

St Mark's Catholic Church, West Wickham

<https://saintmarksww.net>

 St Marks Church West Wickham

Parochial Administrator

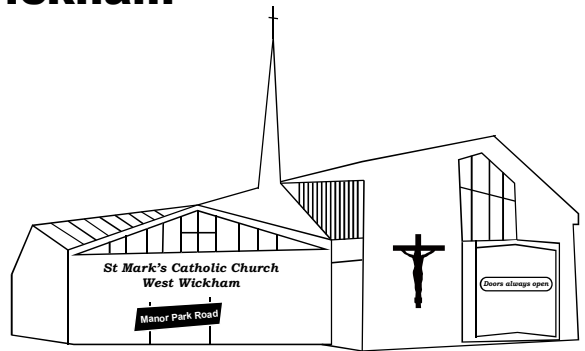
Father Ashley Beck

Fr Kevin Robinson, Deacon Duncan Aitkins

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7 June, 2026

CORPUS CHRISTI (The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ)

Earliest Memory

This week, I was asked how far back I could remember my earliest memory—something I had never been asked before. My earliest memory is my First Holy Communion at the age of seven. A year earlier, when I was six, I was sent to boarding school at the Convent of St John in Rangoon, Burma (now Yangon, Myanmar). There, I was taught by the Sisters of St John, for whom I remain deeply grateful.

The Gift of the Eucharist

Looking back, I realise that I have received the Body of Christ for many years. God dwells in our lives, in our praise, and in our prayers. For that reason, we should never miss the opportunity to receive the Body of Christ whenever we attend Mass. To receive him is one of the greatest blessings of our lives, drawing us close to Jesus himself.

Jesus' words, "Take and eat; this is my body," are both an invitation and a promise—the promise of eternal life through him.

Faith in a Changing World

You and I share a steadfast faith in God's promises, including the promise of eternal life. Receiving the Body of Christ strengthens us and helps us remain firm, whatever life may bring.

We live in a world that often seems to turn away from the life of Jesus. The news rarely renews our spirits; instead, it can draw us away from God and from his Son. So let us pray that we may help bring new life to our communities, our nation, and to those who do not yet know Christ.

Receiving the Body of Christ softens our hearts, replacing what is hardened within us with hearts transformed by the Holy Spirit. Let us come before the throne of God with thanksgiving, that his courts may be filled with praise, for his mercy endures for ever (Psalm 100).

Photo By Nheyob, cropped by Tahc



Deacon Duncan Aitkins

From last Sunday until Friday I will be a conference organised by the Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), the umbrella group for Catholic charities in this country, of which I am a trustee; this will be outside Rome at Pallazola, the villa attached to the Venerable English College in Rome. I hope some of what I will learn will be of use here, particularly in relation to our charitable work. Then I go on holiday to Denmark, where we go most years (the island of Bornholm) and I return on 26 June. During this period Father Kevin will be celebrating all our weekend Masses and Masses on Wednesdays; other weekday Masses are suspended, but on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays Deacon Duncan will be celebrating Morning Prayer and I hope the church will be open as usual during the day: life does not shut down when the priest is away. I am grateful to Kevin and Duncan, and to our team of keyholders. Mass times in St Edmund's, Beckenham are given elsewhere in this newsletter, and many of you will also know of Mass times in Holy Rosary, Hayes, and the Annunciation, Addiscombe. Also in this period some of our young people will be confirmed at St Edmund's (having been part of our joint formation programme) at 6pm on Saturday 13 June. **Fr Ashley Beck**

Psalm Response
Gospel acclamation

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!
I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.
If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever.

Mass intentions while I am away

I am afraid one job I have not yet delegated is the organising of Mass intentions (though I hope to in due course). Because there are fewer Masses in June we don't have any vacancies now until early July; if you leave an envelope or request it will be dealt with in due course, but not until my return. If you have an urgent intention and don't need to be present, do contact me by text or email and I will say Mass for your intention in Denmark.

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).

Annual Marriage Mass

This will take place in our cathedral on Saturday 11 July at 3pm – it's particularly appropriate for couples celebrating a significant anniversary this year, but all married couples are welcome.

Details at : [The Annual Marriage Mass: Archdiocese of Southwark.](#)



Churches Together in West Wickham

Our ecumenical network here is looking for a new treasurer. I understand the duties are not onerous. If you're interested please contact Marie Potter on westwickhamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

Afternoon Tea

The Sisters of St. Peter Claver are organising a fundraising event, at the Claver Convent, 89 shortlands Rd, BROMLEY BR2 0JL

They are trying to raise funds for the building of houses for destitute families in Pakistan. Afternoon tea on the 20th June 2 to 4pm. Tickets adults: £10, children under 12: £5. Come with family and friends. If you can contribute as volunteer or by baking something please contact : Sr. Assunta 020 8313 3915

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!

Gift Aid Envelopes-New Issue

Renew your Gift Aid declaration

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 scan the QR code. Alternatively, you can email the parish. Thank you for your support.



If you are a registered gift aid donor using envelopes, please collect your new box issued for this year from the narthex. In case of any queries please email the parish at westwickham@rcaos.org.uk

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.

Repository

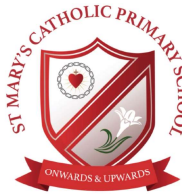
You can buy from the repository cards or gifts for children and young people getting confirmed next week. You can pay either by cash in the wall safe or by means of the card reader.

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.

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/>

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"

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.

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 led by children on the first Sunday of the month.** Coaching will be provided. Please let me know if you are interested.

Please Pray for Anniversary

Dorothy Radford, Jane Ward, Mary Patten, Margaret Holloway, Owen Keane

Recently dead

Brian O'Flynn

Those who are sick

Yvonne Forshaw, Clare Barratt, Theresa Emmanuel, Diana Quinn, Robert Haines, Mary Bloom, Lucy Patterson, Michael Grant, Shauna Pibbs, 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
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

Saturday 13 June	Confirmation (Young people in Year 9 or above)
Sunday 19 July	Summer festival

Masses and other services			
Sat 6th	3pm	Thanksgiving Mass	
	6pm		Confessions
	6:30pm	Fr James Nathan	Vigil Mass
Sun 7th	CORPUS CHRISTI		
	8am	Welfare of Christine Maslona	
	10am	Ted and Gillian Corney	
	11:30am	Katoo Shanon	
Mon 8th	10am	Morning Prayer	
Tue 9th			
Wed 10th	10am	Soosipilai and Philomena Francis	
Thur 11th	10am	Morning Prayer	
Fri 12th	10am	Morning Prayer	
Sat 13th	6pm	Confessions	
	6:30pm	Kieran Cawley	Vigil Mass
	6pm	Confirmation Mass St Edmund's Beckenham	
Sun 14th	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
	8am	Bridget Roe	
	10am	Ernest Robins	
	11:30am	Siobhan Cawley	