

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Kathy Howes wishes to send her thanks to everyone for all the prayers, cards and best wishes she received during her illness.

Lately dead:

Marie-Christine Ketteridge

May she rest in peace

Anniversaries:

Louis Ah-Lim, Mary Chappell, Lotte O'Neill, Kathleen Stokes, Georgine Easter, Sister Patrick Moriarty, Josefa Vargas, Evelyn Cook, Letteria DeCesare, John Vernon, Eleizabeth Wipijeski, Richard Langley, Kathleen O'Hara, Hugh Patrick Bowler, Anne Hickford, Sister Francis Kavanagh, Mary Quaine, Michael Millar, Danny O'Leary, Sister Maurita O'Leary, Lajos (Louis) Szukics, Braz Joseph De Sa.

Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection this weekend for Lourdes sick and helpers pilgrimage fund.

Don't Forget

The clocks go forward this weekend

Mass Timetable

The masses on Saturday evening and Sunday at St Thomas' are live streamed

SUNDAY MASSES

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

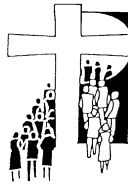


Join us for tea/coffee after Sunday Mass in the Becket Centre

10am Chigwell Convent

WEEKDAY MASSES

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



Each Friday in Lent
we conduct the Way of the Cross at 8pm .

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30 to 11am
and
5.15 to 5.45 pm

BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays
of the month

The Parish Office

The office will be closed on Tuesday 28th March for staff training.



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686

Friary: 020 8504 1688

Email: parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org



Website: www.stthomaswoodford.org

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



Served by the Franciscans

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A) 26th March 2023

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

Lazarus, the friend of Jesus and the brother of Martha and Mary, is at the centre of today's Gospel. Lazarus is brought back to life in Jesus' spectacular and final "sign", as miracles are termed in John's Gospel.

First Reading Ezekiel 37:12-14

Through the prophet, the Lord speaks to the community in exile: "I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live."

Second Reading Romans 8:8-11

Paul focuses on how God's Spirit lives in us.

Gospel John 11:1-45

The extraordinary account of the final sign that Jesus gave – the raising of Lazarus from death itself.

Responsorial Psalm

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption



Jubilees

Michael and I asked you to come to our mass last Sunday to share our joy and thank God for our happy and much-blessed years of priesthood. We wanted nothing more and you respected that wish. But how well you contributed to make a heartfelt mass and celebration in Becket. We thank you: for many cards, for your presence, for all the affirmation you gave us. My childhood memories are of there always being priests in our home, not least because I had 3 uncles friar-priests. Their example drew me and I started at the ridiculously early age of 16, and rarely looked back. The parish was always our priority in those days, to be confirmed by what we have known since ordination. I thank you of the Catholic Women's League for much generosity and expertise in preparing the decoration, the cake and the buffet. We are still blessed in sharing the parish with you. Thank you.

Communion from the chalice

The bishops have given "permission" for us to resume this practice, prohibited till now because of covid. The same bishops have in the past month required all Parish Priests to view 3 hours instructing us in detail of our duty of care. You see one example in the nosings of many steps now marked in vivid yellow lest you trip. Such details are the bishops' concern for you. We have consulted medical experts about the risk of sharers of the chalice contracting covid. Their advice told us the risk is high. Still higher for the minister and priest who must consume the precious blood remaining. Consequently we have decided that we will not offer the opportunity of drinking from the chalice at communion. Jesus is totally present in the host. Our concentration must be on him, keeping all safe from infection. We do care for your health and safety.

Children's liturgy at Sunday 10 am mass.

We hope to be able to begin a limited service shortly after Easter. Several have generously volunteered to provide this care and teaching opportunity. Still we do need more ready to help. But whether helper or not everyone can do more. Stories are essential. From them we learn. I notice you bring many books to keep your children occupied at mass. But I do not see any of them relating to what we are doing and for what you bring your children to mass. So we are preparing to offer you some suggestions of suitable booklets for stories and colouring. They will not be of Peppa Pig, Captain Marvel or dinosaurs. Rather of Jesus and those around him. The bible is full of glorious tales. I hope after Easter some will begin to appear in our excellent church shop.



Lenten Lunches

The final Lenten lunch for 2023 will take place on 31st March from 12.15 to 1.30 pm. Do come and join us for a choice of home-made soups, French bread and butter, with tea or coffee to follow, all for £5. The proceeds will go to Mary's Meals, feeding schoolchildren in Haiti.

Easter Triduum

Many thanks to all (Ministers of Communion, Readers, Ushers, Sacristans & volunteers for the "Washing of the Feet") who generously offered to help with the Easter Services, the response was marvellous. The rotas will be published during the coming week

Mass Intentions

Sunday 26th March

8.30 William Green RIP
10 Jim Aungthin RIP
11.30 Mary & Carl Knights intentions

Monday 27th March

Bernie Maloney ill
Alec Murphy anniversary
M Adelaide RIP

Tuesday 28th March

Francis Chalk RIP
Ian Pitt RIP

Wednesday 29th March

John Vernon anniversary
Michael, Sarah & Sally McLoughlin RIP
Giulia Da Cruz

Thursday 30th March

William Chalk RIP
Serrilli family

Friday 31st March

Da Cruz family
C.W.L

Saturday 1st April

10 Sr Sandra Birthday
6 Pat Quinn RIP

Sunday 2nd April

8.30 Chester Wheeler 2 year old (ill)
10 Marie Ramstead RIP
11.30 Bridie Maher RIP

Holy Week

The 11.30 mass next Sunday will begin in the Becket for the procession of palms. On Holy Saturday the Easter Vigil will be exceptional in that we will welcome 12 new members fully into our church in its parish family. Such a number deserves a special welcome, which we will do in a reception in Becket after the service. Please come to this and all the week's special liturgies and lend your voices, for our choir singers are dwindling in number.

Church Cleaning

BIG EASTER CLEAN

4th April 11am

If you have spare time please come along and help.

Trinity Vacancies

- School Counsellor (Part time)
- Psychology and Sociology teacher

Please visit the school website for more information.

Lift to 6pm Mass

A parishioner is looking for a lift to 6pm Mass in Woodford on Saturday every few weeks. If you can help please contact the Parish Office in the first instance

Support available

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society offers therapeutic support directly to children, young people, families and parents through their Child and Family Counselling Service (CFCS).

Families can contact BCCS directly by emailing Catherine Munns cmunns@bccs.org.uk

There is a charge for this service but they urge any families needing support to contact them. More information is available on their website: www.bccs.org.uk

Tutor

R.E. G.C.S.E. and Philosophy & Ethics A Level tutor available. Please contact Laura on 07894 742 531 for further information.