



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. WILLIAM OF YORK



4 Brockley Park, Forest Hill, SE23 1PS

Clergy:- Fr Habte Ukbay, Parish Priest

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 occasion)

Reconciliations - Saturdays 11-12 noon

Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

First & last Friday of the month after Mass

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (A)

16 August 2026

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

23 August 2026

Dear Parishioners

As we move through the summer holiday season, I send my warmest wishes to all our parishioners, especially our children, young people, and families.

We hope these summer weeks are bringing opportunities for rest, fun, and time together with loved ones. Whether you are enjoying a holiday away, spending time with friends and family, attending summer activities, or simply relaxing at home, may this be a season of happiness and renewal.

Children, as you enjoy your break from school, remember that God is with you wherever you go. Take time to notice the beauty of God's creation, be kind to those around you, and keep a little space in each day to say a prayer and thank Him for His many blessings.

May God bless you with a safe, joyful, and restful summer, and may Our Lady watch over you and your families.

Wishing everyone a happy and blessed summer holiday.

Fr Habte

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS - Revelation 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab 1 Corinthians 15:20-27, Luke 1:39-56

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - The core of this gospel reading is Mary's canticle of thanksgiving for God's gifts to her. It is, however, fitting that, on the Feast of the bodily Assumption of Mary, it should begin with her bodily attention to the bodily needs of her elderly relative. With her own baby on the way, she would have plenty of other priorities, making her long journey a real act of kindness. Her canticle, sung daily in the liturgy of Evening Prayer, sums up God's faithfulness to his promises, focussed on his gifts to this simple peasant girl. It combines a wonderful sense of the holiness of God with warmth of gratitude, showing the thoughts that revolved constantly in Mary's mind. As is fitting in the mouth of a girl whose only knowledge of books was the Bible, Mary's song is a texture of scriptural phrases. We cannot assume that Luke wrote it down at Mary's dictation, for putting words in the mouth of his characters is a feature of Luke the historian; but it must reflect her thinking. If any theme resounds again and again throughout the Bible, it is God's care for the poor, for the simple and for those in need. It is this which sets the Hebraeo-Christian tradition apart from the ways of the world. *What was Mary thinking as she walked to Elizabeth's home and back again? How may we in our daily lives show gratitude and give praise to God?*

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - Isaiah 22:15, 19-23, Romans 11:33-36, Matthew 16:13-20

NEXT SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - At last Peter recognises that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. At last he realises that in Jesus he can see the action of God made visible. The disciples followed Jesus as soon as he called, but for a long time they were puzzled about what to make of him, of his wonderful teaching and his godlike personality. Now comes a shaft of light and understanding. We too often take some time to appreciate the true worth of someone we know well: a little gesture can sometimes reveal just how generous and thoughtful they are. Peter suddenly grasps that here is the Son of God, acting among them, a daunting or even terrifying thought. Jesus replies to Peter's recognition with his own generosity, giving him a new name, 'Rock', for this is what 'Peter' means. If you name something, you make it your own, take it to yourself. This is just what Jesus does with Simon who becomes his own Peter, his own 'Rock'. That is the importance of the naming of a child at Baptism: Jesus takes us to himself and we become his. The early Christians called themselves 'Those over whom the name of Jesus has been called'. We may have been named Mary or John, but the name of Jesus has been called over us and we have become his. *What are the implications for us of Jesus' promise to Peter*

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our warmest congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Clare and Christopher Thomson on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

As long-standing and faithful members of our parish community, they have been a great blessing to St William of York through their commitment, service, and witness to Christian marriage.



Please keep Clare and Christopher and their family in your prayers as they celebrate this wonderful milestone. May God continue to bless them with health, happiness, and many more years together.

Congratulations on your Golden Wedding Anniversary! ✨

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS - On Saturday 22nd August we will baptise Summer Pearson and Patricia Longhurst. Congratulations to Summer and Patricia from all at St William of York and welcome to our parish family.



HOLY FATHER SUMMER MESSAGE

Pope Leo XIV urges Christians to use the summer not only for rest but to deepen their faith through acts of peace, mercy and service. Responding to a reader's letter, he encourages care for the sick, elderly, migrants, prisoners and all who suffer, especially amid war and hardship. He calls for simplicity over materialism, support for volunteers and families, and holidays that reflect Christian values, reminding believers that God's grace and love are always present. (Source -Vatican news)

STEWARDS, READERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - Many of our regular ministers will be on holiday during the summer period so it will be greatly appreciated if you are able to offer assistance as required at your regular Mass times. Thank you.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST 2026 -For evangelisation in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

FUNDRAISING FOR DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE. From Bishop Paul. One of the trustees of our Lourdes pilgrimage has been doing a sponsored walk to raise money to help disabled pilgrims to go to Lourdes. He will be in parts of Kent and SE London this week. If you would be willing to contribute, he has a fundraising page at www.justgiving.com/page/calourdes125sw

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. Please speak to Fr Habte in the first instance. 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 Fr Habte in the first instance.

