



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 - 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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) GAUDETE SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER 2022

Dear Parishioners

John the Baptist sends his disciples to our Lord to find out whether Jesus is the Messiah. We know from another text of Matthew's gospel that John recognises Jesus, he may have done that to help his disciples know who Jesus was. In this time of Advent, we pray that we recognise that Jesus is coming for us.

If during this Advent, we struggle in accepting that he is coming for us, may this Joyful Sunday and its message increase our hope of the coming Jesus, may he come into our lives help us to rediscover gratitude for all that we are, for all that we have and do, many in our world live without this expectation, without hope. When we do take this time of advent, time of penance and conversion, we become God's children who free themselves and experience joy.

I wish all of us a fruitful Advent reflection and encounter with the Lord.

God Bless

Fr Habte



TODAY'S READINGS -

Isaiah 35:1-6,10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

From his prison cell, John the Baptist sends a message to Jesus asking whether He is indeed the Messiah – it seems that he has been expecting dramatically powerful divine intervention in the style of the Old Testament. Jesus answers with confirmation that the words of the prophet Isaiah are being fulfilled, that the blind see, the deaf hear, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor. Isaiah's prophecy goes on to describe the Messiah as the obedient servant of God, taking on himself the suffering caused by our transgressions. Jesus describes John as the prophet sent to prepare people for the coming of the Messiah, but even John is not as great as the least in the kingdom of heaven. We all, including John the Baptist, need the saving power of Jesus' death and resurrection to free us from slavery to sin, allowing us to enter the kingdom of heaven.

PB

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS -

Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24

PARISH CAROL SERVICE

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

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.

CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE

The annual Cathedral Carol Service, led by Archbishop John Wilson, will take place on **Thursday 15 December at 7.30pm.**

Please come along to hear St George's choir render beautiful Christmas music & join in singing carols as part of your seasonal preparations. All welcome.

SECOND COLLECTIONS DURING ADVENT WILL BE FOR THE HOMELESS

Please give generously! THANK YOU.

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.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Please take a Christmas card so that you and your family have the Mass times at hand over the Christmas season. You can also find the Christmas card also on the website and Facebook page and by following this link [Christmas Card](#)

There will be four masses over Christmas: Christmas Eve 6.00pm & Midnight and Christmas Day 9.30am & 11.30am

- The Christmas Day 9.30am Mass will be specifically dedicated for families. Children will be involved in leading and animating the liturgy.
- Midnight Mass and 11.30am Mass on Christmas day will be live streamed.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING TO FR HABTE

The offering at all Christmas Masses is your personal offering to Fr Habte. Father Habte thanks you in anticipation for your generosity.

Please use the red envelopes provided and Gift Aid where possible as the parish will benefit. Donations may also be given via the Contactless device in the Narthex or via the secure link on our webpage [DONATE WITH DONA](#) or directly to our parish bank account details below:-

- NatWest Bank, Sort Code 60-50-01, Account number 79124437
- Account name RCAS Forest Hill
- Reference - Your surname/Gift Aid no/Christmas Offering

If you will be away at Christmas, please use the red envelope and put it through the letter box of the presbytery whenever you can. Many thanks

MISSIO 2023 CALENDAR AVAILABLE

The handy-sized Missio wall-calendar is available in the narthex in good time for next year – so please take one home. The picture on the front shows Sr Mary in Sri Lanka with a group of children in a project that Missio supports to enable them to go to school and playgroups. More details are in the calendar, which displays a full month at a time. Missio again thanks the parish for their generous donation for World Mission Sunday appeal amounting to over £600.

Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Soul of

Joyce Kathleen Précieux

(mother of Irene)

Funeral at St William of York on
Wednesday 4 January 2023 at 12.15pm

Please pray for Joyce's family and friends at this difficult time.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen

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.

CYCLE OF PRAYER - Intentions for Advent and Christmas Time:

Migrants and Refugees, especially on Migrants' Day, Friday 3rd December.
Expectant Mothers, especially on the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

SAVE THE DATE! RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY MASS 5 FEBRUARY 2023

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.

FINANCES

NOVEMBER 2022

The monthly Offertory Collection - £1,670.55
Donations for Archbishop's Appeal Fund - £291.90
Donations for Catholic Youth Service - £204.17
Donations for Holy Souls - £315.00
Donations for Parish Crisis Fund - £786.46
Donations for Advent Homeless - £397.43
From monthly standing orders/bank transfers we collected - £4,219.00
From contactless & website donations we collected - £380.76

Thank you for your continued support
Please Gift Aid where possible

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.

MASS ATTENDEES

19/20 Nov - 269 26/27 Nov - 297 3/4 Dec - 417

PARISH DIARY

Tuesday 13 Dec 2pm	Knit n Natter	Cafe York
Wednesday 14 Dec 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Friday 16 Dec 10.00am	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
Saturday 17 Dec 9.15am	Instrumentalists	Church
Saturday 17 Dec 4pm	Carol Service Refreshments	Church School Hall
Sunday 18 Dec 5pm	Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Tuesday 20 Dec 7.30pm	Advent Penitential Service	Church

Third Sunday of Advent (A)

Gaudete Sunday

Saturday 10 December 2022

18:00 Fr John Pledger (FM)

Sunday 11 December 2022

09:30 Tony Frisoli RIP

11:30 For the Parishioners

Monday 12 December 2022 - Feria

09:30 Mr Tony Maduagwu (RIP) & Maria-Pia Achibong (RIP). Anniversary

Tuesday 13 December 2022 - St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

09:30 Tim & Patrick Clancy RIP

Wednesday 14 December 2022 - St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor

09:30 Meg Gallagher RIP ([live-streamed](#))

Thursday 15 December 2022 - Feria

09:30 Fr James Hayes (FM)

Friday 16 December 2022 - Feria

09:30 Daniel Orji RIP Anniversary

Saturday 17 December 2022 - Feria

10:30 Mother Antoinette della Cassa (FM)

Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)

Day of prayer for Expectant Mothers

Saturday 17 December 2022

18:00 Deceased Priests of the Parish (FM)

Sunday 18 December 2022

09:30 For the Parishioners

11:30 Joe & Maureen Reynolds RIP

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



CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICE

Led by Archbishop John Wilson
with the St George's Cathedral Choir



St George's
Cathedral
SOUTHWARK

For contact details and
travel directions visit:
www.stgeorgescathedral.org.uk

Thursday 15 December 2022 - 7.30pm

St George's Cathedral is part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050