



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



4 Brockley Park, Forest Hill, SE23 1PS

Clergy:- Fr Habte Ukabay, 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

**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (A)**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) (A)**

**5 & 12 April 2026**

***Alleluia, Alleluia Christ is Risen***

Dear Parishioners

At the closure of our Lenten season and as we enter in to the Holy week that leads us to the great feast of Easter, I would like to extend to each of you our parishioners and your families my best wishes of joy and hope for this very special Feast. The Hope we invoke for greater peace is He, the Risen One!

The Easter candle that we light is the sign of the living presence of Christ himself among us: Christ is the light that conquers the darkness and illuminates the path of our life, today more than ever in need of hope and meaning.

In these increasingly uncertain times that bring fear to our hearts, Easter becomes a concrete sign of hope. The light of the Risen Christ consoles, heals, and gives the strength to begin again.

We pray for peace in the world, for people and countries who are challenged and suffering from conflict and war.

For us Christians, Easter expresses the joy, hope, and peace that only the Lord Jesus can grant us through his death and resurrection. After his resurrection, the risen Christ brought hope and peace to his frightened disciples. May the Lord who brought peace and restored hope into his disciples bring light, hope, peace, joy, and love into our lives.

I would like to wish you all a joyful and blessed Easter, thank you to everyone responding positively to the initiatives and who contributed to live the great season of Lent, and the Easter Holy Triduum especially well, also to all who participated in the wonderful liturgies of these days.

On behalf of myself and all parishioners, I would like to thank Readers, Eucharistic ministers, catechists, Sacristans, the Art Group, Flower Arrangers, Altar Servers, MC's, Musicians, Stewards, our school community, and all parishioners for your support and hard work during the Easter Triduum celebrations and throughout the year. I would like to thank you especially for your support, good wishes, cards and gifts.

I wish you, all the blessings of the Risen Christ and a joyful Celebration of Easter! May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year bring peace and happiness to you and those you hold most dear.

May the Easter joy fill our parish community with this joyful hope.

God Bless  
Fr Habte

**EASTER SUNDAY'S READINGS** - Acts 10:34a,37-43, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-9

**EASTER SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE REFLECTION** -

All four Gospel writers agree that Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb and found it empty. St John describes her in distress as she told the disciples, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Peter and John ran to the tomb, to confirm her story, and seeing the linen clothes, but no body, they understood, for the first time, that Jesus was to rise from the dead. John's Gospel goes on to describe Mary Magdalene being the first to meet the risen Lord and being the one to carry that news to the disciples, which is why the early Church called her "Apostle to the Apostles." In 2016 Pope Francis formally elevated her memorial to a feast day and commented that she recognised Jesus when he said her name. Similarly, we should recognise the voice of the risen Lord as he calls us in our hearts to love our neighbour and to serve him in the ways we care for others. PB

**EASTER SERVICES CARD** - Copies available in church and on our website  
<https://swoy.org.uk/holy-week-easter-services-2026/>

**EASTER OFFERING TO FR HABTE** - please see the yellow Easter Offering envelopes, available in the Narthex, the Finance committee ask you to be as generous as possible to our parish priest at Easter. It is our way of supporting his expenses and saying thank you for his ministry among us . If you are going away at Easter, please use the envelope and post it in the letter box of the presbytery whenever you can. For those of you in the gift aid scheme, please write your gift aid number on the Easter offering envelope as the parish will benefit. You may also give via the Contactless device. QR code or via the parish bank account details:- Sort Code 60-50-01 -Account number 79124437 - RCAS FOREST HILL Reference - Your surname/Gift Aid no/Easter. Many thanks.



**EASTER VISITATION & HOUSE BLESSING-** If you know of a parishioner, who would like Fr. Habte to visit, please let the parish office or Fr. Habte know

**CHANGE TO MASS TIMES AND SERVICES NEXT WEEK** - Please note that next week Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday Mass will be celebrated at 10.30am.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO KATHY DOYLE** our parishioner for donating beautifully hand knitted Easter chicks with a surprise chocolate egg. They sold very quickly and all proceeds have gone to church funds in accordance with Kathy's wishes. Thank you to everyone who bought the chicks and contributed so generously.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER READINGS** -  
Acts 2:42-27. 1 Peter 1:3-9, John20:19-31

### **SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER SCRIPTURE REFLECTION-**

In this passage we read about the first appearances of Jesus to the disciples after the resurrection. Peter is not present at the first appearance and is reluctant to accept what the other disciples tell him and is only willing to believe when he has seen Jesus for himself. Belief in the resurrection is a fundamental aspect of our faith which for new believers can be difficult to accept. Peter helps us to overcome our doubts which all of us experience at some point during our faith journey. He shows us and shows us that it is possible for our faith to develop and evolve into a true life changing way of life. Experiencing the resurrection involves transitioning from a theoretical belief to a daily, transformative reality by cultivating a personal relationship with Christ. This is lived out by embracing hope over despair, practicing forgiveness and engaging in sacrificial, joy filled living that mirrors Christ's victory over sin.

