

St Mark's Catholic Church, West Wickham

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 St Marks Church West Wickham

Parochial Administrator

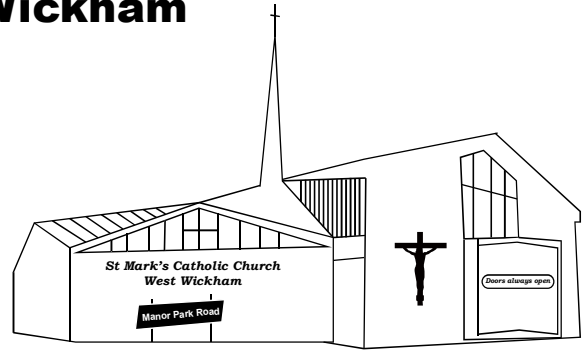
Father Ashley Beck

Fr Kevin Robinson, Deacon Duncan Aitkins

ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk

07769214903

22, Downs Road, Beckenham, BR3 5JY

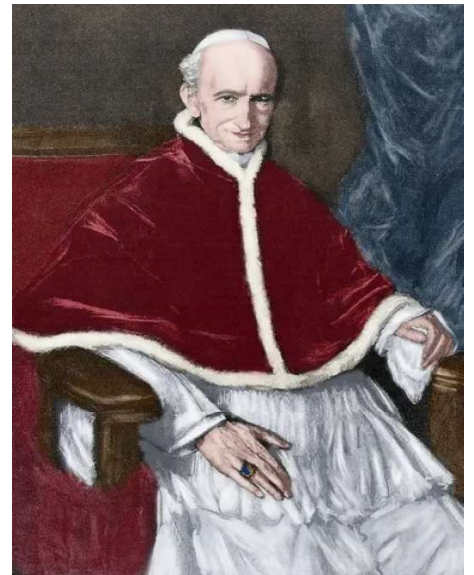


26 July, 2026

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND THE NEW GOVERNMENT

When Pope Leo XIV in May of last year he made it clear that he had chosen the name Leo because of the last pope of that name, Leo XIII (shown here). He had been famous for a letter he wrote in 1891 (Rerum Novarum) on the plight of industrial workers, which is generally seen as the beginning of the modern tradition of Catholic Social teaching, part of the Church's moral teaching about the world in which we live. Our new Prime Minister, Andy Burnham, the first 'self-identifying' Catholic to hold the office (Boris Johnson was only 'technically' a Catholic and Tony Blair didn't convert until after he left office) is said to be inspired by this tradition. Catholic charities and others have recognised this in offering him prayers and congratulations at this time. Since CST does concern itself with specific issues, we will need to see how far the new government's policies (like



those of its predecessors) accord with what the Church teaches – for example, in relation workers' rights, war and disarmament, support for those who are poor, migrants and refugees, the environment, the Holy Land, Europe and international relations, AI, care for those who are sick and elderly, fair taxation, devolution, prisons, the needs of homeless people, racism and many other practical issues. Please pray for the new government and for our local MPs in this parish.

Fr Ashley Beck

THANKS

I am very grateful to everyone who worked so hard to make last Sunday's celebrations so special – those who organised the very thoughtful gifts, the choir, all those who put on the party, Deacon Duncan and Father Kevin (who, by the way, celebrates his thirtieth anniversary at the end of September....). It's good if a parish event is widely publicised on social media by one of our Members of Parliament, and it was good of Liam Conlon to come.

Psalm Response

O Lord, how I love your law!

Gospel acclamation

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

Evening of music at St Mark's CALLING All Musicians!!

On 11 September, we will be holding an evening of music and readings to celebrate the Wonder of Creation. We hope to feature many of the musicians from the parish, young and older. Please note the date in your diary and more information on tickets will be available shortly. Any proceeds will be going to charity. If you are interested in performing, please apply by completing this form <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/N83P2FM>. For any queries, speak to Eileen or Maya (in the choir).

