



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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Peace Day

19 January 2025

Dear Parishioners

This weekend our children who are preparing for the sacraments of reconciliation and Eucharist, concluded the first part of their journey by receiving the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a most beautiful way to celebrate God's love. We focus on God's reconciling, healing love and forgiveness. As John says, "God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. Love consists in this: it is not we who loved God, but God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven." 1 John 4:9-10

The God who sent his only son to be one like us continues to be by our side in our faith journey. Therefore, we celebrate together as a community by offering a thanksgiving Mass. We give thanks to God for the gift received.

I congratulate all our children, parents/guardians and catechists for preparing and supporting our children towards this day.

This weekend 19th January 2025, our parish confirmation programme begins. The Sessions are held on Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm, each catechetical session includes prayer, catechesis and some activities that help the candidates to bond together as a team and members of the parish community.

I ask all parishioners to continue supporting our catechetical programmes by your prayer and encouragement.

God Bless
Fr Habte

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS - Isaiah 62:1-5, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, John 2:1-11

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - Year C is the year of Luke's gospel, but we start with this reading from John which recounts the symbolic beginning of Jesus' ministry. It is full of riches. After the first reading from Isaiah it is impossible not to see this 'sign' (as John calls it) as a sign of that final wedding-feast of God and his people. Furthermore, in Jewish thought, water represents the Law: in an arid land water is the sign of life and is precious – just so, the Law of God is precious and gives life. Jesus transforms this water of the Law into the wine of the New Covenant – and in such generous quantities: over one hundred gallons of wine! Then there is Mary's part: Jesus says his Hour has not yet come (and the reader knows that the Hour of Jesus will be the moment of his exaltation at the Cross and Resurrection), but Mary's confident plea is a reminder to us of the power of her intercession. She will be mentioned no more in this gospel till she is present at the Cross, sharing the passion of her Son and joined to the Beloved Disciple to form the first Christian community.

Why did Jesus choose to do this as his first miracle?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6,8-10, 1 Corinthians 12:12-30, Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21



PEACE SUNDAY - The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of

peace and justice. Pax Christi needs our support to keep going and we will have a second collection this weekend. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

<https://paxchristi.org.uk/>

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR ARCHDIOCESE - The Archbishop invites you to play a vital role in shaping the future of our Archdiocese. In today's pastoral letter, he encourages everyone to reflect on the themes in the *Called to Bear Fruit* booklet and participate in small group discussions over the coming weeks. Here's how you can get involved:

- **Form a group:** Gather 4–12 people.
- **Choose your schedule:** Discuss all six themes across six sessions or combine them into fewer meetings—whatever works best for you.
- **Share your insights:** Submit your group's reflections via our online form or as a typed hard copy.

The more people who take part, the richer our understanding of the needs of our archdiocese will be. Let's work together to shape our future! Thank you for your involvement. Please collect a copy of the Archbishop's pastoral letter in church or download a copy here [Archbishop's Pastoral Letter](#) [READ MORE](#)

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING FOR CURRENT & NEW SERVERS

Please note the following training dates in your diaries:-

Saturday 1 Feb at 11am - Senior Servers training

Saturday 1 Feb at 2pm - Younger Altar Servers

Saturday 8 Feb at 11am - New Altar Servers (year 4 and above)



NEW PARISH WEBSITE We are delighted to advise that our new parish website has been launched and can be accessed via <https://swoy.org.uk/> or by scanning the QR code with your phone/tablet camera. Huge thanks to the generosity and hard work of our website designer and all the contributions from parishioners and group/ministry leaders who have enriched the content.



WEBSITE DIARY/MEETING AGENDAS/NOTES - As you will see we have a great parish diary and ask that Group Ministry leaders advise Mary via email foresthill@rcaos.org.uk of meeting dates well in advance so they can be recorded and halls booked etc. We also request copies of all parish meeting agenda'/ meeting notes/programmes/slides etc to be emailed to Mary for retention in the central parish records. Thank you Fr Habte.

<https://swoy.org.uk/bulletins/#diary>

Please take a look and we welcome your feedback via the website contact form. Thank you

BOOK LAUNCH - ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON

Archbishop John Wilson has written a new book entitled *The Romero Rosary*. With introductory chapters about St Oscar Romero and the rosary, this beautiful and creative new book contains reflections on the traditional mysteries of the rosary (Joy, Light, Sorrow & Glory) and the NEW Romero Mysteries (Charity, Compassion and Mercy, and Justice and Peace) - all illumined for reflection and prayer by the words of St Oscar Romero.

The book is available from Pauline Bookshops and online at www.paulineuk.org



The Archbishop warmly invites everyone to the book launch on **Wednesday 12 February at 6.00pm for 6.30pm at Amigo Hall, adjacent St George's Cathedral, Southwark, South London, SE1 7HY.**

MASS TO CELEBRATE CONSECRATED LIFE Saturday 1 February 12 noon Little Sisters of the Poor St Peter's Residence SW8 1QH

Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson to celebrate the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, followed by refreshments.

Please confirm your attendance with either Sr Trish patriciahellerssa@hotmail.com 07973950755 if you are coming from South London or Sr Yvonne sryvonne@aol.com 07779059784 if you are coming from Kent



YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE! Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue or does it just make things worse? Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands

of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the next programme which will be presented on Zoom 27 February to 2 March

email info@retrouvaille.org.uk

Call or text 0788 7296983 Visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Soul of

Margaret Murray RIP
(long standing devoted parishioner)

Please pray for Margaret's family and friends at this difficult time
We are currently awaiting confirmation of the funeral date.

