

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

**Lately dead:** Jane Kirk, Joan Hayes.

Please pray for Joan Hayes who died at the Margaret Centre. Please pray for her, Peter and the family.

**Anniversaries:** Wynnifried Musselwhite, Florence Mulroue, Frederick Watts, Ralph Steele, Suzanna Wright, Sister Mary McKowan, Sr. John Lynch, Hilda Kavanagh, Patrick White, Arthur Finch, Craig Lobo, David Archer, Mary Wynne, Michael Carroll, Joan Reynolds, Moby Lalani.

### Funeral at St Thomas'

Mary Copping's funeral will take place on 10th December 2018 at 10am.

Joan Hayes' funeral will take place on 17th of December 2018 at 10am.

May they rest in peace  
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#### SUNDAY MASSES

**St. Thomas'**  
1st Mass Sat. 6pm; 8.30am;  
10am (Children's Liturgy)  
11.30am  
**Chigwell Convent**  
10am  
**St. James URC**  
**(Buckhurst Hill)**  
9am (Children's Liturgy)

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

**St. Thomas'**  
10am  
**Chigwell Convent**  
9.30am  
Saturday 10am  
(1st Weds of the month)  
No morning Mass  
**Trinity High School**  
8.20am on Lower Site.

#### SATURDAY

**CONFESSIONS**  
**St. Thomas'**  
10.30am - 11.30am  
5.00pm - 5.45pm  
**Chigwell Convent**  
After 10am Mass  
**BAPTISMS**  
1st and 3rd Sundays  
Of the month

## Reviewing the sick list

As we approach the end of 2018 we will be removing all names from the above sick list. If you would like a name to be included for January 2019 please email - parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org

### Mass Online

The next masses that we intend to record are:

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.**

Masses should be available online within 2-3 hours of recording. To view please visit our parish website [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org) Click **Mass Online** and then click the link to **Online Mass**.

### Newsletter by email

Please sign up on our parish website [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org) or by mailing [parishnews@stthomaswoodford.org](mailto:parishnews@stthomaswoodford.org) Your email address will be held securely. **NB** -If you experience any difficulties please let us know.

### Recent updates on the parish website

**Remembrance Day** (About Us - History);  
**Faith in Action** (under tab **More**);  
**Let us Pray** (praying with the Pope).



**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**  
Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686

Friary: 020 8504 1688

Email: [parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org](mailto:parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org)



Website: [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org)

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



Served by the Franciscans

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

### Cycle B

9th December 2018

Perhaps it is because St Luke travelled so much with St Paul that he speaks so much about journeys in his Gospel. His Gospel is the story of Jesus making his way to Jerusalem. From there, in his Church, Jesus travels through all the world.

### First Reading

**Baruch 5:1-9**

When we sin, we build up mountains of separation between ourselves.

### Second Reading

**Philippians 1:4-6. 8-11**

Prayer is a sort of movement out into the world, filling it with joy.

### Gospel

**Luke 3:1-6**

From the empty spaces of the desert, a voice is heard through all the world. John the Baptist still speaks to us.

### Responsorial Psalm

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.



## **Diocesan restructuring**

I regret that last weekend I failed to supply you all with a copy of the booklet describing the present stage of progress towards a newly ordered Diocese. There are plenty of copies available today so please make sure that every house has one. Some are finding the practical proposals frightening; some are much disturbed. A casual look at the proposal to form a partnership of Wanstead, South-Woodford and Woodford Green suggests little change. It will be a disaster if we fall into that error. We can be much helped by John the Baptist's arrival on the Advent scene today. Luke carefully sets him in his political and historical context. The Good News that is coming is to unfold in the real world with its goodness and evil mixed. The important thing is that we do not settle into doing nothing. We have to change our understanding of what our church is, and of our part in it. Listen to John and tell me what we can start in motion once Christmas is past.

### **Reconciliation Service this Monday 10th December 7.30pm**

There will be an array of priests to choose from tomorrow when you come tomorrow evening to prepare for Christmas. Take your pick. It is a good opportunity to take a look at where you are with the Lord, and where your life is going: to affirm what is good and to see what can be better. Try it.