MASS ATTENDEES

25/26 July - 236 1/2 August - 196 7/8 August -255

FINANCES - JULY 2026

The monthly Offertory Collection - £2,157.77

Donations for Stella Maris- Sea Sunday - £546.64

Donations for Families in Need Fund - £169.54

From monthly standing orders we collected - £5,208.00

If you wish to set up a regular standing order:
Please contact the parish office

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all parishioners for your continued generosity and support

BEWARE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI), EMAIL & PHONE SCAMS

Important Notice for All Parishioners

We are aware of an increasing number of scams using artificial intelligence (AI), fake emails, text messages, phone calls, and social media accounts to impersonate priests, parish staff, banks, charities, and other trusted organisations.

Please stay vigilant:

- Fr Habte or Mary will never ask for money, gift cards, bank transfers, passwords, or confidential information by email, text message, or telephone.
- Be cautious of any message or call that creates a sense of urgency, secrecy, or pressure to act immediately.
- Scammers can use AI to create convincing emails, photographs, and even voice messages that appear genuine.
- Always check email addresses carefully and never click on unexpected links or open suspicious attachments.
- Fraudsters may make calls pretending to be from the parish, your bank, the police, or another trusted organisation. They can even make their phone number appear genuine.

How to Verify a Phone Call

If you receive an unexpected or suspicious call:

- Do not provide personal, financial, or security information.
- End the call and contact the organisation directly using an official phone number obtained independently.
- Do not rely on phone numbers or contact details given by the caller.
- Never feel pressured to make an immediate payment or disclose sensitive information.

If you receive a message or call that appears to come from the parish but seems unusual, please contact the Fr Habte or Mary immediately. If you believe you have been targeted by a scam, please report it to the Parish Office and to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or 0300 123 2040.

Thank you for keeping our community safe

Please pray for the Peaceful Repose of the Soul of

Rian Archer-Royer RIP

(nephew of Peter Julien)

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen

The BeWell Drop-In Cafe is taking a summer break during August. We wish everyone a pleasant summer and look forward to welcoming you back on the last Saturday in September.

SAVE THE DATE - Lectors' and Eucharistic Ministers' Formation Days:

Saturday, 24th October 2026 - 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Bishop Thomas Grant School, Belltrees Grove, London SW16 2HY

For parishes in the Deaneries of Camberwell, Lambeth and Lewisham

Saturday, 31st October 2026 - 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Capuchin Franciscan Friary, Carlton Road, Erith DA8 1DN

For parishes in the Deaneries of Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich and Woolwich

The theme for the Formation Days will be:

“Nourished by the Word, Sent with the Eucharist”

Full details, will be circulated shortly

**Our next newsletter will be issued for the
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
on Sunday 30 August 2026**

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (A)

Saturday 15 August 2026

18:00 Renate Betson RIP

Sunday 16 August 2026

09:30 Martin Farrell RIP

11:30 For the Parishioners

Monday 17 August 2026- Feria

09:30 Divine intervention and a successful operation for all Austin Avuru entities

Tuesday 18 August 2026 - Feria

09:30 Thanksgiving for Orji Idodo, all her children and their entire families

Wednesday 19 August 2026 - Feria

09:30 Robert Arnaud RIP

Thursday 20 August 2026 - St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

09:30 Quiet Private Prayer (No Mass)

Friday 21 August 2026 - St. Pius X Pope

09:30 Clare & Christopher Thomson & Family - 50th Wedding Anniversary

Saturday 22 August 2026 - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10:30 Jacoba Johanna Elisabeth Hoohenkerk-Hopman RIP

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 22 August 2026

18:00 John Costello RIP

Sunday 23 August 2026

09:30 Farrell Family Wellbeing

11:30 For the Parishioners

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page
www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/

(FM)=Foundation Mass



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 22 August 2026

18:00 John Costello RIP

Sunday 23 August 2026

09:30 Farrell Family Wellbeing

11:30 For the Parishioners

Monday 24 August 2026- St. Bartholomew, Apostle

09:30 Breda McAleer RIP

Tuesday 25 August 2026 - Feria

09:30 Josephine Conway RIP

Wednesday 26 August 2026 - Feria

09:30 Freya and her grandmother Martina and her great-grandmother Cathy

Thursday 27 August 2026 - St. Monica

09:30 Quiet Private Prayer (No Mass)

Friday 28 August 2026 - St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

09:30 Mrs Joy Munster

Saturday 29 August 2026 - The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

10:30 Tomas Raftery RIP

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 29 August 2026

18:00 For the Parishioners

Sunday 30 August 2026

09:30 Ruth Brereton RIP 18th Anniversary

11:30 Sue Hepworth RIP

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page
www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/

(FM)=Foundation Mass