Pilgrimage to Assisi

A walking pilgrimage to Assisi from September 18th- 26th, 2026: one night in Florence then six days along the beautiful 'Way of Francis'. Contact Eddie Gilmore for more information: gileag@gmail.com www.eddiegilmore.org

Weekend Masses over the summer

Please note that from 18 July until the end of August there will be no Saturday evening Mass here. Because it is increasingly difficult for priests from overseas to come here to cover parishes in the summer, the archdiocese has asked parishes to cluster together for the summer period. We are grouped together with the parishes of Beckenham, Hayes and Anerley and each parish is being asked to drop one Mass each for these few weeks: so in that period there will be no Saturday Mass here: Saturday evening Masses, preceded by Confessions are at 6pm in St Edmund's, Holy Rosary and St Anthony's (also at Addiscombe). Saturday evening Masses here will resume on 5 September.

St Mark's Golf Society

The next Meeting of our Golf Society will be our Autumn Meeting, on Friday 4th Sept, at Lingfield Park Golf Club. If you are a golfer, with a handicap, why don't you join us @Lingfield Park on Fri 4th Sept, where you will be made most welcome. Further information, giving full details, including cost, will be available nearer the date. For any other information, please contact David Brant at davidbrant1@gmail.com who will be pleased to give you any other information you may require.

NEXT WEEK!

Just as the Catholic Church has our own schools (St Mary's, Coloma and others) so in various parts of the world we have Catholic universities. These vary from place to place: in the USA, for example, in most of them (and some are very prestigious and wealthy) all or nearly all the students and staff are Catholics, which would not be true in England (where there are only three, and they're not prestigious in UK terms and certainly not wealthy). But we do try to support each other, and for four years I have represented St Mary's University on an international Consortium of Catholic Universities centred on Notre Dame University in Indiana (Consortium of Catholic Universities | Global Network | Notre Dame Global | University of Notre Dame). It's had two conferences in Rome and the next one is this coming week in the University of Eichstätt in Bavaria. Consequently there are fewer services this week. I will write about the conference after I get back but please remember us in your prayers.

Gift Aid on Donations

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@westwickham@rcaos.org.uk. Thank you for your support.



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

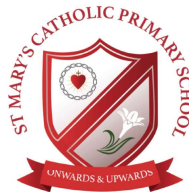
St Mark's Choir



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/>

Maureen Crowhurst RIP

The Requiem Mass for Maureen Crowhurst will be at 1030 on Wednesday 5 August at Holy Rosary, Hayes, followed by cremation at Bluebell Cemetery, after which there will be refreshments back at Hayes.

Please Pray for Anniversary

Harry Godfrey, Teresa Parle, Patricia Burton, Horace Crowhurst, Ellen Hampson

Recently dead

Maureen Crowhurst

Memory Box Cafe

Do you know anyone living with Dementia? We have a Memory Box Cafe, 2-3.30pm, at Richmond Hall, Emmanuel Church, The Grove on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month, with activities, games, music, Afternoon Tea. For further 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 be led by children on the first Sunday of the month.*** Coaching will be provided. Please let me know if you are interested.

Those who are sick

Kathleen O'Shea, Bridget Nze, 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, Sophie Campbell, Kathy Springhall, Fr Ray Brennan, Peggy Bohan, Bernard Myerscough, John Goddard, Christine Maslona

Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Thomas Smialowski
Marie Potter

westwickhamsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk
westwickhamsg2@safeguardrcaos.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)

New weekday Mass pattern from September

As you know I teach Liturgy to seminarians at Allen Hall Seminary in Chelsea, which now serves this diocese, other dioceses, and various religious orders in London.

One thing in my life over which I have little control is the teaching timetable, and my regular classes in the autumn are moving from Tuesdays to Mondays.

Consequently from Monday 7 September Mass here on Mondays every week will be at 6pm and on Tuesdays at 10am (usually followed by Adoration). Please pray for the seminary and for vocations to the priesthood.

Mass for the week			
Sat 25th	St James the Apostle		
	NO CONFESSIONS OR VIGIL MASS		
Sun 26th	17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
	8am	Parishioners	
	10am	Vira Dessa	
	11:30am	Deceased members of Sammon family	
Mon 27th	10am	Maureen Crowhurst	Followed by Adoration
Tue 28th	No Mass		
Wed 29th	Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus		
	10am	(No Mass) Morning Prayer	
Thur 30th	No Mass		
Fri 31st	St Ignatius Loyola		
	10am	(No Mass) Morning Prayer	
Sat 1 Aug	NO CONFESSIONS OR MASS		
Sun 2nd	18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
	8am	Parishioners	
	10am	Joseph Marion D'Moss	
	11:30am	Kevin Barrett (90 th birthday)	