

# St Mark's Catholic Church, West Wickham

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 St Marks Church West Wickham

## Parochial Administrator

Father Ashley Beck

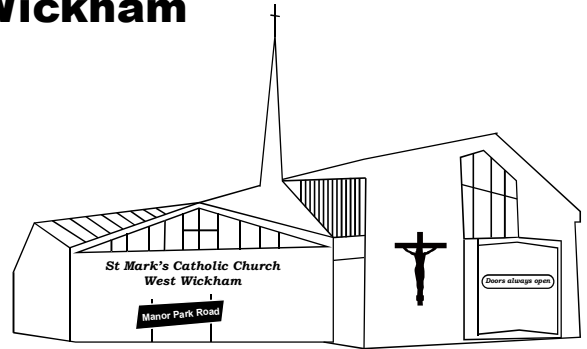
Fr Kevin Robinson, Deacon Duncan Aitkins

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

07769214903

22, Downs Road, Beckenham, BR3 5JY

20 September, 2026



## 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### THE PROBLEM OF WEALTH

Poverty is a growing problem across this country; food banks like the Shrublands Trust centre near us exist because of real need experienced by families and people of all ages; the gap between rich and poor has widened in the last fifty years and progress made in the years before that has been reversed. But from the angle of Christian teaching a more serious moral issue is actually wealth and people who are wealthy: and the numbers of very, very rich people all over the world has mushroomed in recent decades.

Again and again in the gospels Our Lord challenges those who are very rich – to the dismay of those concerned! In spite of this the power of the very rich can inspire even Christians feelings of awe and admiration, bizarrely; we feel unable to challenge so much of what the very rich do (listing the examples would take up a lot of space on this newsletter) and the power wielded as a result. I am not seeking condemnation: we are told that Jesus, in his encounter with the rich young man in Mark's gospel (10:17-31) looks at him and *loves him* (a detail missed out in the versions of the story in Matthew and Luke). If we feel frustrated or angry at the conduct of the very rich, we should remember that they are really to be pitied.

Fr Ashley Beck

### Evangelii Gaudium Sunday

This is *Evangelii Gaudium Sunday*, reflecting on the Church's missionary work in our own parishes, and there's a second collection for the Bishops Conference Home Mission Fund. More details at [Home Mission Sunday - Catholic Bishops' Conference](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home-mission-sunday/)(<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home-mission-sunday/>), through which you can also make donations.

### Music Evening! THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who came along to the music evening on Friday, 11th September and to everyone who took part. It was a lovely evening and an opportunity to share in some beautiful music making and enjoy a chat and refreshments afterwards. Thanks to the generous donations, a total of **£461.10** was raised and will be split between the Cardinal Hume Centre and the Shrublands Trust.

Psalm Response

Gospel acclamation

The Lord is close to all who call him.

Open our hearts, O Lord,

that we may pay attention to the words of your Son.

## **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.

**There is a special ongoing collection basket for a gift for Fr Kevin, and you can also make a donation with the card readers. There is also a list for people to sign if they are able to help with refreshments on 27 September.**

*Deacon Duncan*

## **DAY OF PRAYER FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

Next weekend in this country we keep the annual Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees. We will be welcoming again Liam Allmark from the Jesuit Refugee Service who will be making an appeal for the charity's work. For more details go to [Jesuit Refugee Service \(JRS\)](https://jrs.net/en/home/) <https://jrs.net/en/home/> - Accompany, Serve, Advocate.

### **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)

### **PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI**

There are details in the porch of a local pilgrimage being organised to Assisi from 7 –14 November, led by Fr Steve Wymer from St Edmund's. More details from Diane Brelu on 07951194036 or [dianebrelubrelu@gmail.com](mailto:dianebrelubrelu@gmail.com).

