



ST CLEMENT'S CHURCH, EWELL

Parish Priest: Fr. Graham Bamford

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton
Charity No. 252878



All Masses are now live streamed. Access via the Parish Website

Fourth Sunday of Ordinary /time

Sunday 28th January 2024 Psalter Week 4 Cycle B

Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	Dorothy & Oswald Farrell and Elsie Wright RIP
Sunday 28 Jan 2024	8.30 am	All Parishioners
	10.30 am	Elizabeth Keogh RIP
Wednesday	10.00 am	Wellbeing – Mike Gyles
Friday	10.00 am	Vittorio Ventisei RIP Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (30 minutes)

EAST DAYS: 28 JAN -03 FEB 2024

Wednesday: St John Bosco

Friday: The Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas

ANNIVERSARIES: 28 JAN -03 FEB 2024

Lisa Sullivan, John Marchant, Ronald Worrall, Edward Durnin, John Meanley, Ann Payne.

COFFEE AFTER 10.30AM MASS

St Anthony's Group

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 4th February 2024 Psalter Week 1 Cycle B

Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	Mary, Felix & Vincent Edwardson RIP
Sunday 04 Feb 2024	8.30 am	All Parishioners
	10.30 am	Tony Bellino RIP
Wednesday	10.00 am	Kathleen Shiels RIP
Friday	10.00 am	Holy Souls
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	Catherine Hughes RIP
Sunday 11 Feb 2024	8.30 am	All Parishioners
	10.30 am	Agnes Mithell RIP

FEAST DAYS: 04 – 10 FEBRUARY

Monday: St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

Tuesday: St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs of Japan

Saturday: St Scholastica, Virgin

ANNIVERSARIES: 04 – 10 FEBRUARY

Walter Clement, Patricia Berry, Bridget Mulholland, Aileen Burgess

COFFEE AFTER 10.30AM MASS

Guides

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday, 10.30 am – 11.00 am or by appointment

RECOVERY AND WELL-BEING: Please pray for: Steve Kamm, Chris Williamson, Jocelyn Bowen, Joseph Ewing, Martina Savage, Mel Alvarez, John Stratford, Shona Dane, Sheila Hall, Elpedio Tavares, Nicholas Ward, Marcia Bancroft

DEATH: Please remember in prayer Mary Northeast who died recently in St /George's Hospital, Tooting. Mary has been a faithful member of St Clement's for many years.

Our sympathy to husband Tony and sons Paul, Anthony and Martin. May she rest in peace.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: We will commence Adoration on the first Friday of each month for 30 minutes after the 10.00am Mass. This will start on Friday, 2nd February 2024.

JANUARY 200 CLUB WINNERS: Denise Jarvis No.7 £30 Jim O'Reilly No.137 £20 Congratulations!

CONFIRMATION GROUP: The next session, which will be focussing on Gifts of the Spirit and the rosary, will be on Saturday 3rd February at 4pm in the church hall. All candidates should attend and bring their rosaries.

DAY TIME LENT GROUP will meet in the Tivey Room 11.15 – Noon (After coffee) for five Wednesdays starting 21st February, to reflect on the coming Sunday's readings. All are welcome.

ONLINE LENT GROUP will meet on Thursday evenings for five Thursdays starting on Thursday 22nd February at 7.30pm. We will be following the diocesan Invited course, which includes short videos and our own small discussion groups. If you would like to take part please email John Lodge on Johnlodge47@gmail.com so that you can be sent a zoom invite. If you would like more information please look at abdiocese.org.uk/invited. All are welcome.

"THE WORD WHO IS LIFE": Please take a book (in the narthex) from Bishop Richard concerning the future of the diocese.

MISSIO BOX HOLDERS: Would any parishioners who hold a red Missio box but no longer use it, please contact Fiona Perks at fionaperks2@gmail.com. The records can then be amended. Many thanks.

