



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lately dead:

- ◇ Luciano Pesci
- ◇ Margaret Honeyman

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries:

Hugh Farrelly, Bertram Douglas, Sr.
 Mary Mason, James O'Shea, Joseph
 Whitehouse, Adriana Gottschalk,
 Joseph Hackett, Beryl Harley, Stuart
 Ritchie, Mary Kevany, George Bright,
 Rosie Lavin, Bridget Parry, Marie
 Saliba, Charlotte Welling, Dean Welling,
 Hugh Brett, Bernadette Craft, Bridie
 Keown, Sheila Murphy.

School Holiday activities

Camp Wild keeps your kids active every
 school holiday! We will next be on this
 October 1/2 term from 27th-31st
 October. Book now at St Aubyns school
 (Woodford Green) [www.camp-
 wild.co.uk/](http://www.camp-wild.co.uk/) enquiries to [info@camp-
 wild.co.uk](mailto:info@camp-wild.co.uk).

SUNDAY MASSES

1st Mass: 6pm Saturday;
 8.30am; 10am & 11.30am Sunday
 (The 11.30am Mass is recorded)



*Join us for tea/coffee after
 Sunday Mass in the Becket
 Centre*

10am Chigwell Convent

WEEKDAY MASSES

10am St Thomas'
 9.30am Chigwell Convent except on
 Saturday's when mass takes place at
 10am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30 to 11am
 and
 5.15 to 5.45 pm

BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays
 of the month

PPC

Will next meet on 13th October.

Children's Liturgy

We are delighted to announce that our
 Children's Liturgy is starting up again for
 school children in Reception to Year 2.
From Sunday 5th October (term time),
 during the 10am Mass, the children will be
 invited to gather together for their own
 special time of prayer, stories, and
 activities to help them understand the
 Gospel in a fun and age-appropriate way.



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

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Website: www.stthomaswoodford.org

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



Served by the Franciscans

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) 5th October 2025

Please note the nearest Fire Exit to you whilst you are in the Church

We're well into this Jubilee year as Pilgrims of Hope. If we feel ourselves
 getting weary, today's reading will help to encourage us.

First Reading

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

A faithful heart will not give up.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

You have been trusted to look after something precious.

Gospel

Luke 17:5-10

We have done no more than our duty.



Responsorial Psalm

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

POPE LEO WRITES RE THE THEOLOGICAL GIFT OF HOPE

The gravest form of poverty is not to know God. As Pope Francis wrote in *Evangelii Gaudium*: “The worst discrimination which the poor suffer is the lack of spiritual care. The great majority of the poor have a special openness to the faith; they need God and we must not fail to offer them his friendship, his blessing, his word, the celebration of the sacraments and a journey of growth and maturity in the faith”. Here we see a basic and essential awareness of how we can find our treasure in God. As the Apostle John insists: “If anyone says, ‘I love God,’ but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen” (1 Jn 4:20).

This is a rule of faith and the secret of hope: all this earth’s goods, material realities, worldly pleasures, economic prosperity, however important, cannot bring happiness to our hearts. Wealth often disappoints and can lead to tragic situations of poverty above all the poverty born of the failure to recognize our need for God and of the attempt to live without him. A saying of Saint Augustine comes to mind: “Let all your hope be in God: feel your need for him, and let him fill that need. Without him, whatever you possess will only make you all the more empty.”

The word of God tells us that Christian hope is certainty at every step of life’s journey, since it does not depend not on our human strength but upon the promise of God, who is always faithful. For this reason, from the beginning, Christians have identified hope with the symbol of the anchor, which provides stability and security. Christian hope is like an anchor that grounds our hearts in the promise of the Lord Jesus, who saved us by his death and resurrection and will come again among us.

This hope continues to point us toward the “new heavens” and the “new earth” (2 Pet 3:13) as the true horizon of our existence, where every life will find its authentic meaning, for our real homeland is in heaven (cf. Phil 3:20). The city of God, therefore, impels us to improve the cities of men and women. Our own cities must begin to resemble his. Hope, sustained by God’s love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom 5:5), turns human hearts into fertile soil where charity for the life of the world can blossom. The Church’s tradition has constantly insisted on the circular relationship between the three theological virtues of faith, hope and charity. Hope is born of faith, which nourishes and sustains it on the foundation of charity, the mother of all virtues. All of us need charity, here and now. Charity is not just a promise; it is a present reality to be embraced with joy and responsibility. Charity engages us and guides our decisions towards the common good. Conversely, those who lack charity not only lack faith and hope; they also rob their neighbours of hope.

On 5th October the Jesuit Refugee Service UK celebrates the Jubilee of migrants and refugees

Every year, JRS UK works with over 300 refugee friends from over 80 different countries. Their work includes practical support, casework and legal advice, accommodation, advocacy, and therapeutic activities. They also support hundreds of people every year held in immigration detention next to Heathrow airport. Find out more about the work of JRS UK: www.jrsuk.net. You can also donate directly to them.



Mass Intentions

Sunday 5th October

8.30 Cathy Mair RIP
10 Mary O’Neil
11.30 Michael Barrett RIP

Monday 6th October

Veronica Nicholas RIP
Conor Ryan RIP

Tuesday 7th October

Kenneth O’Neill RIP
Mark Hodgskin anniversary

Wednesday 8th October

Joe Malone
Ellen & Patrick O’Reilly
Cathy Mair RIP

Thursday 9th October

Patrick Moriarty RIP
Job-seeker son

Friday 10th October

Terry Paster sick
Maureen Barham RIP
John McKenna anniversary

Saturday 11th October

10 Bernadette Craft anniversary
6 Sheila Murphy anniversary

Sunday 12th October

8.30 John Roberts RIP
10 T J & Bridie McDonagh RIP
11.30 Harrison Nada 23 RIP

Church Cleaning

Friday 10th October at 9am

Claire Hobbs, Susanna Barnoin, Susan Juffs, Agatha Emohare, Nesther Muradzikwa & Michelle

Baptism congratulations

To the following children who were baptized recently at St Thomas’
Ethan Naessens, Rory McMullen & Cameron Draper

Trinity Open Day

Tuesday 7th October, 5pm – 8pm.

If you have a child currently in Year 6, and you are hoping to apply to join our Year 7 in September 2026, you are invited to the forthcoming open evening at Trinity Catholic High School, Mornington Road, IG8 0TP.

Calling our Parish Youth

Our parish has a Young Vinnies group (Youth branch of the SVP) started in 2024 and open to new members from November 2025. If you are age 13-15 and have energy for making a positive difference in your community and the wider world we would love to meet you! Parents to email Louise.Cherry5@gmail.com to express interest/learn more.

