



**THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
ST. WILLIAM OF YORK**  
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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**

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

## **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) 30 NOVEMBER 2025**

Dear Parishioners

Today we begin the season of Advent, which is the time of hopeful waiting to the coming of our saviour. Advent is a time of prayerful silence and recollection, in which we strive to listen to the word that wants to come to us and to pay attention to his approaching footsteps.

Advent is not only a time of liturgical preparation for Christmas, but a journey of conversion, in this precious time, we strive to learn and recognise Jesus who continually comes to meet us in the faces of people and especially of the poor and the marginalized. It is a time in which the word invites us to be vigilant but also to act, to let ourselves be touched by the wounds of our brothers and sisters, to become a credible sign of Jesus's love.

Let us try to pray and try to learn from Jesus' love, generosity and charity towards us, so that we can relate to our brothers and sisters in the same spirit of charity and love, our faith becomes visible when we look after others. During advent here in our parish we make a special collection for the homeless and to those who are in need within our community. let us be as generous as charitable as we can in this time of grace.

God Bless  
Fr Habte



**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS** - Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14a, Matthew 24:37-44

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** -In each year of the three-year cycle the Advent Sunday gospel-readings have the same pattern: the first is about the final Coming of Christ. In the second John the Baptist is preparing a community of repentance to welcome Jesus' mission. In the third John the Baptist points out Jesus as the Messiah. On the fourth Sunday we look to Mary preparing for the birth of her Son. In this Sunday's reading about the Second Coming the accent is the same as in the Paul's letter to the Romans (today's second reading): we have a pressing and urgent need to take action without delay. The Second Coming will be sudden and unexpected as when a thief breaks in at night and no protective preparations have been made; it will also seem random and apparently without discernible cause, as when one person is taken, another left behind. We do not even know whether that final confrontation (when each of us is brought face to face with the awesome presence of God) will be a unique event for each of us at death, or whether it will be a group event, as is suggested by Matthew's parable of the sheep and goats sent to right and left. There is no time in eternity, no waiting-room! It will not be as any human mind can envisage it. Should we look forward to or dread the final meeting with the Lord?  
Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS** - Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-9, Matthew 3:1-12

**THIS SUNDAY WE BEGIN THE SEASON OF ADVENT** that has a twofold character. It is a time of preparation for Christmas, when Christ's first coming is remembered and it is also a time to direct mind and heart to await his Second Coming. Advent is, therefore, a time of devout and joyful expectation. Collect an Advent leaflet from the Narthex this weekend or download a copy [HERE](#)



You'll find ideas and suggestions about how to celebrate Advent at home and prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus at Christmas.

**GIFT SUNDAY** - As usual, we'll be collecting gifts again this year to pass on to local charities for their Christmas appeals. Gifts 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 this weekend, 29-30 November, and during next week until the weekend of 6-7 December.** This year, we are asking for donations of

Toys or gift vouchers for children and teenagers, unwrapped  
Small Christmas food and other items - e.g., Christmas puddings, biscuits, chocolates, crackers

**SECOND COLLECTIONS DURING ADVENT WILL BE FOR THE HOMELESS**

Please give generously! THANK YOU.

**CONFESSION DURING ADVENT** - Advent is a good time to take advantage of the Sacrament of Penance, it is a time of conversion. We will be holding a parish Penitential service with visiting priests on **Friday 19th December at 7:30pm**. You can also receive the sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturdays 11:00pm- 12:00 noon, or any time during Advent by contacting Fr. Habte in advance.

**PARISH CAROL SERVICE** - Our Carol Service will take place on **Sunday 21st December at 4.00pm** followed by refreshments in the school hall. Come and enjoy this great celebration for everyone.

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER** - For Christians in areas of conflict -Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

**CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT CONSULTATION** - Thank you to the thousands of people who took part in the Called to Bear Fruit consultation. We are grateful to you all for sharing so openly your hopes for the life of the Church in our Archdiocese. The consultation response, which includes 15 actions points for renewal, is available at <https://www.rcaos.org.uk/calledtobearfruit> and hardcopies will be sent to every parish. The consultation revealed a burning desire within our parishes to be missionary and evangelising disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, who work together to help people encounter His love. So, as we move forward on the next steps together, let's build up the Body of Christ in Southwark with faith and confidence, becoming ever more a community of missionary disciples filled with joy and hope for the future.



