



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 closed,
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

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

11 October 2026

Dear Parishioners

PARISH SYNOD CONVERSATIONS – GETTING STARTED!

Our Parish Synod Conversations will begin the week commencing Monday 19 October, with five weeks of listening, sharing and discerning together.

We will shortly be approaching leaders of our parish groups to help facilitate these conversations. Online briefing and training sessions will take place on Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 October. Both sessions will cover the same material, so facilitators need only attend one, choosing whichever day is more convenient. This will ensure everyone is fully prepared and supported.

Each week, several sessions, including an online option, will be offered, giving parishioners the flexibility to participate at a time that suits them.

A full timetable, including venues and joining details, will be published shortly.

Everyone is welcome. Every voice matters!

God Bless

Fr Habte

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS - Isaiah 25:6-10a, Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20, Matthew 22:1-14

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - In this parable, Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a wedding feast. The king keeps extending invitations, reaching out, giving opportunities. His people are slow to respond or even hostile.

Addressed to the religious leaders of the day, this story is just as relevant to us today. Like them, we can miss the spirit of God's invitation, not listen to the prophets or prioritise different things to God's message of love and forgiveness.

But this story also reminds us that our creator invites us to a feast of opportunities worth celebrating everyday. God gives us a world full of wonderful interdependent people, plants, animals, habitats and resources. Jesus is describing a generous God who wants us to get together, to share food, notice our blessings, be interested in each other, and build a kingdom together, where all are welcome and have something to offer.

And the man thrown out for not wearing a wedding garment? Perhaps he's a reminder to be wholehearted rather than complacently going through the motions.

God's invitations include what we choose to notice, how we choose to live, worship, celebrate and share. Let's never be too busy to celebrate with others. MMcD

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - Isaiah 45:1,4-6, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b, Matthew 22:15-21



BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS - This weekend we warmly welcome Mateo Elias Gonzales Vargas into the family of the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Kathleene and Christian and assure them of our prayers as they begin this wonderful journey of faith with their son.

May God bless Mateo, and may he always know the love and support of our parish family at St William of York.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER - SEPTEMBER 2027 - Parents requiring a Certificate of Catholic Practice for secondary school admissions in September 2027 are invited to meet with Fr Habte at the presbytery at 4 Brockley Park on **Monday 12 October between 11.00am and 4.00pm**. No appointment necessary. Parents will be seen on a first come, first served basis.

LITURGY GROUP MEETING - The parish Liturgy Group will be meeting this **Monday, 12th October, 8pm in Cafe York**. We'll be looking at how we celebrate our liturgies, planning for Advent and Christmas and looking ahead to next year. We'll also have updates from different parish groups involved in our liturgy and Catechetical Programmes. Anyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to find out more or have a question, you can contact us at liturgy.swoy@gmail.com.

2027 MASS INTENTIONS - We have now received diaries for 2027 and will be pleased to accept Mass Intentions by email to foresthill@rcaos.org.uk via telephone 020 8690 4549 or envelope to the presbytery.

Mass offerings may be sent to the presbytery with your intention or sent directly to our bank account. Mass intention offerings may also be donated via our contactless device in the Narthex or via the secure portal on our website <https://donate.mydona.com/st-william-of-york-rc-church> or the QR code (the name of the intention can be recorded within the messages option on the website)



Please remember to register for gift aid if you are a UK taxpayer. If you would like Mass to be offered for your intention on a particular date (e.g. anniversary) please try to request it well in advance as we are seeing a significant increase in the number of Mass intention requests.

If you wish to obtain a Mass card, please see Fr Habte after Mass.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN - When children under the age of 12 need to use the toilets, they must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This is an important safeguarding requirement to help ensure their safety at all times.

We are also experiencing problems with the toilets becoming blocked due to excessive amounts of toilet paper being flushed, sometimes including entire rolls. In addition, wet toilet paper has been found thrown onto the ceiling. These actions are unacceptable and are causing considerable inconvenience and expense.

The toilets were recently refurbished, and it is important that we all help to keep them clean, tidy and in good condition for everyone to use.

Please help us by ensuring that children are supervised appropriately and encouraged to use the facilities responsibly. By working together, we can keep our children safe and maintain our church facilities for the benefit of all.

LECTORS' & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FORMATION DAY -

Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the South East Area, warmly invites all Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to a Formation Day on the theme "Nourished by the Word, Sent with the Eucharist."

Saturday 24th October, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Bishop Thomas Grant School, SW16 2HY.

Saturday, 31st October, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., Capuchin Franciscan Friary, Erith DA8 1DN.

Participants are welcome to attend either of the two Formation Days.