### **Christmas Masses at St Thomas'**

Many thanks to all who volunteered. We still have a long way to go before we have a full complement of Readers, Ministers of Communion, Ushers & Sacristans for all the masses during Christmas. Currently, we don't have any volunteers for any of the ministries at the 5:15pm mass on Christmas Eve! Also, as we are expecting the church to be full at all the masses, we urgently need more experienced Ushers to assist with the smooth and safe running of each service. If you can help, with any of the ministries, please add your name to the list, located on the table at the back of the church.

## **Ecumenical Advent Carol Service**

The service will take place **TODAY, 9th December at 4.30pm** at St. Thomas' with our own choir and those of All Saints and Loyola. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Becket Centre. All welcome.



### **Franciscan Vocation Talks**

For Single Catholic men, 18-43 years of age, interested in the Franciscan Life. Talks will take place on Friday 4 and Saturday 5 January 2019 at St Thomas of Canterbury church

If interested in attending these talks and you are seriously considering a Religious Vocation, then please contact now and by 28 December; **Br. Donal OFM (Vocation Director), Email only - [brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk)**

### **SVP Collection**

There will be an SVP collection after all masses this weekend. This is our last collection of the year. Thank you all for your generous donations which enable us to help those in need in the local area. For many Christmas can be a lonely and difficult time: please remember them in your prayers. If you are interested in joining us in our work please contact us via the Parish Office.

### **Lost Property**

Items which have been handed into the Parish office will be placed in the Porch this weekend. Any unclaimed items will then be disposed of. There are umbrellas, gloves, jacket, books etc.

## **Parish Diaries 2019**

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Diaries for 2019 have arrived. Please leave your donation in the basket provided at the back of church.

### **Christmas Tea Dance**

Is held in the Loughton Methodist Church on Tuesday 18th December 1.30-4.30pm. Entrance is £5.

### **Readers at 8.30am Mass**

We are getting very short of readers at the Sunday 8.30 Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury increasing the burden on the few still preserving. If anyone would like to help please get in touch with Frank Fitzpatrick (85041466) or contact the Parish office.

### **Last Soup run before Christmas**

This will be on the **12th December** and we would welcome donations of variety packed chocolates. Please leave any donations before 7pm. in the Becket Centre.

### **Tuesday Club**

Christmas Lunch for all those who have booked and paid. See you at 'THE CRICKETERS' at 12.30 for 1pm. on the 11th of December 2018.

### **Property needed urgently!**

Our parish TELCO group is looking for 2,3 or 4 bedroom flat or house in Redbridge for a refugee family. They will be entitled to local housing rate but a top up can be negotiated. We have a whole team of volunteers who will be supporting the family and helping them start their new lives here. Please contact us on [gemmabourdillon3@hotmail.com](mailto:gemmabourdillon3@hotmail.com)

## **Church Cleaning**

**Thursday 13th December at 9am.**

Kath Mahoney, Jac Edwards, Emily Hannon, Sheila Charles and Iwona Moreno.

### **Christmas Church Cleaning**

An early reminder that we will be doing the big clean on Wednesday **19th December at 10.30am**. Please put a note in your diary. We are all very busy at this time of year but if we get a good crowd it will take no time at all. Please try to spare half an hour of your time. Thank you.

### **Loyola School Vacancy**

After School Club Leader for Jan/Feb 2019. For further information, please see the school website [www.loyola.essex.sch.uk](http://www.loyola.essex.sch.uk). Closing date 18/01/19.

### **Trinity Vacancy**

- *Higher Level Teaching Assistant, ASAP.*
- *Teacher of Science.*
- *Teacher of PE.*
- *SEN Teaching Assistant.*

Candidates visit the schools website for more details <http://fc.tchs.uk.net/vacancies.shtml> and email applications to [recruitment@fc.tchs.uk.net](mailto:recruitment@fc.tchs.uk.net).

### **Room wanted**

Hard working 60 years old male is looking for a room to rent in the local area, references available. Please contact Gloria 07946652262.