**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**

MASS ATTENDEES

28/29 December - 188 4/5 January -233 11/12 January - 297

PARISH DIARY

Sunday 19 Jan 5pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	Church
Sunday 19 Jan 6pm	Confirmation Session 1	Church
Monday 20 Jan 6pm	Youth Group Volunteers Meeting	Cafe York
Monday 20 Jan 8pm	Liturgy Group Meeting	Lower Hall
Thursday 23 Jan 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Monday 27 Jan 7.30pm	Baptism Course Session 1	Lower Hall
Tuesday 28 Jan 7.45pm	RCIA - The Library of the Bible	Lower Hall
Saturday 1 Feb 11am	Senior Altar Servers training	Church
Saturday 1 Feb 2pm	Younger Altar Servers training	Church
Monday 3 Feb 7.30pm	Baptism Course Session 2	Lower Hall
Tuesday 4 Feb 7.30pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Cafe York
Friday 7 Feb 6pm-8pm	Youth Group Meeting	Upper Hall
Saturday 8 Feb 2pm	New Altar Servers training (year 4 and above)	Church

2025 WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY -This year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, takes place from **18 - 25 January 2025** - the octave of St. Peter and St. Paul. The theme for the resources in 2025 is Do you believe this? We are invited to reflect on the story of Martha's confession of faith in Jesus as narrated in John 11:17-27.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Peace Day

Saturday 18 January 2025

18:00 Veronika Prill RIP

Sunday 19 January 2025

09:30 **Thanksgiving Mass - First Reconciliation**

For the Parishioners

11:30 **Welcome Mass - Confirmation Group**

Nancy & Michael O'Connor RIP

Monday 20 January 2025 - Feria

09:30 Pam Reynolds RIP

Tuesday 21 January 2025 - St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

09:30 Ann-Marie Flynn RIP

Wednesday 22 January 2025 - Feria (live-streamed)

09:30 Ann Melon RIP

Thursday 23 January 2025 - Feria

09:30 Quiet Private Prayer (no Mass)

Friday 24 January 2025 - St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

09:30 Tracy Holme RIP

Saturday 25 January 2025 - The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

10:30 Christine Kitchen RIP

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Sunday of the Word of God

Saturday 25 January 2025

18:00 Tim & John Ryan RIP

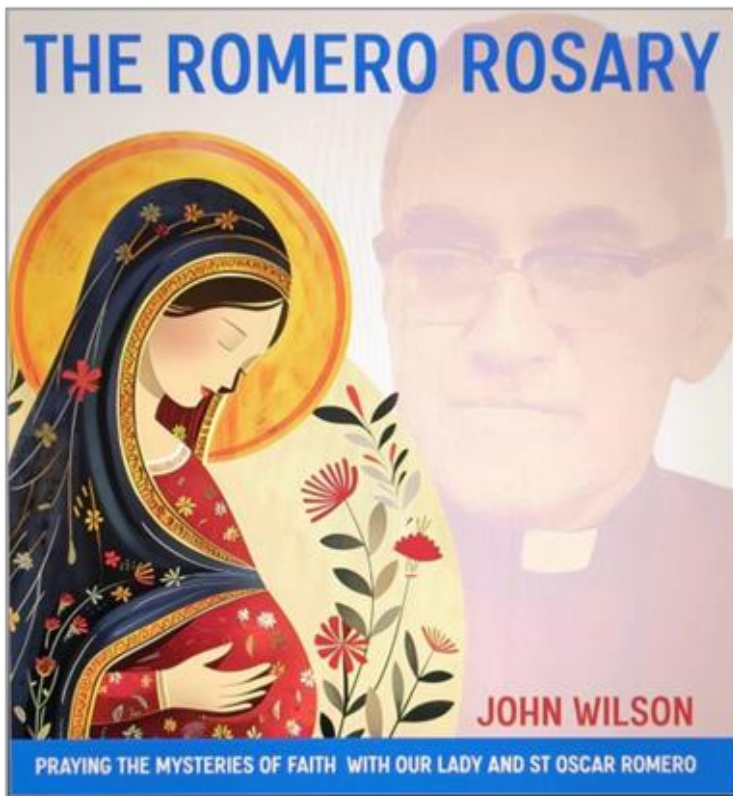
Sunday 26 January 2025

09:30 For the Parishioners

11:30 Ashley Blaize RIP

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page

www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/



Book Launch

Wed 12th Feb 2025
6.00pm for 6.30pm

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

*With refreshments and
Presentation by the Archbishop
about the Book*

The Romero Rosary

Praying the Mysteries of Faith with Our Lady & St Oscar Romero

By Archbishop John Wilson

This beautiful and creative new book contains reflections on the traditional mysteries of the rosary (*Joy, Light, Sorrow & Glory*) and the **NEW Romero mysteries** (*Charity, Compassion and Mercy, & Justice and Peace*) - all illumined for reflection and prayer by St Oscar's own words.

St Oscar Romero is a saint for our time, faithful to Christ and to the Church, and committed to the defence of human life and dignity. He calls us to love the Lord Jesus and Mary, his Mother, and to put our faith into practice. The rosary is a beautiful way to pray with him, united in spiritual friendship, asking for strength to live out our discipleship today.

Published by Pauline Books - ISBN: 9781904785866. *Books for sale on the evening, also available at www.PaulineUK.org*

Please join us - all welcome





Racial Justice Sunday 2025

"Love One Another as I Have Loved You"

16th February 2025, 10:00 AM

St George's Cathedral, Southwark

Principal Celebrant: Archbishop John Wilson

View online: <https://youtube.com/live/OD0qTuRqDS0>



Refreshments After Mass
All are welcome!

Racial Justice events page



Scan the QR code