BJ. See poster. All are welcome.

INVITATION TO PAINTING EXHIBITION

You are cordially invited to my first painting exhibition.

Date: Thursday 7th December 2023

Time: 2PM to 5PM

Where: The back room of Forest Hill Library Dartmouth Rd,
Forest Hill, London SE23 3HZ

Visitors to the exhibition will be admitted to the room on first
come first serve basis.



I look forward to welcoming you

Matthew Medupin

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HOUSING JUSTICE, CARITAS SOUTHWARK

is hosting an online information session **on 13 December**

2023, 7.30-8.30 PM for people interested in becoming a

host for a refugee. Please scan this other QR code to register

for the event. Alternatively, you can email Caritas directly

and we can forward the link to you.

caritassouthwark@rcaos.org.uk



Hosting with Housing Justice

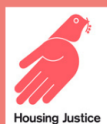


Do you have a spare room that you could offer to a homeless asylum-seeker, refugee or other migrant in need?

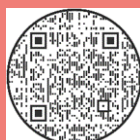
Housing Justice works with hosts to provide temporary accommodation for London's destitute asylum-seekers, refugees and other forced migrants while they resolve their immigration status.

Find out more here or scan the QR code below:

<https://housingjustice.org.uk/donate-now-or-get-involved/become-a-host>



In Partnership with Housing Justice Caritas Southwark is hosting an online information session on 13 December 2023, 7.30-8.30 PM for people interested in becoming a host for a refugee. Please scan this other QR code to register for the event. Alternatively, you can email Caritas directly and we can forward the link to you.



Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Soul of

Ronald Bottone RIP

(Husband of Maria Bottone who died recently)

Please remember the friends and family of Ronald and Maria in your prayers

Funeral at St William of York on Wednesday 13 December 2023 at 10.30am

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

11/12 November - 255 18/19 November - 292 25/26 November - 293

PARISH DIARY

Sat 2 & Sun 3 Dec to Sat 9 & Sun 10 Dec	Gift Sunday donations	Church
Sun 3 Dec 12.30-2.30pm	SWOY School Christmas Fair collect Christmas trees	School
Sun 3 Dec 2.50pm for 3pm	Reconciliation 3 Session	Church
Wed 6 Dec 10am	Hearts for Christmas	Cafe York
Thurs 7 Dec 2-5pm	Matthew Medupin's Painting Exhibition	Forest Hill Library Dartmouth Road
Thurs 7 Dec 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Fri 8 Dec 9.30-12pm	Mother's & Toddlers	Cafe York
Sat 9 Dec 9.15am	Instrumentalists	Church
Sun 17 Dec 4pm	Parish Carol Service followed by refreshments	Church School hall
Sun 17 Dec 7pm for 7.30pm	Christmas Carol Service South East Pastoral Area Archdiocese of Southwark	Corpus Christi Church Brixton Hill 11 Trent Road SW2 5BJ
Wed 20 Dec 7.30pm	Penitential Service & Eucharistic Adoration	Church

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

Day of prayer for Migrants and Refugees

Saturday 2 December 2023

18:00 John Warner RIP

Sunday 3 December 2023

09:30 Family Mass - For the Parishioners

11:30 Robbie Sharp RIP (live-streamed)

Monday 4 December 2023 - Feria

09:30 John Warner RIP

Tuesday 5 December 2023 - Feria

09:30 Richard Gallagher RIP

Wednesday 6 December 2023 - Feria

09:30 Anne Orieso Thanksgiving to Our Lady (live-streamed)

Thursday 7 December 2023 - St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

09:30 Private Prayer

Friday 8 December 2023 - THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

09:30 Thanks to Our Lady

Saturday 9 December 2023 - Feria

10:30 Theresa Ifeanyi Ndudi Mordi RIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

Saturday 9 December 2023

18:00 For the Parishioners

Sunday 10 December 2023

09:30 Tony Frisoli RIP

11:30 Joe & Maureen Reynolds RIP

(FM) Foundation Mass

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page

www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/

HOLY SOULS MASSES

Thank you for offering Masses for Holy Souls to be celebrated for the faithful departed. These Masses will be celebrated over the next year.



St William of York
Catholic Primary School

Brockley Park, Forest Hill, London SE23 1PS

Headteacher: Mrs Sharon Lynch Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Hayley Mayers

Starting School in September 2024?

Come and visit our lovely small school!

Visits and tours by appointment!

Email: admin@swoy.lewisham.sch.uk

Telephone: 020 8690 2842

Please contact the school office for more information.

Experienced, and enthusiastic teaching staff. Forest School sessions.

Lovely children, parents, staff and school community!

One form entry, small, friendly and inclusive.

Only one class in each year group.

We know every child, and family, by name!

We celebrate and develop your child's unique gifts and talents.



Ofsted (Oct 2022) - GOOD

with 4 out of 5 OUTSTANDING areas.

Quality of Education	GOOD
Leadership & Management	OUTSTANDING
Personal Development	OUTSTANDING
Behaviour & Attitudes	OUTSTANDING

Wraparound care available from our Breakfast Club and After School Club Provider

We are a Catholic primary school.

However, we accept Non-Catholic children, and ALL religions are welcome!

We celebrate diversity and are an inclusive and welcoming school!





Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the South East
warmly invites you to the:

Christmas Carol Service

Of the South East Pastoral Area, Archdiocese of Southwark

for all the
Parishes in the deaneries of Bexley; Bromley; Camberwell; Greenwich; Lambeth and Lewisham



Date:

Sunday 17th December 2023
Gaudete Sunday

Time:

7.30pm

Gathering from 7pm
Clergy to vest in Cassock & Surplice or Alb & Stole from 7.15pm

Venue:

Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Brixton Hill
11 Trent Road, London, SW2 5BJ

Theme:

Peace on Earth

Principal Celebrant:

The Right Reverend Philip Moger
Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Southwark

