



## THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. WILLIAM OF YORK



4 Brockley Park, Forest Hill, SE23 1PS

Clergy:- Fr Habte Ukbay, Parish Priest

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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 occasion)*

**Reconciliations** - Saturdays 11-12 noon

**Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

First & last Friday of the month after Mass

### **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**15 February 2026**

Dear Parishioners

This year the Lenten season will be starting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February.

Let us make it a true time of conversion and transformation, a time of turning back to God.

Traditional Lenten discipline asks us to be aware of returning full focus on our God through acts of self-sacrifice, especially more prayer, fasting and giving alms to the poor.

We will be offering a parish penitential service on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm, let us try to take advantage of the opportunities to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

During the first 5 weeks of Lent, led by our parish RCIA team on Tuesday evenings at 8:00pm, we will have Bible reflection, to be coordinated and offered by members of different parish ministries. We continue to have the online evening prayers, The shortened periods of "24 Hours with the Lord" on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, with Mass, time of reflection, Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction. Every Friday morning, we will have Stations of the Cross immediately after Mass.

During this Lent please pray for Peter Begg who (supported by his sponsor Ivan) is preparing to receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, this Easter as he continues to go through the journey in faith RCIA, (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.)

Ash Wednesday, Fridays and Good Friday are special days of fasting. We have opportunities for Almsgiving through our CAFOD family fast day, our Lenten almsgiving that runs throughout the season of Lent and anything you do personally to give from your own gifts in a spirit of trust and a blessing to those less fortunate.

May God bless us all as we prepare to celebrate our Lord's Resurrection.

Many Thanks

Fr Habte

**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS** - Sirach 15:15-20, 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, Matthew 5:17-37

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** - Today's Gospel is part of the Sermon on the Mount. As Moses stood on the mountain and gave the people of Israel the law, so Jesus is teaching his followers his law, and this law is new.

At first sight this teaching feels more than challenging, it feels impossible to live by: if anyone is angry with his brother then he must answer for it in front of the court; lustful looks are equal to adultery. Are we going to be punished for our thoughts? However the message that lies behind these words is practical and clear and sits at the heart of Jesus' teaching. All our actions must come from our heart. Our hearts and conscience are the place where we meet God and hear his voice. If we merely submit to external laws, even if they are good and true, we are failing to develop our relationship with God. Our actions must be motivated by our love for God and each other.

God speaks to us in our heart and this Gospel calls to listen to his voice. We must ask ourselves how Jesus would act in a similar situation, we must listen to what the Church tells us, but ultimately, we must make our decisions from our hearts, in response to prayer and love. This is the new law of Christ. JD

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS** - Genesis 2:7-9;3:1-7,Romans 5:12-19,Matthew 4:1-11

## **CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION - SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2026**

The clergy in our Archdiocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have one for parishes.

You can also donate via telephone office hours Mon-Fri 020 7960 2504 or by using the Clergy Support Fund envelopes available today at the back of Church. Please continue to keep our Priests in your prayers.



**ASH WEDNESDAY** -marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a special time of prayer, penance, reflection, sacrifice and good works in preparation of the celebration of Easter, through which we attain redemption. As we mark ourselves with Ashes as a sign of Penance we also commit to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Lent commences on Wednesday 18th February 2026. There will be two Masses at 10.30am and 8.00pm. Ashes will be distributed at each Mass symbolising a forty-day period of fasting and penance.

**LENTEN ALMS** - Almsgivings is one of the three pillars of our Lenten practice. Almsgiving is charity towards our neighbour. The parish is thankful for your donations during Lent.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT** - On Sunday 22nd February 2026 we will have just one Sunday Mass at 10.30am.

**LENT LEAFLET** In the special leaflet with today's newsletter, you will find lots of information about the meaning of Lent and some ideas for making it special.

[Lent leaflet](#)

**THE RITE OF ELECTION AND CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION 2026** will take place at St George's cathedral on Saturday 21st February at 12:00noon for gathering music and the Rite starts at 12.30pm. This marks a step forward for those who have been preparing for several months to receive the Sacraments of Initiation, that is, Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation. During the service, the Church 'elects' catechumens and candidates and recognises them as being ready to receive the Sacraments. Peter Begg will be taking part in the rite of election this year, please keep Peter in your prayers as he continues in his journey towards receiving the sacraments.

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST COLLECTION** - This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using



solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](https://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

### PRAY THE ROMERO ROSARY AT ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

Join Archbishop John Wilson and the Cathedral clergy in praying the rosary **every Friday at 5pm** throughout Lent. This is a beautiful opportunity to draw closer to the Lord Jesus in prayer. Archbishop John will personally lead the devotion at the National Shrine of St Oscar Romero at St George's Cathedral (SE1 6HR) on **Ash Wednesday (18th February) at 5pm**, and again on **Friday 6th** and **Friday 27th March**. On all other Fridays during Lent, the Cathedral clergy will lead the rosary, followed by the Stations of the Cross at 6pm. Let the rosary connect you to the Lord Jesus this Lenten season. Find out more at: [rcaos.org.uk/romerorosary](https://rcaos.org.uk/romerorosary)

### AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST: A CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS RESOURCE.

The Archdiocese has launched an exciting apologetics project to provide evidence-based answers to questions such as "Is Jesus God?". Ambassadors for Christ is designed to equip you with a deeper understanding of your faith, so you can confidently answer questions and be a joyful witness for the Lord Jesus and his Church. Every Monday, a new video will be posted on YouTube, along with a worksheet to enable you to use them. To watch the videos and take part in this exciting project, please visit: [rcaos.org.uk/ambassadorsforchrist](https://rcaos.org.uk/ambassadorsforchrist)

**GIFT AID** - Envelopes for the period April 2026 to April 2027 are now available for collection from the Narthex for those parishioners who are currently using envelopes. Please collect the envelope number that you have been using through 2025 as you leave the church. If you need a reminder of your gift aid number, please contact Mary via the parish office [foresthill@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:foresthill@rcaos.org.uk) or 020 8690 4549. There are also supplies of white gift aid envelopes in the Narthex for one-off donations, second and special collections and for use by visitors to our parish. Please remember to add your gift aid number when using the white envelopes.