UPSOMING EVENTS

16th March – St Patrick's Celebration

24th March – Passover Meal

REFLECTION:

"Having faith does not mean having no difficulties, but the strength to face them, knowing we are not alone."

Pope Francis.

the first pilgrims since the Reformation returned, and 4,000 processed from Kensal with bands and banners, singing hymns and reciting prayers through Harlesden to the shrine.

Meanwhile the beautiful old medieval church of St Mary's, the site of the original shrine, now Anglican, of course, came under the influence of the Oxford Movement. In 1902 a new vicar, Fr James Dixon, decided he'd had enough of paying the fine, and, on top of that, he put a statue of Our Lady of Willesden back into the church. This was replaced by a new one in 1972.

The Catholic "tin cathedral", being too small, was replaced in 1907. In the 1920s the need for yet a third church was becoming obvious. A splendid church in Willesden containing the shrine was opened in 1931; the chapel of the shrine alone holds a hundred people. In the Marian Year of 1954 the statue was crowned by Cardinal Griffin at Wembley Stadium before 94,000 people.

Our Lady unites Anglicans and Catholics here as she does in Walsingham, where the Catholic bishop declared, "There is only one Shrine of Our Lady, but it is on two domains."

Contact information to arrange a pilgrimage:

Address: The Guild of Our Lady of Willesden, 1 Nicoll Rd, London NW10 9AX

Mass text

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Save us, O Lord our God!
And gather us from the nations,
to give thanks to your holy name,
and make it our glory to praise you.**

FIRST READING **Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

PSALM **Psalm 94**

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

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**
2. Come in; let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work." **R.**

SECOND READING **1 Corinthians 7:32-35**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL **Mark 1:21-28**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Let your face shine on your servant.
Save me in your merciful love.
O Lord, let me never be put to shame,
for I call on you.**

Next Sunday's Readings:

Job 7:1-4, 8-7
1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23
Mark 1:29-39



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OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN

When she grew old, my grandma would sometimes pass a housing estate or commercial area and say wistfully, "This was all fields in my day." For those who know Willesden, it is impossible to imagine that back in medieval days it was a tranquil village, remote from the choking and filthy streets of London, with a lovely church, St Mary's, first mentioned in 1181.

The origin of the shrine in St Mary's is unknown. However, a tradition links it to Our Lady appearing in the churchyard by an oak and the discovery of a spring. Willesden probably means "spring at the foot of the hill".

The shrine housed the "Black Madonna" statue and became a popular place of pilgrimage from around 1475. Henry VII's wife, Elizabeth, gave gifts to Our Lady of Willesden the year before she died in 1503. And in 1517 the vicar of Willesden gave many precious gifts, including a gold chalice and vestments. He was buried at the feet of Our Lady's shrine, and his brass is still there today.

Pilgrims came from afar, but being only five miles from London, Our Lady of Willesden attracted Londoners in great numbers, among them St Thomas More, whose stepdaughter Alice lived there. Sadly, the only description we have of the shrine comes from Richard Mores, whom Thomas Cromwell sent to report on it prior to its destruction:

They have there an image of Our Lady in robes of sarcanet and with stones; with a veil withal of lace embroidered with pearls and other precious jewels, and gold and silver. There is an iron screen both before and behind, with canopy and hangings, beside divers cloths, sticks for candles, and offerings of fine account for such a church.

The statue was taken to Chelsea in 1538 to be burnt at Cromwell's house. For the crime of being "an idolatrous parish", an annual fine of £13 (a huge sum) was imposed on the parish priest and a further twenty-six shillings for having housed "an idolatrous image". Ironically this fine continued to be imposed on the hapless post-Reformation Anglican vicars!

Willessden and nearby Harlesden were changed forever with the coming of the railways and the Irish immigrants who built them. The need for housing and Catholic churches became acute. The first Catholic mission in Harlesden, known as the "tin cathedral", was opened in 1886. A statue of Our Lady of Willesden, carved from an old oak, was blessed by Cardinal Vaughan in 1892. On 2 June 1894

Restored

Marian

Shrines



Fr Michael Rear continues his look at restored Marian shrines in England and Wales with Our Lady of Willesden.



