

St Mark's Catholic Church, West Wickham

<https://saintmarkswv.net>

 St Marks Church West Wickham

Parochial Administrator

Father Ashley Beck

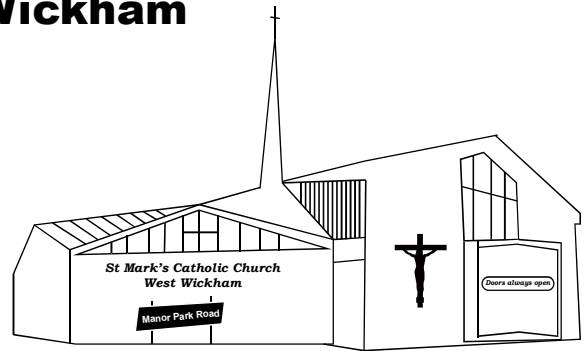
Fr Kevin Robinson, Deacon Duncan Aitkins

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22, Downs Road, Beckenham, BR3 5JY

9 August, 2026



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE VALUE OF UNIVERSITIES FOR THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

As you know the week before last I was at the third conference on an international Consortium of Catholic Universities (CCCU) at the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt in Bavaria – this is a picture of participants. There is a piece about it in this weekend's Tablet and details of the consortium at Consortium of Catholic Universities | Global Network | Notre Dame Global | University of Notre Dame. Two of the universities in the group



are in war zones (Ukraine and the Holy Land), another is under the shadow of harassment and possible invasion (Fu Jen University in Taiwan) and Notre Dame University in the US, like many US universities, has had considerable problems recently with the federal and state governments. International cooperation among universities is arguably more important than ever, but there are a lot of difficulties. We need to pray for each other and work with each other.

Universities are important to many people at St Mark's. Some of you went to university or your children did; some of you are there or are hoping to go. This doesn't mean that people linked to universities are better or cleverer than those who aren't (and many people in the past didn't have the opportunity to go to university); but they are important for Catholics because the Church has always valued education. This sense of value is the reason we have Catholic schools, colleges and universities – historically Catholics have in particular promoted the education of girls and women. Something which has changed significantly in my lifetime is the proportion of young people who go to university – in spite of the ways in which financing university has become more difficult for many – and this is something for which we should be thankful. It doesn't mean that everyone should go to university, or that some courses aren't as good as they could be; but it's a good thing and it has helped a lot of young people in the search for truth, which is what education is about. This month many young people in this country will be finding out about which university they're going to, and some are anxious: please pray for them! Pray also for people who teach in universities, especially those who have been made redundant and those worried about their future.

Fr Ashley Beck

Psalm Response
Gospel acclamation

Show us, O Lord, your mercy, and grant us your salvation.
I long for you, O Lord,
my soul longs for his word.

St Mark's Golf Soc Autumn Meeting - Friday 4th Sept

Our next Golf Soc Meeting will take place on Friday 4th Sept at Lingfield Park. We will be playing for The Captain's Prize. The cost of the day will be £65 to include Coffee & Bacon Rolls on arrival, 18 Hole Stableford, followed by Dinner & Prizes. Forms with all the details went out at the end of the week and they need to be returned by Friday 15th Aug at the latest, so teams can be notified in good time.

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

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"

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.

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

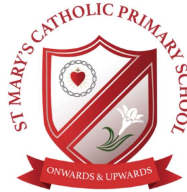
St Mark's Choir



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/>

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

Len Hollidge, George Wigmore, Phyllis M. Evans, Frank Martin, Kathleen Cushion, Soosaipillai Francis, Patrick Ross, Carmen Muscat, Dorothea Finn, Violet Connery, Marianne Cohen, Sr Teresa McManus, Huguetta Maroon, Maureen Holmes

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 8th	St Dominic		
	5pm	Michael Theodore	
Sun 9th	19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
	8am	Parishioners	
	10am	Holy Souls	
	11:30am	Intentions of Pat Lawrence	
Mon 10th	St Lawrence		
	10am	Anne-Mare Lewin Knight	Followed by Adoration
Tue 11th	St Clare		
	6pm	Farid Matti Patras	
Wed 12th	St Jane Frances de Chantal		
	10am	Pauline Kelly	
Thur 13th	10am	Graham Oak	
Fri 14th	St Maximilian Kolbe		
	10am	Clergy of West Wickham before 1948 (Foundation Mass)	Followed by Adoration
Sat 15th	NO CONFESSIONS OR MASS		
Sun 16th	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary		
	8am	Parishioners	
	10am	Thanksgiving	
	11:30am	Mrs McHugh	