## **St Mark's Golf Society**

Our Autumn Meeting/Captain's Day took place at Lingfield Park Golf Club on Friday 4th . Our Captain's Prize was won by Hamish. Our Captain of The Day was Nigel Walker. We had 9 participants with 2 casualties on the day. Unfortunately our Handicap Secretary, Jim Nolan couldn't be with us. Two lady dinner guests attended our dinner. We played a Stableford Competition and the winner of our Captain's Prize was Matt Carson. One of our Past Captains Tom Tannion, is seriously ill. Can you please remember him in your prayers. Our AGM & Christmas Meeting will take place on Friday 4th Dec at at Croham Hurst Golf Club. Further details nearer the date. Our Contact Person is: David Brant. Further information/contact details from David Brant at email address [davidbrant1@gmail.com](mailto:davidbrant1@gmail.com)

### 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"

### 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.

### 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):  
Friday 25th September – 8:45am  
Monday 28th September – 8:45am

### 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.

### An Evening of Hope And Healing

There will be Service of Hope and Healing for all those who have been harmed by abuse at St George's Cathedral on Wednesday 30 Sept at 630pm, led by Archbishop John Wilson.

### 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

Gordon Peacock, Alice Wright,  
Betty De Souza, Benjamin Mascarenhas,  
Catherine Grandini

### Recently dead

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, 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         |
|           | 10:00 am        |
|           | 11:30 am        |
| Monday    | 6:00 pm         |
| Tuesday   | 10:00 am        |
| 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, Appeals and Second Collections**

|     |              |                                                                                        |
|-----|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun | 27 September | 1130 Fr Kevin's 30th Anniversary Mass                                                  |
| Sun | 27 September | Jesuit Refugee Service Appeal                                                          |
| Fri | 2 October    | CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day, Harvest Mass St Mary's School                           |
| Fri | 16 October   | Thanksgiving Mass, St Mary's School                                                    |
| Sun | 18 October   | World Mission Day – collection for Mission                                             |
| Sun | 15 November  | Parish Visitation by Canon Victor Darlington,<br>Episcopal Vicar for South East London |
| Sun | 22 November  | Youth Sunday – collection for diocesan Youth Service                                   |
| Sun | 13 December  | Sisters of St Peter Claver calendar sale                                               |

|                   |                                          |                                                                                             |                       |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mass for the week |                                          |                                                                                             |                       |
| <b>Sat 19th</b>   | 6pm                                      |                                                                                             | Confessions           |
|                   | 6:30pm                                   | Alfred Ashley Lingham (Foundation Mass)                                                     | Vigil Mass            |
| <b>Sun 20th</b>   | <b>25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>      |                                                                                             |                       |
|                   | <b>Evangelii Gaudium Day</b>             |                                                                                             |                       |
|                   | 8am                                      | Parishioners                                                                                |                       |
|                   | 10am                                     | Gilly Fernandez                                                                             |                       |
| <b>Mon 21st</b>   | 11:30am                                  | Seán and Mary Carr                                                                          |                       |
|                   | <b>St Matthew</b>                        |                                                                                             |                       |
|                   | 6pm                                      | Benny Mascarenhas (anniversary)                                                             |                       |
| <b>Tue 22nd</b>   | 10am                                     | Chris McCormick                                                                             | Followed by Adoration |
| <b>Wed 23rd</b>   | <b>St Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)</b> |                                                                                             |                       |
|                   | 10am                                     | Mary McLaughlin                                                                             |                       |
| <b>Thur 24th</b>  | <b>Our Lady of Walsingham</b>            |                                                                                             |                       |
|                   | 10am                                     | Tom Geoghegan                                                                               |                       |
| <b>Fri 25th</b>   | 9am                                      | St Mary's School                                                                            |                       |
|                   | 10am                                     | Friends of Mary Morrison (thanksgiving)                                                     | Followed by Adoration |
| <b>Sat 26th</b>   | <b>Ss Cosmas and Damian</b>              |                                                                                             |                       |
|                   | 6:30pm                                   | Fr John Thomas Joyce                                                                        | Vigil Mass            |
| <b>Sun 27th</b>   | <b>25th Sunday In Ordinary Time</b>      |                                                                                             |                       |
|                   | <b>Day of Prayer for Migrants</b>        |                                                                                             |                       |
|                   | 8am                                      | Parishioners                                                                                |                       |
|                   | 10am                                     | Sandra Johnstone                                                                            |                       |
|                   | 11:30am                                  | Stan and Mary Carr                                                                          |                       |
|                   |                                          | <b>THANKSGIVING MASS FOR FR KEVIN'S 30th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION, followed by a party</b> |                       |
|                   | 1pm                                      | Baptism                                                                                     |                       |