LBr

**WOOLLY HATS FOR SEAFARERS** Thank you to everyone who has added a woolly hat to the basket in the narthex. I have parcelled them up and sent them to Stella Maris in Tilbury where I am sure they will be much appreciated. The basket and yarn (for anyone to use) is still there for any more hats. Anyone who wants to branch out to balaclavas or fingerless gloves will find more patterns here [Knitting for Charity - Stella Maris](https://stellamaris.org.uk/knitting/) <https://stellamaris.org.uk/knitting/>

**MASS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**  
**July 11th, at St George's Cathedral**

If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup> + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than the middle of May, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, your parish, and the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Contact us at [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk)  
As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Forest Hill Marriage and Family Life South East, RC Archdiocese of Southwark

**SVP AND CAFOD WORK EXPERIENCE.** - The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 21 – 26 June in London. Candidates must be aged 18-25 years old, but priority will be given to those in their first or second year at university. [Apply here](#). Applications close on the 6 April. For any queries, please contact [KeziaH@svp.org.uk](mailto:KeziaH@svp.org.uk)

**SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE** The Southwark Catholic Youth Service has [a number of upcoming activities](#) for youth and young adults. For regular updates on forthcoming events, sign up to its network at [tinyurl.com/scysnetwork](http://tinyurl.com/scysnetwork). For queries on youth activities email [youth@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcaos.org.uk)

**MASS ATTENDEES**

14/15 Mar - 365 21/22 Mar -336 28/29 Mar - 421

**PARISH DIARY**

Thursday 16 April 8pm	Choir Practice	Church
Sunday 19 April 2.45pm	Eucharist 3 Session	Church
Sunday 19 April 6pm	Confirmation 7th Session	Church
Tuesday 21 April 7.30pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Cafe York

## **POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL 2026** - For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

## **CYCLE OF PRAYER - Intentions for Eastertide:**

*New Members of the Church.*

*Vocations* - especially on the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, the Fourth Sunday of Easter.

*Survivors of Sexual Abuse* - especially on Tuesday in the fifth Week of Easter.

*The Right Use of the Media* - especially on World Communications Day, Seventh Sunday of Easter.

*The Church* - especially at Pentecost.

*Human Work* - especially on 1st May, Saint Joseph the Worker

## **MAINTENANCE OF ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL - 2ND COLLECTION - SUNDAY 19 APRIL**

St George's Cathedral is the mother church of the diocese. This second collection helps meet the cost of the upkeep of the cathedral .

Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

**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

## **VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN (20s and 30s) -**

Discerning God's Call in your life 15th - 17th May, Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org) To register: <https://bit.ly/Vocation2026>

**PARISH OFFICE** - The Parish Office will close from Monday 6 April and re-open on 13 April 2026. The answer machine will be switched on and messages will be responded to. In an emergency, please come to the presbytery and if no answer at the door, please leave a written message. Thank you

This newsletter is for two weekends. Please do not destroy it too soon! Our next newsletter will be issued for the Third Sunday of Easter on Sunday 19th April 2026.

## FINANCES - FEBRUARY 2026

The monthly Offertory Collection - £1,763.44  
Donations for Racial Justice Sunday - £181.86  
Donations for Clergy Support Fund - £444.24  
From monthly standing orders we collected - £4,628.00

Bank details to set up a regular standing order:

Account name: RCAS Forest Hill, Sort Code: 60 50 01 Acc No: 79124437

**2nd DONA CONTACTLESS DEVICE** – We have a second Contactless device in the Narthex to ease congestion during busy periods. The system will recognise our existing gift aiders and payment cards, you only need to re-register for Gift Aid if using a different payment card.