As an Archdiocese, we will continue to discern the process of renewal, and further updates will be provided in due course.

### **FINANCES - OCTOBER 2025**

The monthly Offertory Collection - £1,795.44  
Donations for CAFOD Family Fast Day - £780.42  
Donations for World Mission Sunday - £732.70  
Donations for the Parish Crisis Fund- £80.00  
From monthly standing orders we collected - £5,343.00

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

Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Soul of

**Eilish Brophy RIP**

a parishioner for over 30 years who sadly died last week

**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**

8/9 November - 359 15/16 November -305 22/23 November - 262

**PARISH DIARY**

Tuesday 2 Dec 7.45pm	RCIA Session	Lower Hall
Thursday 4 Dec 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Friday 5 Dec 6-8pm	Youth Group Meeting	Upper Hall
Saturday 6 Dec 12-3pm	BeWell Hub Team Festive Gnocchi Cooking event	Upper Hall
Sunday 7 Dec 12.30pm	SWOY School Christmas Fair	School
Sunday 7 Dec 2.45pm	Reconciliation 3rd Session	Church
Tuesday 9 Dec 10.00am	Art Group	Cafe York
Friday 19 Dec 7.30pm	Parish Penitential Service with visiting priests	Church
Sunday 21 Dec 4pm	Parish Carol Service followed by Refreshments	Church School Hall

**2026 SOUTHWARK DIRECTORY** - Please use the link below to access the 2026 Southwark directory which includes the Diocesan Calendar, Parishes, Mass times, Priests, Schools, Societies, Holy Days of Obligation and other useful information.

**[2026 Southwark Directory](#)**



# Festive GNOCCHI COOKING EVENT

Join us for a cosy Christmas cooking afternoon!

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December**  
**From 12 to 3PM**

Come along for a warm and friendly afternoon of cooking, laughter and connection!

Learn how to make delicious homemade Gnocchi-then enjoy sharing it together.

No experience needed-just come along to enjoy the company and the Christmas atmosphere.

**Everyone welcome!**



**When: Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December**  
**from 12 to 3PM**



**Where: St William Of York**  
**Church Hall**



**Hosted by: The Be Well Hub Team**



Nice company



Learn new skills



Festive food & fun



# CABRINI CHILDREN'S CLOTHES

COME AND TAKE  
AND/OR DONATE CHILDREN'S CLOTHES.  
FROM NEWBORN TO 12 YEARS



WHEN:

1&3RD TUESDAYS  
OF THE MONTH

7/10, 21/10

4/11, 18/11

2/12, 16/12

AT 10-11.30AM

WHERE

ST FRANCESCA CABRINI  
HONOR OAK PARK, LONDON SE23 3LE

IF DONATING CLOTHES MUST BE  
IN GOOD CONDITION AND CLEANED.

UP TO DATE COMMUNICATIONS ON INSTAGRAM  
@CABRINI\_CHILDRENS\_CLOTHES\_BANK



**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)**

**Saturday 29 November 2025**

**18:00** Valerie Mason RIP

**Sunday 30 November 2025**

**10:30** Sylvia Swift RIP

**Monday 1 December 2025 - Feria**

**09:30** Annette Foley RIP

**Tuesday 2 December 2025 - Feria**

**09:30** Brigid Brandon Wellbeing

**Wednesday 3 December 2025 - St. Francis Xavier, Priest**

**Day of prayer for Migrants**

**09:30** Arthur & Elizabeth Anderson (FM) (live-streamed)

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**Thursday 4 December 2025 - Feria**

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

**Friday 5 December 2025 - Feria**

**09:30** Richard Gallagher RIP

**Saturday 6 December 2025 - Feria**

**10:30** Lord William Carron (FM)

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)**

**Saturday 6 December 2025**

**18:00** For the Parishioners

**Sunday 7 December 2025**

**09:30** **Family Mass**

Tony Frisoli RIP Birthday

**11:30** Robbie Sharp RIP (live-streamed)

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