Please register your attendance via Mary in the parish office by **16 October 2026.**

foresthill@rcaos.org.uk

THE
GOSPELS



*"The harvest is abundant
but the labourers are few"*

Luke 10:2



WITH JOY AND GRATITUDE TO GOD,

PETER JULIEN

warmly invites you to join him as he is ordained to the

**SACRED ORDER
OF DEACONS**

through the laying on of hands by

His Grace Archbishop John Wilson

Metropolitan Archbishop of Southwark



Saturday 31 October 2026
at 12.30 p.m.



St George's Cathedral, Southwark
Lambeth Road
London SE1 6HU



PLEASE PRAY FOR ME
as I prepare for this day.



*"Serve one
another
in love"*

Galatians 5:13

ALL ARE WELCOME

TRANSPORT & LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS FOR PETER JULIEN'S ORDINATION

Peter Julien's Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacons Saturday 31 October 2026

We are looking forward to supporting Peter on this special occasion and would be grateful if parishioners could help us with planning arrangements.

Transport Required?

If you would like to attend the Ordination but are **unable to travel by public transport**, please add your **name and contact details** to the **Transport Sign-Up Sheet** at the back of the church.

This will help us assess demand and determine whether transport can be arranged.

Staying for Lunch?

Following the Ordination, there will be an opportunity to gather for lunch and celebrate with Peter.

If you are planning to **stay for lunch**, please add your name to the separate **Lunch Sign-Up Sheet** at the back of the church. This will help us estimate numbers for catering and hospitality.

 **Please complete the relevant sign-up sheet(s) as soon as possible.**

Thank you for your support and prayers as Peter prepares for this important step in his vocation.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2026 -

For mental health ministry

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

WOOLLY HATS FOR SEAFARERS

Last Christmas we delivered 106 woolly hats to Stella Maris in Tilbury and were immediately able to see how much they (and the messages of support written with them) were appreciated by the seafarers.



Stella Maris is a charity we support as a parish and we hear a little about their work every summer when the annual appeal is made. They give all sorts of practical support to the seafarers who leave their homes and families to work on ships to bring food and all sorts of goods to our shores. One of the things Stella Maris provides is woolly hats – which are very much in demand by seafarers arriving in the depths of winter. For the second year we will be running a Christmas project to provide woolly hats – and we are starting early to give you plenty time to get busy.

Please take a leaflet in church or download a copy [HERE](#) to find out how you can contribute. There is yarn and needles available for anyone to take. Knitted, crocheted and shop bought hats are all welcome! Just make sure they are a nice snug fit to stay on amid storm and tempest!

Talk to Maureen Swift if you want to know more 0776 5428299

“Seafarers and I are very grateful for your support and the woolly hats will keep them warm especially in the cold days we have now.”

Wojtek – Stella Maris chaplain at Tilbury



FOREST HILL: THE NEXT 20 YEARS

This year is the Forest Hill Society's 20th Anniversary. To celebrate, it is organising an event at **2 - 5pm on Saturday 17 October**, in Stansted Lodge, 260 Stansted Road, London SE23 1DD.



The theme is "Forest Hill - The Next 20 Years". Ellie Reeves MP and Lewisham Mayor Liam Shrivastava have accepted invitations to speak at the event. Local councillors and community groups will be present. The aim is to engage with everyone who lives and works in Forest Hill and find out how they want to see it to develop over the next 20 years.

Below is an online link to find out more and register.

[Forest Hill: the Next 20 Years | Forest Hill Society](#)

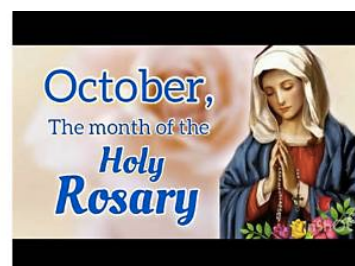
DISCOVER DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY Looking for an inspiring day out? Our parish is pleased to hold a Community Welcome Pass for Dulwich Picture Gallery, giving parishioners the opportunity to enjoy free entry to one of the UK's most celebrated art galleries. [For information about current exhibitions, opening hours and visitor facilities, visit www.dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk](#)

To borrow the parish pass, please contact Mary in the Parish Office

foresthill@rcaos.org.uk ☎ 020 8690 4549

THE MONTH OF OCTOBER: THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, honouring Our Lady and the many graces won through her intercession in prayer. We will recite the Holy Rosary every Friday after Mass throughout October.



WHAT'S COMING UP AT SCYS ?

A new year of faith, friendship, formation and unforgettable experiences.

There's plenty happening across SCYS, with opportunities for young people, young adults, and parish youth leaders.

Take a look at what's coming up and start planning for the year ahead.

