



## THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. WILLIAM OF YORK

4 Brockley Park, Forest Hill, SE23 1PS

Clergy:- Fr Habte Ukbay, Deacon Amgad Gerges

Telephone:- 020 8690 4549 mobile 07307 869565

email:- [foresthill@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:foresthill@rcaos.org.uk) website: <https://swoy.org.uk/>

Safeguarding:- Carol Kinch 07710 324683



### 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

### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)

**12 January 2025**

Dear Parishioners

Jesus makes a visible start to his ministry, and he receives help in the power of the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist with his courage and humility stands between the hidden life of Jesus and his public ministry. John speaks of Jesus baptising with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

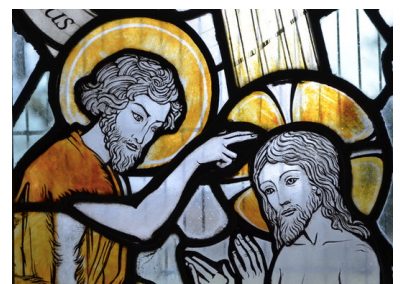
Luke speaks of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the Annunciation, at Jesus' baptism, the Spirit descends upon Jesus, the beloved Son of God.

Jesus is anointed for his prophetic mission by the Holy Spirit, the great enabler, the one who helps people to achieve God's plan. He begins his journey in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the love of the Father.

As we celebrate Jesus' great public beginning, we look at our own beginning of the faith journey, as baptized, we have a special relationship as children of God, and members of the Christian Community,

The Gospel challenges us to begin again, knowing that we are always accompanied by the spirit, the love of the father and our fellow Christians, So, let us take courage to continue our journey.

Fr Habte



**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS** -Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7, Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** - The baptism of Jesus was a very important moment for Jesus and the early Christian community. Matthew, Mark and Luke all describe it. And they all describe the voice from Heaven announcing that Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father. This is a moment announcing who Jesus is. It's a moment of manifestation, another epiphany, the climax of the Christmas season when God reveals himself. In these few verses we see God in his fulness - the Father speaks, the Son is present and the Holy Spirit descends.

Luke's description of Jesus' baptism in today's Gospel includes a unique detail, he says that the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus "when all the people had been baptised". This line places this wonderful revelation of God within a community. As a human, Jesus is baptised alongside us, not on his own. He is with us. Luke is reminding us that we need to look into the heart of our community to find Jesus, to hear the voice of the Father and experience the coming of the Spirit. This really is the climax of Christmas: God became human in the person of Jesus born in Bethlehem and today we are invited to meet him in the lives of everyone we encounter in Forest Hill. JD

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

**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. Each is called to sit with Jesus' provocative question to Martha: "Do you believe this?"

<https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2025/>

**PEACE SUNDAY** - The 58th World Day of Peace will be observed in England & Wales on Sunday 19 January, 2025. In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi which aims at working together to promote peace through parishes, schools and social media.

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going and we will have a second collection next weekend. Thank you in advance for your generosity. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/>

**POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2025**

For The Right To An Education - Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATIONS** - Our Sacramental preparations continue on Sunday 12 January 2025:- 2.50pm for 3pm start - Reconciliation Session 4 in the church. 3pm - Reconciliation Group Parents/Carers meeting in the school hall with Fr Habte

**CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** - Please pray for the children who will be making their First Reconciliation on Saturday 18th January at 10.00am. (Please note there will be no 10.30am Mass that day)

A Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 19th January 2025 at 9.30am.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** -Sunday 19th January 2025 at 6pm - Confirmation Session 1 in the church

**Please keep the children, young people, families and catechists in your prayers.**

#### **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)**



**BAPTISM:** Baptism of babies and young children of parent/s who live in and/or worship regularly in the parish of William of York is celebrated by arrangement on Saturdays. Preparation for baptism by the parent/s is a requirement, following completion of the course a date and time for the Baptism can be arranged. Thank you.

**GETTING MARRIED?** At least six months' notice needs to be given for marriages whether they are taking place at St William of York or elsewhere to give time for the necessary pastoral and administrative preparation. Please speak to me in the first instance.