28 JANUARY 2024

4TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK IV



Kings and queens travelled upriver from Windsor to pray for their country and their own needs. The last to do so was Catherine of Aragon, who came on 17 July 1532, when Henry VIII was pressuring her for a divorce. In 1538 the shrine was destroyed, and pilgrimages ceased.

As with other shrines around the country, God had plans for its restoration. In 1897 a Catholic church dedicated to Our Lady and St Anne was built in Caversham, and a fine white marble statue of Our Lady was blessed. A new bridge was built in the 1920s, and stones from the foundations of the original bridge chapel were kindly given to the parish to be incorporated into a restored shrine. This was realised in 1954, a Marian year, when the parish priest, Fr William O'Malley, decided to build a worthy stone chapel in Norman style, and a large 500-year-old oak statue from Northern Europe of Our Lady and Child was purchased. Our Lady's cloak is gilded, and her face, dark with

age, is truly beautiful, tender and inspiring. In 1996, to celebrate the centenary of the parish, a gold and silver crown was blessed by Pope John Paul II during a parish pilgrimage to Rome.

More recently, in 2017, a wonderful restoration was completed by Fr Paul Martin, with stunning frescoes by Marcelo Lavallen depicting Our Lady and the history of her shrine. Once again, pilgrims can gather to pray.

Contact information to arrange a pilgrimage:

Address: The Parish Office, The Presbytery, 2 South View Avenue, Caversham RG4 5AB

Email: ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk Tel: 0118 947 1787

Mass text

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

FIRST READING Job 7:1-4. 6-7

PSALM Psalm 146

RESPONSE Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

1. Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving; to him our praise is due. **R.**
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. **R.**
3. Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 1:29-39

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46
1 Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1
Mark 1:40-45



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SUNDAY BULLETIN

Restored Marian Shrines

OUR LADY OF CAVERSHAM

In 1399 Archbishop Arundel of Canterbury wrote:

We English, being the servants of her special inheritance and her own Dowry, as we are commonly called, ought to surpass others in the fervour of our praises and devotions.

Indeed England had shrines of Our Lady all over the country. The majority were established in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. But some were far older, like Our Lady of Walsingham (1061) and Caversham, founded sometime before 1106. We know this because it is recorded that in 1106 Duke Robert of Normandy gave the shrine a relic of Christ's Passion, brought back from the First Crusade. This was during the lifetime of St Bernard, whose influence was enormous and whose famous Memorare encourages us to pray to Our Lady with faith:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

In 1162 the care of the Caversham shrine was entrusted to the Augustinian canons of Notley Abbey, near Aylesbury, one of whom resided at Caversham to welcome pilgrims. Sadly nothing remains of the shrine today, and its exact location is unknown. There was a Chapel of St Mary in Caversham, the Norman Church of St Peter's (now the Anglican parish church) and, on Caversham Bridge, St. Anne's Chapel, where pilgrims travelling from the south would pray. There was also a holy well.

In 1906 a well was discovered at the top of Priest's Hill, which was believed to be the holy well. A fine wellhead of brick was built around it, surmounted by ironwork and a cross, with a tap and bowl for people to drink the water. Sadly it is now dry. But a plaque on it tells us it is "The Holy Well of St Anne, the healing waters of which brought many pilgrims to Caversham in the Middle Ages."

Indeed it did, and the shrine grew in popularity, for as well as local people, it attracted pilgrims from far and wide, some of whom gave valuable gifts. By the fifteenth century the statue of Our Lady was plated in silver, and in 1439 Isabella Beauchamp, Countess of Warwick, left twenty pounds of gold to be made into a jewelled crown for it.



This week Fr Michael Rear looks at Our Lady of Caversham as he continues this series on restored Marian shrines in England and Wales.



4 FEBRUARY 2024

5TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK 1