[Explore the events HERE](#)



MASS ATTENDEES

19/20 September - 249 26/27 September - 259 3/4 October - 372

PARISH DIARY

Monday 12 October 11-4pm	Fr Habte to see Parents requiring a Certificate of Catholic Practice	Presbytery 4 Brockley Park
Monday 12 October 8pm	Liturgy Group Meeting	Cafe York
Thursday 15 October 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Monday 19 October 7.30pm	Baptism Course Session 2	Cafe York
Saturday 24 October	Lectors & EM's Formation Day	Bishop Thomas Grant
Saturday 31 October	Lectors & EM's Formation Day	Capuchin Franciscan
Saturday 31 October 12.30pm	Peter Julien's Ordination	St Georges Cathedral

WELCOMING & STEWARDING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Our Welcoming and Stewarding Team plays a vital role in helping everyone who comes to St William of York feel welcomed, valued and part of our parish family. We are very grateful to our existing stewards for their generosity, commitment and faithful service throughout the year.

To help support this important ministry, we are looking for a few additional volunteers to fill some gaps in the rota. If you can offer a little time, even just once a month at the Mass you normally attend, we would be delighted to hear from you. Full guidance and support will be provided. Thank you for helping us to ensure that our parish remains a warm and caring community.

For more information, please contact Mary in the Parish Office.

foresthill@rcaos.org.uk

NEXT SUNDAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to

share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible. Many thanks in advance for your generosity



missio

Today. Tomorrow. Together.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Families

Saturday 10 October 2026

18:00 John Ryan RIP

Sunday 11 October 2026

09:30 For the Parishioners

11:30 Genowefa (Gina) Szczegolski RIP Anniversary

Monday 12 October 2026 - Feria

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

Tuesday 13 October 2026 - St. Edward the Confessor, King

09:30 Max & Elizabeth Cowell RIP

Wednesday 14 October 2026 - Feria

09:30 Deidre McDermott RIP

Thursday 15 October 2026 - St. Teresa of Jesus (of Avila)

09:30 Church closed (No Mass)

Friday 16 October 2026 - Feria

09:30 Katie Allen wellbeing

Saturday 17 October 2026 - St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

10:30 Thanksgiving for Orji Idodo, all her children, and their entire families

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

World Mission Day

Day of Prayer for the evangelisation of the world

Saturday 17 October 2026

18:00 Timmy Ryan RIP

Sunday 18 October 2026

09:30 For the Parishioners

11:30 Sue Hepworth RIP

LIVE-STREAMING

Please access the live streaming by visiting our parish Facebook page

www.facebook.com/swoyse23/live/

(FM)=Foundation Mass



St William of York
CATHOLIC CHURCH
FOREST HILL

PARISH CONVERSATIONS

An Invitation to Our Facilitators

*Supporting our parish journey
of listening and discernment*



As part of the next stage of the Synodal journey, our parish will be holding **five weeks of parish conversations** using the resource *A Feast for All Peoples*. These conversations will take place from **19 October to 22 November 2026**.

Parish group leaders and facilitators play a key role in making these conversations possible, helping our cor to listen, share and discern together.

ONLINE FACILITATOR BRIEFING



Two opportunities to attend
(you only need to attend one)



8.00 – 8.45 pm



Microsoft Teams



Alternatively, you can request
the meeting link via email:
foresthillppc@rcaos.org.uk

Wednesday
14 October 2026



Click here for
meeting link



Thursday
15 October 2026



Click here for
meeting link



At the briefing we will share:



How to lead and
support the parish
conversations



How the key themes
and outcomes will
be captured



How the sessions
will be organised
and what support
will be available



*No special expertise is required –
simply a willingness to help others
listen, share and discern together.*



St William of York
CATHOLIC CHURCH
FOREST HILL

WHAT KIND OF CHURCH ARE WE CALLED TO BE?

Your voice will help shape the answer.

A Feast for All Peoples

A PARISH JOURNEY OF
LISTENING & DISCERNMENT

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2026

What is this?

As part of the next stage of the Synodal journey, our parish will be offering **five weeks of small-group conversations** using the resource *A Feast for All Peoples*.

A chance to pray, listen, share and discern together as we explore the kind of Church we are called to be.

*No lectures. No expertise needed.
Just honest conversation
and an open heart.*

Why take part?



Your voice matters

Your experience and perspective are part of our parish story.



Listen and be heard

Make space for God — and for one another.



Help shape our parish

Explore how we can become a more welcoming, missionary and synodal community.



Everyone is welcome

Whether you have been involved before or are completely new, this is for you.



Want to explore the resource before we begin?

Find *A Feast for All Peoples* on the Archdiocese of Southwark Synod page.



