



**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 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

First & last Friday of the month after Mass & 3rd Sunday of the month at 5pm

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (C)

14 SEPTEMBER 2025

Education Sunday

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS - Numbers 21:4b-9, Philippians 2:6-11,
John 3:13-17

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - For people who aren't Christians, the cross can seem a morbid and gruesome symbol. In today's gospel Jesus is talking to Nicodemus and he is foretelling his death on the cross. His words explain why Christians see the cross differently. Firstly the cross tells us the most important thing that we need to know about God - that his motivation is love. Secondly the cross tells us the most important thing we need to know about ourselves and each other - that we are all the dearly loved children of God, with a dignity sealed by God becoming human for us and dying for us. This dignity can never be taken away and will last eternally. So far from being a morbid symbol, for us the cross is a sign of love and hope.

Nicodemus came to talk to Jesus at night because he was scared to be seen as one of his followers. But Nicodemus's nerves didn't cause Jesus to hold back in any way, he shared his life changing message with Nicodemus. All of us sometimes have the same fears that Nicodemus had. However awkward and uncomfortable our own motivations are when we encounter



Jesus in the Gospels, in the sacraments and in each other, we can be confident that he will never hold back but offer us unconditionally the same message of love and hope that he offered Nicodemus, the message symbolised by the cross.

JD

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - Amos 8:4-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-8, Luke 16:1-13



BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS - This weekend we baptised Kaden Mike Pangilinan. Congratulations to Kaden and his parents Katherine and Mike from all at St William of York and welcome Kaden to our parish family.

EDUCATION SUNDAY SECOND COLLECTION The Catholic Education Service (CES) acts on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to support Catholic education. They have a strong and positive working relationship with the British and Welsh governments, sharing the aims of high academic standards for all, and increased parental choice. Many thanks in advance for your support.

ARCHDIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS - Saturday 20 Sept 10am

On behalf of the Archbishop, we invite you to attend the annual Diocesan Day for Catechists. This day is for all the catechists of the diocese, including those involved in Liturgy of the Word for Children and the RCIA process. Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road, SE1 6HR on Saturday 20 September 2025 at 10am finishing with Mass at 4pm <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/day-for-catechists-2025>

ART GROUP - Do you feel inspired by the way our church is decorated to celebrate festivals and seasons of the Church's year?

Would you like to be involved in planning and putting this into action? We need all sorts of talents - artists and designers, but also anyone handy with a pair of scissors, stapler and pritt stick, or good at shinning up a ladder!

Please come and join the Art Group to share ideas and plan ahead over tea and cake on Tuesday 30th September. at 8.00pm in Cafe York.

If you want to know more please talk to Maureen Swift - 0776 5428299

DAY OF RETREAT FOR LECTORS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - Saturday 18 October or Saturday 25 October.

Please see poster for details and register via Mary @ foresthill@rcaos.org.uk

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER - For our relationship with all of creation - Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

ANNUAL SERVICE FOR HOPE AND HEALING - Wednesday 24 Sept at 6.30pm

“Archbishop John Wilson and the Safeguarding team, invite all our parishioners to join us on the 24th September 2025 6.30pm, for the Service for Hope and Healing, for all those that have been harmed by abuse. The service is to express the archdiocese's commitment to all those that have been harmed, their family and friends and to come together as a community and demonstrate our solidarity for those harmed. “

SEASON OF CREATION - 1 September – 4 October 2025

The *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*, celebrated on 1 September, is the official start of the *Season of Creation*, a time of sustained prayer and action which lasts a month and four days. During this season we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.



The theme of Pope Leo XIV's message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation is 'Seeds of Peace and Hope'. It was released on the Memorial of the First Martyrs of Holy Roman Church on 30 June 2025.

The tenth World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation will be celebrated on Monday, 1 September 2025.

This Jubilee Year also marks the tenth anniversary of Pope Francis's encyclical letter *Laudato Si'* that focuses on 'Care for our Common Home'.

PRAYER FOR CREATION

Father, Lord of all creation,
we praise you with all your creatures
and the whole universe that comes forth from the work of Your hands.

We acknowledge the privilege and responsibility
that You give us as stewards of Your creation.

In our ignorance we have done damage to our common home
and our brothers and sisters are suffering.

Through faithfully following your Son
guide and direct us to prepare for a better future.

Teach us to contemplate You in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of You.

Give us the grace to recognise, respect and protect all You have created,
using wisely all that you have entrusted to us.

Holy Spirit, who first hovered over the dawn of creation and drew order out of
the chaos help us to build your kingdom of justice, love, peace and beauty
where the poor of the earth are crying out. You, who live and reign, world
without end, Amen.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2026 - Sunday 2 November 6pm If your child is
in Year 9, Year 10 or above and they would like to receive the Sacrament of
Confirmation, there will be an information meeting for Candidates & Parents in
the church on Sunday 2 November 2025 at 6pm. The preparation sessions will
commence in January 2026.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM (HOME MISSION) SECOND COLLECTION - NEXT

WEEKEND: This collection provides the bishops of England and Wales with
resources to support Home Mission, the spread of the gospel in our own
country. The money collected enables a breadth of work to be done in support
of parish evangelization. Many thanks in advance for your support.

Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Souls of

Sylvia Swift RIP
(mother of Peter Swift)

George Okello RIP
(younger brother of Aloysius Ojok Okello)

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

23/24 August - 192 30/31 August - 230 6/7 September - 318

PARISH DIARY

Thursday 18 Sep 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Saturday 20 Sep 10.00 am	Archdiocesan Day for Catechists	Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral
Sunday 21 Sep 5pm	Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Wednesday 24 Sept 6.30pm	Service of Hope & Healing	St George's Cathedral
Tuesday 30 Sept 8pm	Art Group Meeting	Cafe York
Friday 3 Oct 6-8pm	Youth Group	Upper Hall
Saturday 18 or 25 October	Day of Retreat for Lectors & Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Please see poster and register via Mary parish office
Sunday 2 Nov 6pm	Confirmation Programme 2026 Meeting for parents/candidates years 9 & 10 and above	Church



THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (C)

Education Day

Saturday 13 September 2025

18:00 For the Parishioners

Sunday 14 September 2025

09:30 Peter Healy RIP 1st Anniversary

11:30 Michael Spencer RIP

Monday 15 September 2025 - Our Lady of Sorrows

09:30 Sue Hepworth RIP

Tuesday 16 September 2025 - Sts Cornelius Pope & Cyprian Bishop

09:30 Sheila McDaid

Wednesday 17 September 2025 - Feria

09:30 Carmela De Palma RIP Birthday (live-streamed)

Thursday 18 September 2025 - Feria

09:30 Quiet Private Prayer (no Mass)

Friday 19 September 2025 - Feria

09:30 Josephine Ugwu RIP

Saturday 20 September 2025 - St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest & Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions

10:30 Martin Kane

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Evangelii Gaudium (Home Mission) Sunday

Saturday 20 September 2025

18:00 For the Parishioners

Sunday 21 September 2025

09:30 Adrian & Matthew McGurran RIP

11:30 Children of Aberfan

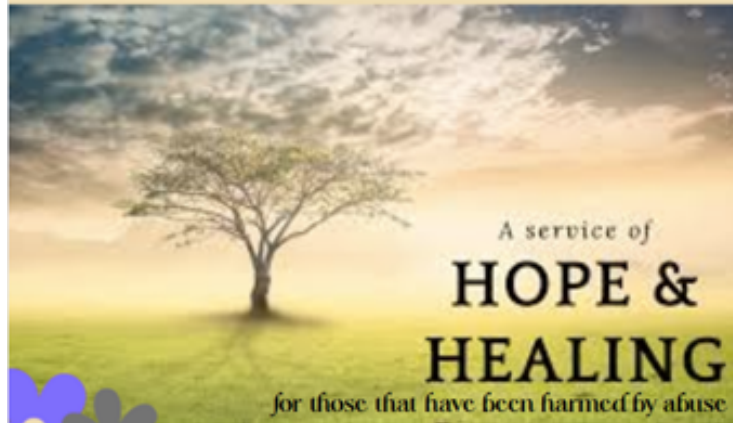
Please access the live-streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/>

(FM)=Foundation Mass



ARCHDIOCESE of
SOUTHWARK



You are warmly invited to the
Archdiocese of Southwark's
Annual service for Healing and Hope
for those that have been harmed by abuse,
led by Archbishop John Wilson
Date 24th September 2025
Time 6.30pm
Venue St George's Cathedral SE1 7HY



An invitation to Building a better Marriage

A day in which married couples can **privately** explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into their communication and the call of the Church to the married.



**Saturday, 4th October 2025 at
Holy Cross, 208 Sangley Rd,
Catford, SE6 2JS**

9.30am till 4.30pm



BOOKING ESSENTIAL

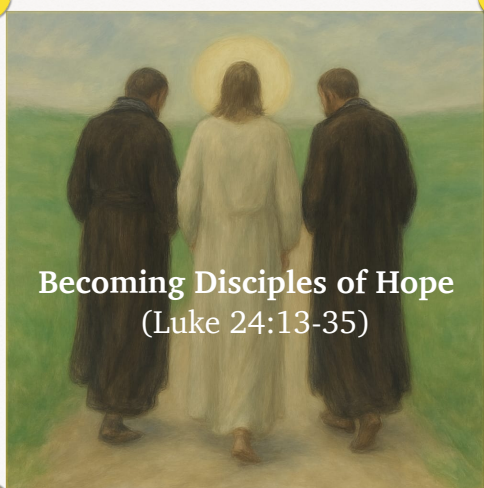
Contact:- Carole Batty

mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

07983 524 727



Marriage & Family Life Team RC Archdiocese of Southwark



Becoming Disciples of Hope
(Luke 24:13-35)



ARCHDIOCESE *of*
SOUTHWARK

DAY OF RETREAT
for **Lectors & Extraordinary**
Ministers of the Eucharist
Southeast Area of the Archdiocese of Southwark

Saturday 18 October 2025

Parishes in the Deaneries of Bexley, Bromley, and Greenwich
Saint Stephen's Church Welling, 26 Deepdene Road, Kent, DA16 3QL

Saturday 25 October 2025

Parishes in the Deaneries of Camberwell, Lewisham and Lambeth
Bishop Thomas Grant School, Belltrees Grove, Streatham, London, SW162HY

Please, register via you own parish at: evsoutheast@rcaos.org.uk

Deadline: Monday 29 September 2025

PROGRAMME OF THE DAY

09:30: Tea and Coffee

10:00 - 1040: **Welcome & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** by Canon Victor Darlington,
Episcopal Vicar, Southeast

10.45am: **Discipleship of Hope** - Canon Edward Perera, Dean of Bexley

11.30am: Q&A

11.45am: Break

12 noon: **Virtual Missionary; How the Church can thrive in the digital space** - Father Antony
Megan Sellam, Dean of Lewisham

12.45pm: Q&A

1pm: Lunch - Bring your own packed lunch

1.30pm: **Liturgy of Witness** - Father Stephen Wymer, Dean of Bromley

2.15pm: Q&A

2.30pm: Mass

18th October Homily - Father Richard Plunkett, Dean of Greenwich

25th October Homily - Father Valentine Erhahon, Dean of Lambeth

Music: Father Bartłomiej Dudek, Dean of Camberwell