

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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22, Downs Road, Beckenham, BR3 5JY

27 September, 2026

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pearls before....?

Both Father Kevin and I, having been ordained as Catholic priests in 1996, celebrated our silver Jubilees in 2021. For me at least (in the summer) celebrations were rather muted because of remaining Covid-19 restrictions; so a thirtieth or Pearl anniversary might be more significant than otherwise. Kevin has made a tremendous contribution to our parish in the last year and been a great personal support to me, so it's good to be able to mark his anniversary this weekend. We also welcome members of his family and former parishioners from Greenwich. Ministerial priesthood in the Catholic Church is first and foremost about the Church rather than the individual priest: we are only priests because we're part of the community and have been validly ordained by a Catholic bishop (Kevin and I were both ordained by Bishop Charles Henderson, of blessed memory, who was well known at St Mark's).

The anniversary is an occasion to rejoice at being part of the Church and to pray for vocations to the priesthood (I can report from Allen Hall that numbers of new students are up this year, including Makir Ahmed from this part of the diocese who is in my liturgy class). We are very grateful to Kevin for all he has given to our parish since last autumn; we are very blessed to have him.

Fr Ashley Beck

ST MARKS: OUR MISSION AND JOURNEY OF RENEWAL

Last weekend Father Ashley spoke at mass about home mission and what that means for us as individuals and as part of St Mark's parish community. Back in 2021 Pope Francis invited the global Catholic community to reflect on our life and mission in a rapidly changing world. He called this journey in faith a Synod since the word 'Synod' comes from the Greek meaning to walk together. In Southwark Diocese many parishes are developing this synodal process, involving Catholic communities seeking how to live out our mission in our church and local communities.

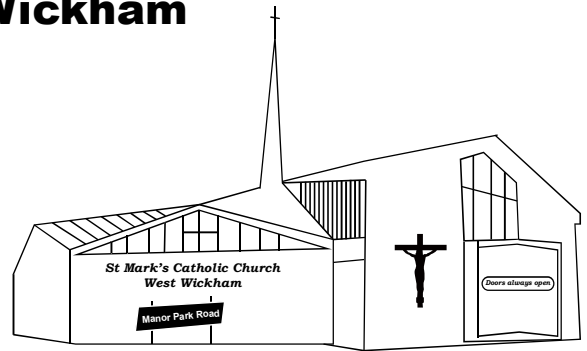
Just as Father Ashley invited us to reflect on the meaning of home mission, we are inviting everyone here at St Marks to get involved in our own synod, journeying together as Catholic Christians. As we journey together as a Christian community how do we more actively support each other and our local community? It's crucial that we listen to each other and learn what is needed in our community and especially to be close to those who are suffering.

We are inviting you to get involved in our own synodal group and/or community activity and support. We will be speaking further about this on the weekend of 3rd and 4th October and how you can get involved.

Allison, Maya, Anna & Deacon Duncan.

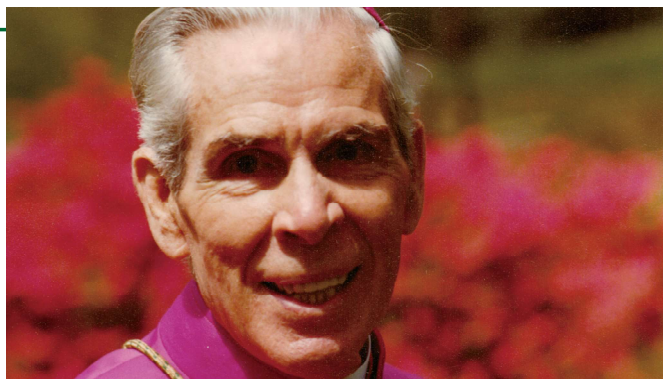
Psalm Response
Gospel acclamation

Remember your compassion, O Lord.
My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,
and I know them, and they follow me.



Blessed Fulton Sheen

When I was at my (Protestant) secondary school in Southampton, I remember being fascinated by a book about the Mass with fine colour plates – this showed an American bishop, Fulton Sheen, celebrating Mass at an ornate altar and dripping in lace. Sheen was one of the first Catholic priests to master the art of communication on television in the 40s and 50s and became a major figure in US and world Catholicism. He was beatified in St Louis on Thursday; go to [Pope Leo upholds Fulton Sheen's legacy ahead of beatification - Vatican News](#) for words by the Holy Father at the General Audience on Wednesday



DAY OF PRAYER FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

This Sunday is a worldwide special Day of Prayer for Migrants (it is the 112th) and the Holy Father always issues a special message for today. Pope Leo XIV's this year, entitled Even Just One of the Children, focusses on the needs of children and minors. The message shows his deep commitment to the importance of this moral issue and can be found on [Message of the Holy Father for the 112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2026](#) – it is also on the noticeboard in the porch. Showing love for refugees has become a 'litmus test' issue for Catholics. For the third year now we welcome Liam Allmark from the Jesuit Refugee Service (who lives in Beckenham and who is a parent in our school) who is making an appeal at all Masses; please give generously in the second collection as you have in the past. Details of JRS' work can be found at JRS UK (<https://www.jrsuk.net/>) | Jesuit Refugee Service UK and you can also donate through this website.



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 dianebrubrelu@gmail.com.

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 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 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

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

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 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.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

The first open morning for those considering applying for a place for their child for next autumn: The Open Mornings will take place on the following dates:

Wednesday 30th September 2026

Wednesday 14th October 2026

Thursday 12th November 2026

Thursday 26th November 2026

The sessions start at 10.45am sharp and will finish around mid-day.

If you wish to book a place, please contact our Admissions Officer, Mrs Tracey, via email admissions@stmaryscp.co.uk

The Open Mornings are an opportunity for parents to view our school and receive information on how to make an application, therefore we would suggest that you find alternative childcare arrangements on the day.

Please Pray for Anniversary

Gertrude Clara Peacock, Mary Gunning
Mary Elizabeth Forgione, le Leone,
Nora Walsh, Kate Colley, Jean Willis,
Lavinia Gagliani, Nora Helen,
Sr. Colette Mc Leod, Warren Godenho,

Recently dead

Deacon Michael Münchow, 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
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

Tue and Fri after mass until 11:30am
Normally a priest is available for confession

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

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, 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			
Sat 26th	Ss Cosmas and Damian		
	6:30pm	Fr John Thomas Joyce	Vigil Mass
Sun 27th	26th Sunday In Ordinary Time		
	Day of Prayer for Migrants		
	8am	Parishioners	
	10am	Sandra Johnstone	
	11:30am	Stan and Mary Carr	
		THANKSGIVING MASS FOR FR KEVIN'S 30th ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION, followed by a party	
	1pm	Baptism	
Mon 28th	Ss Laurence Ruiz and his companions		
	6pm	Welfare of John Kruger	
Tue 29th	Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, archangels		
	10am	Mary Smith (anniversary)	Followed by Adoration
Wed 30th	St Jerome		
	10am	Fr James Nathan	
	5:30pm	St George's Cathedral Service for those affected by abuse	
Thur 1st	St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church		
	10am	Savio Fernandez	
Fri 2nd	Guardian Angels CAFOD Harvest Fast Day		
	9am	St Mary's School Harvest Thanksgiving Mass	
	10am	Wilfrid de Souza	No Adoration
Sat 3rd	6pm		Confessions
	6:30pm	Reginal Miles and family (Foundation Mass)	Vigil Mass
Sun 4th	27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Rosary Sunday		
	Last day of the Season of Creation		
	8am	Deacon Michael Münchow	
	10am	Parishioners	
	11:30am	Irena Giusta	