Please inform Mary in the parish office if your circumstances change and you are no longer a UK tax payer or if you change your address.

Many thanks for your support to the parish.





## POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

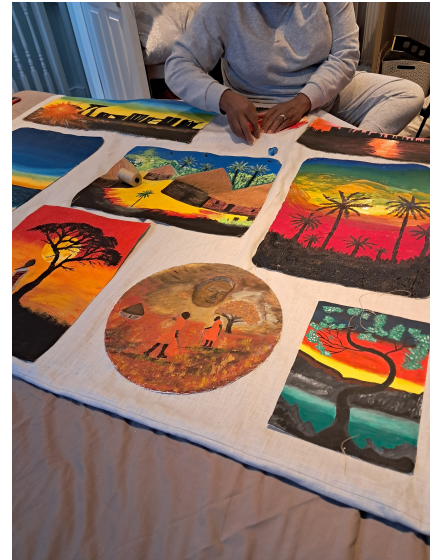
For children with incurable diseases - Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

## KINDLY SAVE THE DATE - ART EXHIBITION

"My most ambitious art project, Where Sunsets Gather, will be unveiled at my 6th Art Exhibition on **Saturday, 9th May, 12 noon–5:00 pm**, at the Upper Hall of our Church. The event will also include a book launch to mark my 76th birthday.

Kindly save the date"

Matthew Medupin



**BAPTISM** - of babies and young children of parent/s who live in and/or worship regularly at St William of York is celebrated by arrangement . Preparation for baptism by the parent/s is a requirement and involves attending a course over two evenings, following which a date and time for Baptism can be arranged with Fr Habte.

**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 allow sufficient time for the necessary pastoral and administrative preparation. Please speak to Fr Habte in the first instance.

## THANK YOU LETTERS TO PARISHIONERS

### Crib Collection 2025

Friends of the Holy Land

### Advent Homeless Collection 2025

The Passage    The Manna Society    Shelter

**Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Souls of**



**Ann Howes RIP**

Long standing parishioner and wife of John Howes

**Funeral at St William of York on Tuesday 17 February at 10.30am**

**Barbara Przyszlakowska RIP**

**Funeral at St William of York on Monday 2 March at 12 noon**

**Ann Caroline McHale RIP**

**Funeral at St William of York on Wednesday 4 March 2026 at 11.30AM**

**Resty Navarette RIP**

Brother of Delia Childs who sadly died last week

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**

24/25 January - 282 - 31 Jan/1 Feb - 363 - 7/8 Feb - 302

**PARISH DIARY**

Tuesday 24 February 8pm-9pm	RCIA - Lenten Reflection 1 followed by light refreshments	Church Lower hall
Friday 27 February	CAFOD Family Fast Day	
Sunday 1 March 2.45pm	Eucharist Session 2	Church
Sunday 1 March 6pm	Confirmation Session 4	Church

**Please note the 9.30am Mass has been cancelled on Tuesday 17 Feb 26.**



**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**Saturday 14 February 2026**

**18:00** Katie Allen Wellbeing

**Sunday 15 February 2026**

**09:30** For the Parishioners

**11:30** Repose of the Soul of Aiden Youssef RIP

**Monday 16 February 2026 - Feria**

**09:30** Ann Howes RIP

**Tuesday 17 February 2026 - Feria**

**10:30** Funeral of Ann Howes RIP

The end of Ordinary Time before Lent

**THE SEASON OF LENT**

**Ash Wednesday**

**18 February 2026 -**

**10:30** Annette Foley RIP

**20:00** For the Parishioners (live-streamed)

**Thursday 19 February 2026 - Feria**

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

**Friday 20 February 2026 - Feria**

**09:30** Mary & Jack O'Connor RIP

**Saturday 21 February 2026 - Feria**

**10:30** Jean & Frank Judge RIP

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)**

**Saturday 21 February 2026**

**18:00** Renate Betson RIP

**Sunday 22 February 2026**

**10:30** Betty Harvey 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



# They've been there for us Let us be there for them

## Clergy Support Fund

Please support our sick and retired  
priests with a gift today



Scan the QR code to donate or via:  
[www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF)



Registered Charity Number 1173050



# ROMERO ROSARY

5PM  
EVERY  
FRIDAY  
DURING  
LENT



DRAW CLOSER TO THE  
**LORD JESUS** THIS LENT  
BY JOINING US IN  
**PRAYING THE ROSARY**

[rcaos.org.uk/romerorosary](http://rcaos.org.uk/romerorosary)

Archbishop John Wilson will lead  
the rosary on 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March

Location:  
National Shrine of St Oscar Romero  
St George's Cathedral, SE1 6HR



# Cabrini Children's Clothes Bank

Volunteer-led free clothes bank  
for newborn to 12 years old

21.01 – 04.02 – 18.02 – 04.03 – 18.03 – 01.04

from 10 till 11:30 am

At Cabrini Campus - Honor Oak Park, SE23 3LE

Stay for tea, coffee and a friendly chat

All updates on Instagram  
[@cabrini\\_childrens\\_clothes\\_bank](https://www.instagram.com/cabrini_childrens_clothes_bank)

Contact: [cabrini.ccb@gmail.com](mailto:cabrini.ccb@gmail.com)