


# St Mark's Catholic Church, West Wickham

<https://saintmarksww.net/>

 St Marks Church West Wickham

**Parochial Administrator**

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16 February 2025

## First Sunday of Lent (C)

### Supporting CAFOD in Lent

Our development and aid agency CAFOD is one of the jewels in the crown of the Catholic community in this country – our parish has strongly supported it over the years. Next Friday is CAFOD Lent Fast Day and we ask you this weekend to take a special envelope and use it to put in money saved next Friday from an act of self denial and bring it back next Sunday. We also support it regularly through refreshments after Mass and we are grateful to Maya Bowkett for organising this. CAFOD is part of the worldwide Caritas confederation which through various agencies is working so hard to support those suffering most in the world. For details of CAFOD's work, including its Lent appeal, go to <https://cafod.org.uk/>, and for Caritas Internationalis see <https://www.caritas.org/>. CAFOD issued this statement (backed up by the Bishops Conference), following the government announcement here cutting 'Official Development Assistance' in order to increase defence spending:



***This decision by the British government to reduce ODA from 0.5% to 0.3% means that, in some of the most vulnerable places on earth, more people will die and many more will lose their livelihoods. Coming so soon after the USAID freeze, this is another lifeline being pulled away from those in desperate need, at a time when the world feels increasingly precarious The UK has a choice to make: to support those in need or turn our backs on them. What we decide speaks to the very core of who we want to be as a society. If we are seeing the decline of aid to support the world's most vulnerable communities, then the government must redouble its efforts to reform the global debt system, to enable those most in need to emerge from poverty.***

As some of you know one of the most striking symbolic acts on Ash Wednesday every year is when Christians daub the walls of the Ministry of Defence buildings with ash as a call to repentance – particularly opportune this year.

Psalm response      Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.  
Gospel acclamation      One does not live by bread alone,  
   but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

### **Stations of the Cross in Lent**

As last year on most Fridays in Lent we will have Stations at 7pm – except on the first Friday of April (4th), because of the deanery Jubilee Mass.

### **Praying for the Holy Father**

At the time of writing hundreds of pilgrims and others in Rome are praying the rosary each evening at 8pm GMT for the Holy Father's recovery, led by a different cardinal each evening. These prayers can be joined via YouTube.

### **Pilgrimages to France and Italy**

Local pilgrimages are being organised to Parail-le-Monial and Ars (4 – 10 June) and Rome and Assisi (23 November – 2 December). For details contact Diane Brelu on [dianebrelubrelu@gmail.com](mailto:dianebrelubrelu@gmail.com). There are leaflets about both pilgrimages in the porch.

### **Cliftonstrengths and Called to Bear Fruit**

I am very grateful to Louisa Zacaroli-Warren and Elizabeth Beroud for speaking at our Masses recently. Both the diocesan programme which we heard about from the archbishop and the basic needs of this parish are an opportunity for people to participate more actively in the life of the Church, and the Gallup programme is a very good way to help us grow in self-knowledge. As I have written in the handouts, we have used in the formation of deacons for about fifteen years and a variant of it was also used for diocesan clergy a couple of years ago. Please email me if you wish to take part.

### **"Warm Welcome Fridays"@Emmanuel Church, The Grove, West Wickham**

The above is run on Fridays 10am-4pm where Light Breakfasts, Lunch, Drinks & Cake (no charge) are available together with a Warm Welcome for everyone. All Welcome. Any Donations go to The Vine foodbank in New Addington.

### **African Child Foundation**

Over the last three decades St Mark's parishioners have supported the African Child Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support Fr. Henry Simaro in his efforts to transform the lives of Kenyan orphans and vulnerable children through education, clean water, shelter, nutrition, and medicine. Fr. Henry would like to come to England for a short holiday sometime this year. Would a family in the parish be able to accommodate him for a few days? Please phone Anne or Ed Martin on 0203 304 5052, if you think you might be able to help.

## **St Mark's Choir**

Come and join us in the organ loft at 10am when there is an organist Sunday Masses to assist in giving a lead for hymns.

All ages are welcome from seven years upwards (children should be accompanied by a parent). No previous experience or standard required; just bring your joy and enthusiasm.

## **St Mary's Primary School**

St Mary's School in Westgate Road, Beckenham, is our parish school which we share with Beckenham and Hayes parishes. For details of the school's life and how to apply for a place go to their website; [www.st-marys-catholic.bromley.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys-catholic.bromley.sch.uk)

## **Shrublands Trust Food Bank**

Our next collection of items for our local food bank will be next weekend. Details of what is needed at <https://www.shrublandstrust.org/>

## **Future events**

### **Sun 18th May**

11:30 am

First Holy Communion Mass

### **Sun 7 June**

**Diocesan Jubilee celebrations, Aylesford Priory**

## **Please pray for**

### **Anniversaries**

Joyce Uzoziri, Anna Hansbury, Lilian Goodall, Herbert Baker, John Stocks, Kathleen Russell, Christopher Russell, Margaret Shearer, Henry Gunning and Josephine Berchten.

### **Recently Dead**

Bob Radford

### **Those who are sick**

Robert Haines, Mary Bloom, Lucy Patterson, Michael Grant, Shauna Phibbs, Patrick Ross, Rose Scott, Maura Crawshaw, Anne Argenio, Laura Burley, Patrick Barrett, Maureen Crowhurst, Sophie Campbell, Kathy Springhall and Fr Ray Brennan.

## **Parish Safeguarding Representatives**

Thomas Smialowski

[westwickhamsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:westwickhamsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk)

Marie Potter

[westwickhamsg2@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:westwickhamsg2@safeguardraos.org.uk)

# Masses

<b>Parish Mass times</b>		<b>Adoration</b>
Sunday	8:00 am 10:00 am 11:30 am	Mon and Fri after Mass until 11:30 am <i>Normally a priest is available for confession.</i>
Monday	10:00 am	<b>Rosary</b>
Tuesday	6:00 pm	Mon and Wed to Fri at 9:20am
Wednesday	10:00 am	<b>Mass at St Edmunds, Beckenham</b>
Thursday	10:00 am	Sun: 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm
Friday	10:00 am	Mon to Sat: 10:00 am
Saturday	6:30 pm (vigil)	Sat: 6:00 pm (vigil)

## Sat 8th

6:00 pm Confessions  
6:30 pm (vigil) Private Intention

## Sun 9th

### First Sunday of Lent

8:00 am Private Intention  
10:00 am Parishioners  
11:30 am Private Intention  
3:00 pm Congolese Mass

## Mon 10th

10:00 am Derek Attwell  
*Followed by Adoration until 11:30*

## Tues 11th

6:00 pm Soosipillai and Philomena Francis

## Wed 12th

10:00 am Sarah Cawley  
*Followed by refreshments*

## Thurs 13th

### Anniversary of the Election of Pope Francis

10:00 am Dan Cawley

## Fri 14th

### CAFOD Lent Fast Day

10:00 am John Joe Cawley  
*Followed by Adoration until 11:30*  
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

## Sat 15th

6:00 pm Confessions  
6:30 pm (vigil) Michael Cawley

## Sun 16th

### Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 am Parishioners  
10:00 am Private Intention  
11:30 am Private Intention