**Please note the Planned Day in support of Older People on 18<sup>th</sup> January at Holy Cross, Catford has been postponed.**

**Please save the new date of Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March updated information will be available soon.**

## FINANCES - DECEMBER 2024

The monthly Offertory Collection - £1,340.65  
Donations for the Advent Homeless Collection - £2,263.52  
Donations for the Parish Crisis Fund- £139.68  
Donations for the Catholic Childrens's Society (Crib Collection) - £71.83  
Donations for Christmas flowers - £30.57  
Donations for Fr Habte's Christmas Offering - £4,454.62  
From monthly standing orders we collected - £5,969.00

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:  
Account name: RCAS Forest Hill, Sort Code: 60 50 01 Acc No: 79124437  
Thank you for your continued support  
Please gift aid where possible  
Thank you very much for your generosity

## MASS ATTENDEES

24/25 December - 538    28/29 December - 188    4/5 January -233

## PARISH DIARY

Sunday 12 Jan 3pm	Reconciliation Session 4 Parents /Carers Meeting	Church School
Tuesday 14 Jan 7.45pm	RCIA Session - The Creed	Lower Hall
Thursday 16 Jan 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Saturday 18 Jan 9.15am	Instrumentalists	Church
Saturday 18 Jan 10.00am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Church
Sunday 19 Jan 9.30am	Thanksgiving Mass	Church
Sunday 19 Jan 5pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	Church
Monday 20 Jan 6pm	Youth Group Volunteers Meeting	Cafe York
Sunday 19 Jan 6pm	Confirmation Session 1	Church
Monday 27 Feb 7.30pm	Baptism Course Session 1	Lower Hall
Saturday 1 Feb 11am	MC's training	Church
Saturday 1 Feb 2pm	Existing Altar Servers training	Church
Monday 3 Feb 7.30pm	Baptism Course Session 2	Lower Hall
Saturday 8 Feb 2pm	New Altar Servers training	Church

## **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

**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**

**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.

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

**SOUTHWARK ARCHDIOCESE ROSARY PRAYER PROJECT** Everyone is warmly invited to joint this Archdiocese-wide prayer initiative, praying a decade of the Rosary each day for priests and parishes in their deanery. (For details please see the poster on the notice board or download a copy [HERE](#))

**DISABILITY JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME IN 2025** - Kairos Forum and Bishop Paul Hendricks are leading a Disability Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome in 2025. It is taking place on 26 April 2025 to 1 May. Mass will be celebrated every day, along with activities such as visiting the Holy Door and a meeting with the Holy Father. in St Peter's Square. Email Cristina Gangemi at: [kairosforumevents@gmail.com](mailto:kairosforumevents@gmail.com) or visit here for more details: <https://tinyurl.com/mrxj7s99>.

**SAVE THE DATE: ARCHDIOCESAN JUBILEE CELEBRATION - 7 June 2025.** On Saturday 7 June 2025, there will be an Archdiocesan Jubilee celebration at Aylesford Priory. This event will also mark the 60th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Southwark. We will be sharing more details about this exciting event in due course.



**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)**

**Saturday 11 January 2025**

**18:00** John Curran RIP

**Sunday 12 January 2025**

**09:30** For the Parishioners

**11:30** Arthur & Elizabeth Anderson (FM)

**THE END OF THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS**

**Monday 13 January 2025 - Feria**

**09:30** Ashley Blaize RIP

**Tuesday 14 January 2025 - Feria**

**09:30** Paul Van Dooran RIP

**Wednesday 15 January 2025 - Feria (live-streamed)**

**09:30** Tim Ryan RIP

**Thursday 16 January 2025 - Feria**

**09:30** Quiet Private Prayer (no Mass)

**Friday 17 January 2025 - St Anthony, Abbot**

**09:30** William Utomi

**Saturday 18 January 2025 - Feria**

**10:00** Sacrament of Reconciliation

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**

**PEACE SUNDAY**

**Saturday 18 January 2025**

**18:00** Veronika Prill RIP

**Sunday 19 January 2025**

**09:30** For the Parishioners

**11:30** Nancy & Michael O'Connor RIP

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page

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

\*FM - Foundation Mass