If using the contactless device for the first time and you are a UK Tax payer, please follow the brief on screen instructions and register for Gift Aid as the parish benefits from an additional 25% on each donation. Many thanks

For more information on Gift Aid - please click [HERE](#)  
sign-up for Gift Aid online here: <https://forms.rcaos.org.uk/giftaid>

**Change in Circumstances** - If you have already completed a Gift Aid declaration, please remember to inform the parish office of any changes in your circumstances. This includes:

- A change of name or address
- If you no longer pay sufficient UK tax to cover the Gift Aid claimed on your donations

Keeping your details up to date ensures we remain compliant and can continue to benefit fully from your generosity.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all parishioners for your continued generosity and support. Your donations play a vital role in sustaining the life and mission of our parish, helping us to maintain our church, support our ministries, and serve those in need within our community.



**EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (A)**

**VIGIL MASS**

**Saturday 4 April 2025**

**20:30** Josephine O'Hara RIP

**Sunday 5 April 2026**

**09:30 Family Mass**

For the Parishioners

**11:30** Kathleen Redmond RIP Anniversary

**THE END OF THE EASTER TRIDUUM-**

**Monday within the Octave of Easter - 6 April 2026**

**10:30** Private Intention

**Tuesday within the Octave of Easter - 7 April 2026**

**10:30** Marie Dominique RIP Anniversary

**Wednesday within the Octave of Easter - 8 April 2026**

**10:30** Gertrude Badejo Birthday Thanksgiving

**Thursday within the Octave of Easter - 9 April 2026**

**10:30** Quiet Private Prayer (No Mass)

**Friday within the Octave of Easter - 10 April 2026**

**10:30** Patricia Wocial and Family Wellbeing

**Saturday within the Octave of Easter - 11 April 2026**

**10:30** Chris & Pat Kitchen RIP

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (A))**

**Saturday 11 April 2026**

**18:00** Renate Betson RIP

**Sunday 12 April 2026**

**09:30** For the Parishioners

**11:30** Sue Hepworth RIP

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page

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

(FM)=Foundation Mass



**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (A))**

**Saturday 11 April 2026**

**18:00** Renate Betson RIP

**Sunday 12 April 2026**

**09:30** For the Parishioners

**11:30** Sue Hepworth RIP

**Monday 13 April 2026 - Feria**

**09:30** William & Lucy Brown (FM)

**Tuesday 14 April 2026 - Feria**

**09:30** Henry Evans (FM)

**Wednesday 15 April 2026 - Feria**

**09:30** Josie, Tom & Thomas McDonagh RIP

**Thursday 16 April 2026 - Feria**

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

**Friday 17 April 2026 - Feria**

**09:30** Holy Souls

**Saturday 18 April 2026 - Feria**

**10:30** Povey Family Wellbeing

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)**

**Saturday 18 April 2026**

**18:00** Beth O'Connor Coffey RIP

**Sunday 19 April 2026**

**09:30** Brandon Family Wellbeing

**11:30** For the Parishioners

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# St William of York Be Well

## WHAT WE'RE ABOUT

**Connecting our community, one conversation at a time.**



Be Well is our parish's warm, welcoming space for anyone who wants to feel more connected. We're here to build relationships, reduce isolation, and create a community where people feel comfortable talking, listening, and supporting one another.

2025 was our first big year:

- We launched monthly Be Well Drop-ins at Café York supported by our newly trained Be Well Champions.
- We held Nature Walks, to give people a chance to walk, talk and enjoy local green spaces together.
- We supported young people with a dedicated Year 6–7 Transition Day.
- We hosted St Christopher's Hospice who led a conversation about Grief & Loss.
- We ran a hands on Gnocchi making class.



We've got even more community activities on the way, as St William of York's Be Well Hub continues to grow into a place where everyone can feel welcome and supported as part of the community.

**Come together and connect, all are welcome!**  
**Email [swoybewellhub@gmail.com](mailto:swoybewellhub@gmail.com) with any questions.**

# EVENTS IN 2026

Drop in | 4:30 PM – 5:45 PM  
Cafe York

Last  
Saturday  
of Every  
Month

Mar 28  
Jun 11  
Sep 26

Nature Walk | 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM  
Around the local area

Citizens Lewisham Mayoral Assembly  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
Beecroft Garden Primary School

Apr 27

May 2

Chin-Chin Making  
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM | Upper Hall

Anxiety Workshop  
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM | Parish Room

May 9

June 20

Primary to Secondary School Transition Day  
10:00 AM – 2:30 PM | Parish Room

Jam Making | 12:00PM – 3:00 PM  
Parish Room

June 27

Oct 3

Ravioli Making | 12:30 PM – 15:30 PM  
Upper Hall

Bereavement Talk | 2:00 PM – 4:00  
PM Parish Room

Nov 14

Dec 5

Christmas Event | 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM  
Parish Room