

St Mark's Catholic Church, West Wickham

<https://saintmarkswv.net/>



St Marks Church West Wickham

Parochial Administrator

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1 June 2025

Seventh Sunday of Easter (C)

Laudato Si'

Ten years ago this last week the late Pope Francis wrote one of his most important encyclicals, known by its title (in medieval Italian, not Latin), *Laudato Si'*, 'On Care for our Common Home.' This was the first papal encyclical letter in history to be devoted entirely to care for creation and the environment. I was asked to write a brief 'blog' piece explaining the letter by the Catholic paper the *Catholic Herald* (I think it's been now deleted from their website) to which I received many very angry responses, particularly from the US (people disliked the Holy Father more than they disliked me). What were these people's problems?

The pope's letter was a 'wake-up call' to the whole world; and also to the Church, where many didn't take the issue of how we care for the world seriously. He went out of his way to remind readers that what he was writing is part of the Church's ordinary moral teaching, which Catholics are obliged to follow. You can't be a good Catholic and a climate change denier. Many Catholics, particularly in the US, still oppose this and we see some of the results now. Easy to read the letter at https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html. For reflections on the tenth anniversary go to <https://laudatosiweek.org/>. Pope Leo has specifically recalled his predecessor's call to listen to the 'cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.'



World Communications Day

This Sunday is World Communications Day when there will be a second collection for Catholic media services, which find the publicity and news outlets of the Bishops Conference. There is always a message for this day from the pope and this was issued by Pope Francis before his death, some months ago: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/communications/documents/20250124-messaggio-comunicazioni-sociali.html>



Psalm response The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

Gospel acclamation I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord.
I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice.

Diocesan Celebration

It is sixty years this year since the diocese of Southwark was divided – a new diocese of Arundel and Brighton was set up (Surrey and Sussex) and the rest of the diocese (S London and Kent) was raised to the rank of a metropolitan see with an archbishop. There are celebrations to mark this on Saturday 7 June at Aylesford Priory; details here: <https://rcaos.org.uk/news-events/events/archdiocesan-jubilee-2025-celebration-day/>



Not Dead Yet UK

Following our archbishop's recent pastoral letter about the Assisted Suicide bill there are cards in the porch from the group Not Dead Yet enabling you to write to your MP. Liam Conlon MP (Beckenham and Penge) voted against the bill earlier, and Natasha Irons MP (Croydon East) voted in favour. It now looks as if the third reading vote will be next month.

Churches Together in West Wickham

Pentecost Sunday, 8 June. Emmanuel United Reform Church, The Grove.

5:15 pm; Tea

6:00 pm; Church Service

6:45 pm; Annual General Meeting

St Francis Community lunch for senior citizens and those living alone

29th June 12:30 at St Francis hall, Ravenswood Avenue. Tickets £10 for 2 courses and a glass of wine and raffle. Contact Barbara on 87778782 by 20 June.

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.stmaryscatholic.bromley.sch.uk

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.

Curry Afternoon

A fund raising event to help to purchase two motorcycles for the pastoral and social activities for the Sisters of the St. Paul de Chartres, in the Diocese of Kontum, Vietnam.

Come with family and friends and enjoy a fun afternoon **on 21st June** from 1pm to 4pm at Claver Convent, 89, Shortland Road, Bromley, BR3 0JL.

We will be grateful if **YOU CAN HELP** by providing raffle prizes; Toiletries, cakes, jams and marmalades, plants or any unwanted gifts or luxury items would be welcome for the stalls.

Please contact Sr. Reena on 020 8313 3915 or email at sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com

Thank you in advance.



SVP Summer Raffle

An opportunity to help fund the SVP to turn “concern into action” at home and overseas in alleviating the effects of poverty and loneliness; providing friendship and practical support; and in any area where there is need. Tickets cost £1 each and are available in books of 5. You may be a winner of £5000, £1,000 or one of 15 prizes of £500 and this conference will receive a proportion of the money raised.

Further information on the church Noticeboards.

Renew your Gift Aid declaration for St Mark's West Wickham

We are asking all parishioners who Gift Aid their offertory contributions to renew their Gift Aid declaration to the parish so we can ensure our records are up to date.

You can also use the following link to sign-up to Gift Aid and Planned Giving for the first time. Thank you for your support of our parish mission and ministry.

Renew your Gift Aid declaration via: <https://forms.rcaos.org.uk/giftaid/> or by scanning QR code with your phone camera:

Alternatively, you can email the parish on: westwickham@rcaos.org.uk



Planned Giving Envelopes

These are available for the second half of the year from the porch.

Pilgrimage to Pentecost

There are cards in the porch about these online talks: more details at <https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/newsevents/news/pilgrimagetopentecostcoursesea-hugehit/> or from Marie Potter.



Monthly Children's Mass

We try to encourage *active participation* in the Mass for as many people as possible: this is a key way in which Catholic worship has been enriched here, and all over the world, since the reforms to liturgy brought about by the Second Vatican Council. In line with this we intend from the first Sunday of June that the readings and bidding prayers at the 10am Mass will normally be led by children on the first Sunday of the month. Coaching will be provided. Please let me know if you are interested.

Future events

Sunday 7th June

Diocesan Jubilee celebrations, Aylesford Priory

Please pray for

Anniversaries

Margaret Feeley. George Ayling, Bert Hampson and Dorothy Radford.

Recently dead

Alice Doran, Ron Crane, Alasdair MacIntyre, Janet Lash and John Charmley.

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, Fr Ray Brennan and Patricia Pead.

Parish Mass times		Adoration
Sunday	8:00 am 10:00 am 11:30 am	Mon and Fri after Mass until 11:30 am Normally a priest is available for confession
Monday	10:00 am	Rosary
Tuesday	6:00 pm	Mon and Wed to Fri at 9:20 am
Wednesday	10:00 am	Mass at St Edmund's, Beckenham
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 31st	Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary		
	6:00 pm		Confessions
	6:30 pm	GCSE and A level students	Vigil Mass
Sun 1st	Seventh Sunday of Easter		
	8:00 am	Holy Souls	
	10:00 am	Parishioners	
	11:30 am	Staff and patients of the Bethlem hospital	
Mon 2nd	Ss Marcellinus and Peter		
	10:00 am	Janet Lash	Followed by Adoration until 11:30
Tue 3rd	Ss Charles Lwanga and his companions		
	6:00 pm	Katto Shamoon	
Wed 4th	10:00 am	Bob Radford	Followed by refreshments
Thurs 5th	St Boniface		
	10:00 am	Fr James Nathan	
Fri 6th	St Luke Kirby		
	9:00 am	At St Mary's School	
	10:00 am	Fr James Nathan	Followed by Adoration until 11:30
Sat 7th	Diocesan Jubilee events at the Friar's, Aylesford		
	6:00 pm		Confessions
	6:30 pm	Parishioners	Pentecost Vigil Mass
Sun 8th	Pentecost, Whitsunday		
	8:00 am	John Charmley	
	10:00 am	Alasdair MacIntyre	
	11:30 am	Valerie Vaz	
	3:00 pm		Congolese Mass
	6:00 pm		Ecumenical service at West Wickham United Reform Church

Parish Safeguarding Representatives	
Thomas Smialowski	westwickhamsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk
Marie Potter	westwickhamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk