

# St Mark's Catholic Church, West Wickham

<https://saintmarksww.net>

 St Marks Church West Wickham

## Parochial Administrator

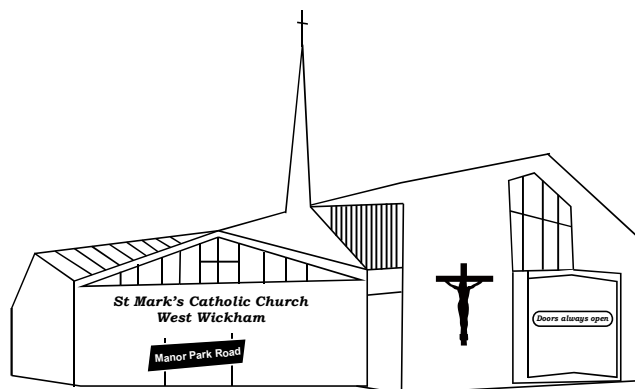
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10 May, 2026

## 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### A year with Augustine!

This is a beautiful and profound picture by the 19th century Dutch artist Ary Scheffer of St Augustine with his mother St Monica. A year ago this weekend, when Cardinal Robert Prevost was elected as Pope Leo XIV, I suspect many Catholics only had a dim or even negative understanding of Augustine and his teaching, but that's changing now. For Leo is a member of a missionary religious order – he's an Augustinian friar (in England in the Middle Ages these brothers were known as 'Austin Friars'), an order inspired by Augustine and modelled on the community which he set up when he was Bishop of Hippo in North Africa at the end of the fourth century and the beginning of the fifth. If you are ever in west London, the order is responsible for one of the Catholic churches in Hammersmith, near the tube station. In homilies and addresses the Holy Father almost always quotes Augustine.



Photo@Wikimedia Commons

Augustine was a prolific preacher and writer and we have much more of his surviving work than we do of most early Church Fathers – treatises, commentaries, letters and sermons; and above all his two most influential works, the Confessions (one of the earliest examples of a spiritual autobiography, addressed to God as a prayer) and the City of God, the first work in what is now called Political Theology: its vision has been particularly relevant in the last few weeks.

The first year of the Holy Father's ministry has been inspiring in so many ways; as it's developing quickly I hesitate to write too much at this stage. As I have said in homilies, his witness has given us as Catholics a spring in our steps; he needs our prayers and those of St Augustine and his mother.

Psalm Response

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

Gospel acclamation

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

## Praying the Rosary in May



In this month of May reflect on Our Lady as our true Queen and Mother, and the rosary is particularly important. Next Friday we have our customary May Procession in St Mary's School when the statue of Our Lady in the school grounds will be crowned (so our Mass here is slightly later than usual that day). Also our own statue in St Mark's has the crown made by the children in the school last year.

Our Archbishop has asked us this year particularly to pray the Rosary this month for Life – details and resources here: [Rosary for Life: Archdiocese of Southwark](#). We have rosaries on sale in the repository and spare sets of beads too which have been left here over the years.

## St Mark's Golf Society



Did you know that our parish has its own Golf Society? Next meeting is on 4 September (more details to follow). If you're interested in joining contact David Brant at [davidbrant1@gmail.com](mailto:davidbrant1@gmail.com).

## Summer Festival

I would like the **11:30 Mass on Sunday 19 July** to be a celebration of the life of our parish, with a social event afterwards. It's good for us to 'showcase' what we do from time to time and invite friends from the rest of our community in West Wickham. The weekend also marks the 30th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. Please book the date now!

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

Gift Aid is easy to do, doesn't cost you a penny and helps our Parish! If you are a UK tax payer please consider signing up to Gift Aid - the Parish can claim 25% extra on every pound you donate. This helps towards the rising day-to-day running costs and building maintenance of our Parish. You can use the following link to sign up <https://forms.rcaos.org.uk/giftaid/> or scan the QR code. Alternatively, you can email the parish on [westwickham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:westwickham@rcaos.org.uk)  
Thank you for your support to our Parish mission and ministry.



## Getting to know you

It was good to see some people after Mass on 26 April. As I have indicated it would be good to do this regularly after that Mass on the last Sunday of the month – so the next occasion will be Sunday 31 May. While it's good for the parish to support Marks & Spencer and other local businesses, it would be better if people could bring along some food to share (drink provided).

## Memory Box Cafe

Do you know anyone living with Dementia? We have a Memory Box Cafe on 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month at Richmond Hall, Emmanuel Church, The Grove from 2-3:30pm with activities, games, music. For information call 0737586812 or Facebook "*Memory Box Dementia Cafe West Wickham*"

## Pastoral Review

The April edition of the Pastoral Review is **now on sale** in the porch. There's a section covering the conference which we publicized in November on the Holy Land, which includes a keynote address by our archbishop; there's also an important new article about the new reforms to SEND provision in schools ....and a **book review by Fr Kevin!**  
**We need more subscribers!**

## Repository

You can buy from the repository cards or gifts for children and young people making their First Holy Communion this month or getting confirmed next month. You can pay either by cash in the wall safe or by means of the card reader.

## World Communications Day

Next Sunday, when some of our children will be making their First Holy Communion at the 11:30 Mass, is also World Communications Day. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Communications Network, the media office of our Bishops' Conference.

## Monthly Children's Mass

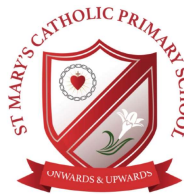
We try to encourage active participation in the Mass for as many people as possible: this is a key way in which Catholic worship has been enriched here, and all over the world, since the reforms to liturgy brought about by the Second Vatican Council. ***The readings and bidding prayers at the 10am Mass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

## St Mark's 200 Club

The ST MARK'S 200 CLUB, originally started in 1996 to provide funds for Church, Hall and Presbytery maintenance and repair, needs new members. Membership is £5 per month for a personal number entered into a draw at the end of each calendar month, for one of three prizes of either £100, £50 or £30. Please contact: davidj.smith855@gmail.com or 07784225932 for details.

## 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 life and how to apply for a place, go to their website: <https://www.st-marys-catholic.bromley.sch.uk/>

## St Mark's Choir



St Mark's Choir sing at the 10am Sunday Mass and on other special occasions, and we rehearse before Mass from 9am to learn new music. We are looking for new members so if you like singing please join us. Children can come along too but need to be with an accompanying adult.

## Please Pray for Anniversary

Margret Sholl, Kate Froud, Frederick Rix, Michael Rispoli, Ernie Robins

## Recently dead

Vernon Welch, Sister Jo Harvey ACI

## Those who are sick

Yvonne Forshaw, Clare Barratt, Theresa Emmanuel, Diana Quinn, Robert Haines, Mary Bloom, Lucy Patterson, Michael Grant, Shauna Phibbs, Rose Scott, Maura Crawshaw, Anne Argenio, Laura Burley, Patrick Barrett, Maureen Crowhurst, Sophie Campbell, Kathy Springhall, Fr Ray Brennan, Peggy Bohan, Bernard Myerscough, John Goddard, Christine Maslona

## Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Thomas Smialowski  
Marie Potter

[westwickhamsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:westwickhamsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk)  
[westwickhamsg2@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:westwickhamsg2@safeguardraos.org.uk)

## Parish Mass times

Sunday	8:00 am
	10:00 am
	11:30 am
Monday	10:00 am
Tuesday	6:00 pm
Wednesday	10:00 am
Thursday	10:00 am
Friday	10:00 am
Saturday	6:30 pm (vigil)

## Adoration

Mon and Fri after Mass until 11:30 am  
Normally a priest is available for confession

## Rosary

Mon and Wed to Fri at 9:20 am

## Mass at St Edmund's, Beckenham

Sun: 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm  
Mon to Sat: 10:00 am  
Sat: 6:00 pm (vigil)



## Future Events

<b>Sunday 17 May</b>	First Holy Communion(Children in Year 3 or above)
<b>Saturday 13 June</b>	Confirmation (Young people in Year 9 or above)
<b>Sunday 19 July</b>	Summer festival

## Masses and Other acts of worship

<b>Sat 9th</b>	6pm		Confessions
	6:30pm	Martin Screene and Austin Healy	Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 10th</b>	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>		
	8am	Personal Intention	
	10am	Veronica De'Moss	
	11:30am	Parishioners	
<b>Mon 11th</b>	10am	Derek Attwell	Followed by Adoration
<b>Tue 12th</b>	6pm	Robert Wills	
<b>Wed 13th</b>	<b>Our Lady of Fatima</b>		
	10am	Mary Canney	
	6:30pm	Sister Jo Harvey ACI	Vigil Mass
<b>Thurs 14th</b>	<b>ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b>		
	<b>Holy Day of Obligation</b>		
	10am	Parishioners	
	8pm	Private Intention	
<b>Fri 15th</b>	9am	<b>MAY PROCESSION ST MARY'S SCHOOL</b>	
	10:15*(later time)	Welfare of Yvonne Forshaw	No Adoration today
<b>Sat 16th</b>	6pm		Confessions
	6:30pm		Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 17th</b>	<b>7th Sunday of Easter</b>		
	<b>World Communications Day</b>		
	8am	Parishioners	
	10am	Lynette and Savio Fernandez (wedding anniversary)	
	11:30am	<b>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS</b>	
	1:30pm	Baptism	