THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. WILLIAM OF YORK
4 Brockley Park, Forest Hill,SE23 1PS
Clergy:- Fr Habte Ukbay, Parish Priest, Deacon Peter Julien
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

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
8 November 2026

Dear Parishioners

As you know, **Deacon Peter Julien's ordination** is a wonderful milestone, not only for Peter personally but for our whole parish community. Many of us have been blessed by his faith, generosity and willingness to serve over the years, and it is a joy to see him begin this new ministry.

To mark this special occasion, we would like to present Peter with a gift on behalf of the parish at his **Thanksgiving Celebration on Sunday 22 November**. If you would like to contribute, any amount would be greatly appreciated and will help us express our gratitude, support and good wishes as Peter begins this next chapter of his journey of faith and service.

Donations can be made via the contactless Dona link below or QR code, by bank transfer, by cash or cheque payable to **RCAS Forest Hill**, or by using one of the contactless devices in the Narthex:
https://donate.mydona.com/st-william-of-york-rc-church

If you are eligible, please remember to **Gift Aid** your donation, as this will enable the parish to receive additional funds at no extra cost to you.

A **congratulatory card will also be available shortly**, and everyone will be warmly invited to add their own messages for Peter as he embarks on his ordained ministry.

Please do share this invitation with members of your ministry or parish group and fellow parishioners outside of your group who may also wish to contribute.

Thank you for helping us make this a memorable occasion for Peter. I am sure he will be deeply touched by the kindness, prayers and generosity of our parish family as we celebrate this important step in his vocation.

Fr Habte

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS - Wisdom 6:12-16,1 Thessalonians 4:13-18,Matthew 25:1-13

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION - In this Gospel we have 10 bridesmaids with their lamps waiting for the bridegroom to arrive and is the start of the end of time scriptures. The 5 wise bridesmaids bring enough oil with them to last them in case the lamps go out before the end of the festivities but the foolish bridesmaids assume they will have enough oil and don't bring any refills with them. In everyday situations we know that we need to prepare well and we have probably encountered people at work or socially who are always late and never come prepared with expectation that someone will come to their rescue. So it will be in the Kingdom. We need to make time for prayer and reflection and to develop our spirituality and faith which may include having the patience and endurance to deal with suffering and wait for an answer to our prayer. As we don't know when our life will end we should make time and effort for God now so that we are ready to meet him when we come to the end of our life. This Gospel highlights that a personal relationship with God, a vibrant prayer life, and inner grace cannot be outsourced or inherited from anyone else and that everyone stands accountable for their own spiritual vitality. LBr

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS - Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, Matthew 25:14-30

ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND - The Archbishop's Appeal is a Diocesan second collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve.

Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2026. Every gift is welcome.
Find out more, or donate online: www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY CEMETERY BLESSING - SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER AT 2.15
Hither Green Cemetery. We assemble from 2.15am at the Main Gate in Verdant Lane and our procession begins at 2.30pm with a hymn. We recite the Rosary prayer as we walk, in small groups, and pause to sing hymns on the way.
Please make use of this opportunity to bless the graves of our departed beloved ones.

REMEMBRANCE MASS - WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER AT 8.00
We will offer a Holy Mass in remembrance of parishioners who have died in the last year on **Wednesday 11 November at 8.00pm,** followed by refreshments in the parish hall. All parishioners are warmly invited to join the families of the deceased as we gather in prayer, remembrance and thanksgiving for their lives

BEREAVEMENT TALK - SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2-4PM
we will be hosting St Christophers Hospice who will be talking to us about loss.
It will be a workshop that will encourage conversation and provide some theory around what grief is, some confidence to talk about it and some tips on management of grief whether the loss be recent or a decade ago. It will take place in the upper hall.
All are welcome, Please add your name to the Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

THANKSGIVING MASS - SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER AT 10.30AM
Please join us for a joint Thanksgiving Mass at 10.30am on Sunday 22 November as we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King and give thanks for the ordination of Deacon Peter Julien. Refreshments will follow in the school hall, and everyone is warmly invited to attend this special parish celebration.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2027 - If your child is currently in Year 9 or above and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, there will be an information meeting for candidates and parents in the church on **Sunday 29 November 2026 at 6.00pm.** The preparation programme will begin in January 2027.
We look forward to welcoming all those interested in taking this important step in their faith journey.

SYNODAL SESSIONS FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

I am grateful to the parish ministries and groups that have generously agreed to host these meetings. I encourage everyone to attend whichever sessions are most convenient for them. Your voice, experience and faith are important, and all are welcome.

Meeting Schedule

GROUP	DATES	TIME	VENUE
Parish Pastoral Council & Social Justice Group (BeWell Hub)	**Sundays 8, 15 November**	**10.30am after 9.30am Mass**	**School Hall**
Morning Mass & Art Groups	**Wednesdays 11,18, 25 November**	**10.15am**	**Church**
Parish Music Group	**Thursday 19 November**	**8.30pm**	**Church**

HOLY SOULS - Throughout the month of November, the Church remembers and prays in a special way for the Holy Souls and for all our faithful departed. As we celebrate All Souls' Day on Monday 2 November, we commend to God's loving mercy our deceased relatives, friends and all those who have gone before us in faith.



Parishioners are warmly invited to have Masses offered for their deceased loved ones during November. Sheets and envelopes are available on the tables in the narthex. Please write the names of those you wish to be remembered and place your offering envelope in the designated box on the sanctuary. Alternatively, envelopes may be posted through the Presbytery letterbox.

Mass offerings may also be made using the contactless giving device, by scanning the QR code, or online at: donate.mydona.com/st-william-of-york-rc-church

Let us keep all our departed brothers and sisters in our prayers throughout this month of remembrance, trusting in the promise of Christ's resurrection and eternal life. Thank you for your prayers and support.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN OUR ALTAR SERVING TEAM

Has your child received their First Holy Communion? If so, we would be delighted to invite them to consider becoming an Altar Server.

Altar serving is a wonderful opportunity for children to deepen their faith, take an active role in the Mass, and become more involved in the life of our parish. It is also a great way to build confidence, learn new skills, and make friendships with other young people in the parish.

Children who have received their First Holy Communion are warmly welcome to join our Altar Serving Team. Full training will be provided.

If your child is interested, please contact Mary in the Parish Office with their name and age, and we will be in touch regarding the next training session.

We look forward to welcoming many new young people to this important ministry and helping them grow in faith and service within our parish family. 🙏✨

MASS ATTENDEES

17/18 October - 291 24/25 October -247 31/1 November - 286

PARISH DIARY

Sunday 8 November 2.15pm	Cemetery Blessing of Graves	Hither Green Cemetery
Sunday 8 November 2.45pm	Reconciliation Session 2	Church
Sunday 8 November 2.45pm	1st Reconciliation & Eucharist - Parents Meeting with Fr Habte	School Hall
Wednesday 11 November 8pm	Remembrance Service	Church
Thursday 12 November 8pm	Singing Practice	Church
Saturday 14 November 2-4pm	Bereavement Talk	Upper Hall
Sunday 22 November 10.30am	Thanksgiving Mass for the Feast of Christ the King and to celebrate the ordination of Deacon Peter Julien	Church Refreshments in the School Hall
Sunday 29 November 6pm	Confirmation Meeting for parents and candidates for the 2027 programme	Church
28 & 29 November to 5 & 6 December	Gift Sunday collections	Church

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 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







FINANCES - SEPTEMBER 2026

The monthly Offertory Collection including contactless - £2,098.47
Donations for Education Sunday - £204.90
Donations for Evangelii Gaudium (Home Mission) - £138.16
Donations for Families in Need Fund - £159.69
From monthly standing orders we collected - £5,318.00

FINANCES - OCTOBER 2026

The monthly Offertory Collection including contactless - £2,086.00
Donations for CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day - £915.60
Donations for World Mission Day (MISSIO) - £970.95
Donations for Families in Need Fund - £168.56
From monthly standing orders we collected - £5,048.00

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

A THANK YOU FROM CAFOD

Thank you for supporting CAFOD's Family Fast Day and for putting your faith into action! Your generous donations will help more children stay in school, where CAFOD works to install solar-powered water supplies, giving children access to safe water and food at school, so they can keep learning and developing. For more info visit: cafod.org.uk/parishthankyou

GIFT SUNDAY

We'll be collecting gifts again this year to pass on to the Salvation Army for their annual Christmas appeal. We will be collecting gifts at all masses over the weekend of **28-29 November and during the following week until the weekend of 5-6 December.** This year, we are asking for donations of

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

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

For the proper use of wealth
Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less.



THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Remembrance Day
Saturday 7 November 2026
18:00 Pietro Battista RIP
Sunday 8 November 2026
09:30 Chris & Pat Kitchen RIP
11:30 Holy Souls - For the Parishioners

Monday 9 November 2026 - The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
09:30 Annie Maguire RIP

Tuesday 10 November 2026 - St. Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church
09:30 Clemencia Charles RIP Anniversary

Wednesday 11 November 2026 - St. Martin of Tours, Bishop
09:30 Ann Mulhall (live-streamed)
20:00 **Remembrance Mass** (live-streamed)
For all those who have died in the last year

Thursday 12 November 2026 - St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr
09:30 Church closed (No Mass)

Friday 13 November 2026 - Feria
09:30 Holy Souls

Saturday 14 November 2026 - Feria
10:30 Theresa Loftus Belated Birthday Blessings

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
Saturday 14 November 2026
18:00 Susan Carter RIP
Sunday 15 November 2026
World Day of the Poor
09:30 Deceased members of the Ortiz family and DeRoxas family
11:30 Holy Souls - For the Parishioners

LIVE-STREAMING

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

(FM)=Foundation Mass