

# St Mark's Catholic Church, West Wickham

<https://saintmarksww.net>

 St Marks Church West Wickham

## Parochial Administrator

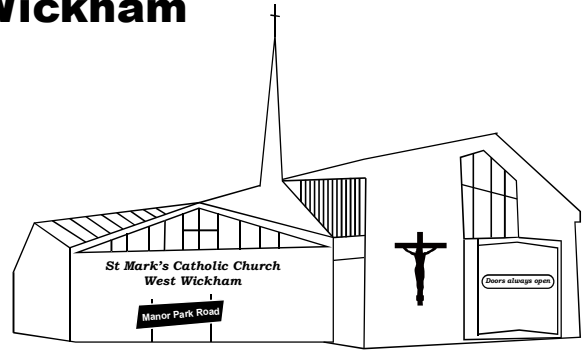
Father Ashley Beck

Fr Kevin Robinson, Deacon Duncan Aitkins

[ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)

07769214903

22, Downs Road, Beckenham, BR3 5JY



6 September, 2026

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

### WATER AND CREATION

The Season of Creation began on Tuesday with the special Day of Prayer extended to the Universal Church by Pope Francis a few years ago – it was originally an observance for the Orthodox set up by the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholemew of Constantinople; most other churches observe the whole season now. It's particularly important for Christians to do this as so much damage is being done to the cause of environmental awareness, knowing how much we are harming the planet, by irresponsible and venal politicians and figures in public life. In his message for last Tuesday ([Message of the Holy Father on the occasion of the 11th World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation \[1 September 2026\] \(15 August 2026\)](#)), which is on our porch noticeboard, the Holy Father draws attention to how we abusing and damaging the sacred gift of water. I can't really enlarge on what he says. We are of course painfully aware in this country this summer of what the problem is, since it seems only to have been possible to water golf courses. One of the issues being raised in relation to rapidly developing Artificial Intelligence technology is the extent to which vast new Data Centres need so much water; this needs to be questioned and challenged.

Fr Ashley Beck



IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER  
Ezekiel 47:9, 12

## Living Water

Season of Creation 2026



### Music evening at St Mark's – 11th September, 7pm

On Friday, 11th September, we will be holding a Music Evening at the church followed by refreshments. A lovely way to spend an early autumn evening, listening to musicians from St Mark's and other local parishes and catching up afterwards over refreshments. Entry is free with a request for a donation, any profits will go to charity.

If you are intending to come, please sign up on the list in the porch to give us an idea of numbers.

Psalm Response

Gospel acclamation

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself,  
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

### **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](http://www.eddiegilmore.org)

### **Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

Malcolm Fernando is organising a pilgrimage to Lourdes from 30/09 to 04/10 just to support MISSIO, CAFOD & ACN. For further details please contact him on

Tel: 075 05 011249

Email: [mjsfernando@gmail.com](mailto:mjsfernando@gmail.com)

### **Catholic Theological Association and St Augustine**

On August 27,28 we celebrated the feast days of St Monica and St Augustine. As I pointed out since the election of Pope Leo XIV last year Augustine has become even more important than before, since the Holy Father is a friar in the religious order inspired and founded by him, and almost always quotes him in addresses and homilies. To mark this the annual conference this week in Oxford of the Catholic Theological Association (the support network for Catholics teaching or researching in Higher Education) is devoted to Augustine; please pray for those of us taking part and I will share what we looked at when I get back. I am grateful to Fr Kevin for saying Mass on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday last week.

### **Fr Kevin's 30th Anniversary Celebration – Sunday 27 September, 11.30am Mass**

I have agreed to organise the celebration for Fr Kevin's 30th Anniversary after the 11.30am Mass on Sunday 27 September. To ensure we can properly cater for everyone, I would be grateful for any offers of refreshments.

A celebration cake has already been prepared, and we have around 15 bottles of mixed wines available. If anyone is able to contribute additional items—such as sausage rolls, sandwiches, fruit juices, soft drinks, or similar refreshments—please let me know as soon as possible so that I can coordinate quantities and make sure we have enough for around 100 guests. I understand that at least 20 parishioners from Greenwich will be joining us for the Mass.