Scan here to visit the Synod resources page.

The Five Conversations

Each week we will explore a different theme, helping us to reflect together on what it means to be a synodal Church in our parish and in the world.

1



What does it really mean to walk together as Church?

Exploring what it means to be a synodal Church in our parish today.

2



How can we listen more deeply — to God and to one another?

Growing as a community that listens with open hearts.

3



Where are we being called to serve and share the Gospel?

Recognising the gifts we have and how we can respond to the needs of our community and beyond.

4



How do we discern together when we don't all agree?

Learning how to make decisions together, guided by the Holy Spirit.

5



What should the Church's voice and witness look like in today's world?

Considering how we can be a prophetic and hopeful presence in our local area and in the wider world.

*Real questions.
Real people.
Real conversations.*



St William of York
CATHOLIC CHURCH
FOREST HILL

Practical Details

Everything you need to know to take part in our small-group programme.



When?

October – November 2026
(exact dates to be confirmed)



How long?

60–90 minutes per session, depending on the size of the group.



How will it run?

- In person — at the parish
- Online — for those who cannot attend in person

A range of days and times will be available.



Where?

At St William of York in Forest Hill.

Online options will also be available.



Interested? Let us know.

Email: foresthillppc@rcaos.org.uk with your name and contact details

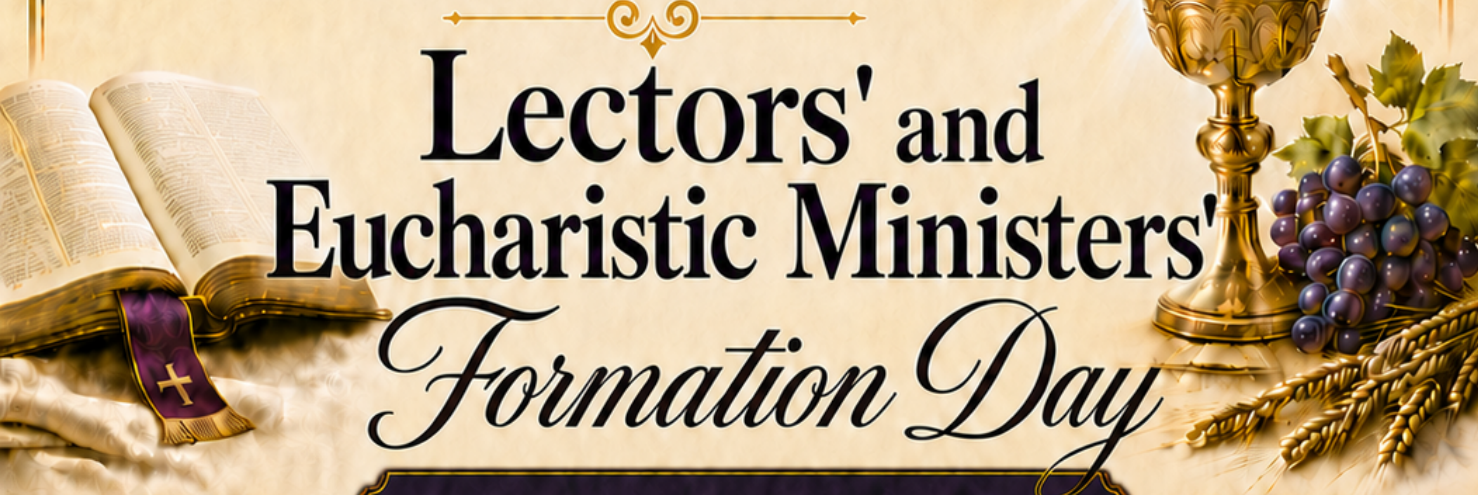
OR

Add your name and email address to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

You are not committing to a particular day or format yet — we want to hear what works for you.

*Everyone's voice matters.
Come and be part of the journey!*

Canon Victor Darlington,
Episcopal Vicar for the South East Area
of the Archdiocese of Southwark,
warmly invites all parishes within the
South East Area of the Archdiocese
of Southwark to attend a...



Lectors' and Eucharistic Ministers' *Formation Day*

*Topic: Nourished by the Word,
Sent with the Eucharist*

Saturday 24th October 2026 from 10 am to 2 pm

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

*For all parishes in the Deaneries of
Camberwell, Lambeth and Lewisham*

Facilitator

Fr Valentine Erhahon, SS Simon and Jude, Streatham Hill

Saturday 31st October 2026 from 10 am to 2 pm

**Capuchin Franciscan Friary,
Carlton Road, Erith DA8 1DN**

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

Facilitator

Fr Alfred Ebalu, St Pius X Catholic Church, Norbiton