We believe we still have wine glasses, a gazebo, and other useful items from Fr Ashley's recent celebrations, which will help with the setup. Any offers of help on the day itself would be very gratefully received.

You can contact me by phone on 07957 861404 (please note: I cannot answer withheld numbers) or by email at: [duncan@duncanaitkins.co.uk](mailto:duncan@duncanaitkins.co.uk). Thank you in advance for your support in making this a joyful and memorable occasion for Fr Kevin.

*Deacon Duncan*

### **Education Sunday**

In next Sunday when there will be a second collection for the work of the Catholic Education Service. More details at Education Sunday 2026

<https://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/news/education-sunday-2026>

### **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](mailto:parish@westwickham@rcaos.org.uk). Thank you for your support.



### Memory Box Cafe

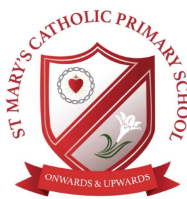
Do you know anyone living with Dementia? We have a Memory Box Cafe, 2-3.30pm, at Richmond Hall, Emmanuel Church, The Grove on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month, with activities, games, music, Afternoon Tea. For further information call 0737586812 or Facebook "Memory Box Dementia Cafe West Wickham"

### St Mark's 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](mailto:davidj.smith855@gmail.com) or 07784225932 for details.

### Coloma Convent Girls' School

Welcome to Coloma Convent Girls' School, <https://www.coloma.croydon.sch.uk>

Open Evening:

Monday 21st September,  
4:00pm–6:30pm

Open Mornings (by appointment):

Tuesday 15th September – 8:45am

Wednesday 16th September – 8:45am

Thursday 17th September – 8:45am

Friday 25th September – 8:45am

Monday 28th September – 8:45am

### 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](mailto:westwickhamsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

### Please Pray for Anniversary

Terence Godenho, Elizabeth Odlum, Solange Broomhead, Edgar Ford, Tom Geoghegan, Clive Edwards, Peter Thompson, Fr Timothy Nolan

### Recently dead

Constantine Aitkin, Jean Brunwin.

### 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, Collette Holland, Catherine Barrett, Marie Smith.

### Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Thomas Smialowski  
Marie Potter

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

## Parish Mass times

|           |                                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 8:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>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 5th           | <b>St Teresa of Kolkata</b>                |                                   |                       |
|                   | 6pm                                        |                                   | Confessions           |
|                   | 6:30pm                                     | Collette Holland                  | Vigil Mass            |
| Sun 6th           | <b>23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>        |                                   |                       |
|                   | 8am                                        | Parishioners                      |                       |
|                   | 10am                                       | Ciss Neylon                       |                       |
|                   | 11:30am                                    | Peggy Falsey (birthday)           |                       |
| Mon 7th           | 6pm<br><b>*New time</b>                    | Jenny Williams                    |                       |
| Tue 8th           | <b>Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> |                                   |                       |
|                   | 10am<br><b>*New time</b>                   | Michael Clarke                    | Followed by Adoration |
| Wed 9th           | <b>St Peter Claver</b>                     |                                   |                       |
|                   | 10am                                       | Maureen Carney                    |                       |
| Thur 10th         | 10am                                       | Joe Cullen                        |                       |
| Fri 11th          | 10am                                       | Soosipillai and Philomena Francis | Followed by Adoration |
|                   | 7pm                                        | <b>Music and cultural evening</b> |                       |
| Sat 12th          | 6pm                                        | Confessions                       | Confessions           |
|                   | 6:30pm                                     | Fr Tim Nolan (Foundation Mass)    | Vigil Mass            |
| Sun 13th          | <b>24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>        |                                   |                       |
|                   | <b>Education Sunday</b>                    |                                   |                       |
|                   | 8am                                        | Parishioners                      |                       |
|                   | 10am                                       | Ciss Neylon                       |                       |
|                   | 11:30am                                    | Peggy Falsey (birthday)           |                       |