PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anniversaries: Arthur Bailey, John Kenny, Sister Marian Dewhirst, Margaret Waites, Damiana D'Costa, Paul Shipperlee, Albert Currie, Margaret McHugh, George Cowan, Romei Guisto, Michael Linnane, Ellen Mahoney, Annie O'Brien, Mary Atwell, John Moore, John Newman, Chevonne Lobo, Mary Deima, Andrew Jeffreys, Margaret Mason, John Bailey, Annie Galligan, Fredrick Hayes, Rose Neville, Pauline Goodsman, Derek Blogg, Frank Dewey, Sylvia Hawkins, Teresa Brownlow, Mary Dooley, Patrick Duggan, Joseph Kinsella, Giuseppe Pallpttolo, Domenico Villacci, Julia Zykun, Bridget Craven, Gabrielle Dave, Maureen Dodsley, Cynthia Haskins, Mary Hendry, Paul McDonald, Elsie Albrecht, Margaret Durcan, Daniel O'Halloran, Martha Spencer, Ermelinda Trotta, Ernest Turpin, Beatrice Balmer, Mary Black, Theo Carver, Elizabeth Voisey, Kelly Hugh, Phyllis Kinsella, Mary Flynn, Nora Gallagher, Minnie Nash, Harry Donovan, Ersilia Fazzani, Frank O'Shea, Patricia Tish, Kathleen Johnson, Ann Maher, Kathleen Naismith, Mary Spillane.

Lately dead: Peig Tynan, Maria Graves

May they rest in peace

Funeral at St Thomas'

Maria Graves's funeral will take place on the 2nd of January at 10am

Franciscan Vocation Talks 3rd & 4th of January

Single Catholic men. 18-43 years of age, interested in the Franciscan Life Are invited to join us upstairs in the **Becket Centre**

Friday: 3rd January

5-5.45pm, "Franciscan Prayer"

Saturday: 4th January

12noon-12.45pm, "Life and Spirituality

of St. Francis"

2.30pm to 3.15pm, "Franciscan History" 4pm to 4.45pm, "Franciscan Formation" 7.30pm to 8.15pm "Franciscan Ministry now + the Future"

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

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





A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686
Friary: 020 8504 1688
Email: parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org

4th Sunday of Advent Cycle A 22nd December 2019

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

We come together as the people of God, knowing that God is with us and walks with us through life. With a deep sense of trust, we gather to offer our thanks and praise to the Lord.

First Reading Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord gives a sign of his presence with his people: the maiden is with child.

Second Reading Romans 1:1-7

Jesus was proclaimed Son of God through his resurrection from the dead.

Gospel Matthew 1:18-24

Joseph's dream and God's dream.

Responsorial Psalm

Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.



To receive the newsletter by email please sign up on our parish website www.stthomaswoodford.org or mail communications@stthomaswoodford.org

Message from the Parish Priest

As year's end approaches I thank God and you for a very full and successful year of the life of St Thomas' parish. It has been a year of much prayer – together and individual - of teaching and nurturing, caring and healing and a measure of reconciliation. For this you deserve much credit.

We are engaged in a development of shared responsibility. Increasingly you are taking on responsibility for all the ingredients which together comprise the living growth of a parish. We still have some way to go. It is you who have put in the hard work, the regular and constant attention to all the details of planning, thinking ahead, and the needs and delicate touches which you know enrich your own domestic life and have their counterpart in building the family of the parish.

We friars are much blessed by your sharing with our life, with your support and appreciation. We wish you all blessings through the Christmas season.

And we look forward to the next stage of our shared endeavour beginning with the New Year.



Parish Office

The Parish Office will be closed from 23rd December until 2nd January 2020.

The next newsletter will be produced for Sunday 12th January 2020.

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve St Thomas'

3pm (Children's) 5.15pm m to be recorded/on-line

7:30pm to be recorded/on-line 10pm

Chigwell

Office of readings with carols 8.30pm.
Night mass at 9pm

Christmas Day St Thomas'

8.30am 10am (family) 11.30am

St James 9am Chigwell 10am

JANUARY 2020

Sunday 5th January The Epiphany of the Lord—Masses at usual times



Thursday 9th January Holy Communion Parents meeting 8pm

Bereavement Support group 7.30pm

Friday 10th January
Assisi Lunch in the Becket Centre

Christmas collections

Your offerings at the Christmas Masses will be for the Friars, if you do not have a gift aid envelope but wish your offering to be gift aided please use the yellow envelope available at the back of church.

Christmas Masses at St Thomas

The rotas for the Masses are displayed at the back of the church, on the lefthand side as you leave. If you have volunteered vour services, please check the list on your way out. Some Masses / Ministries were oversubscribed and others left with "vacancies". On the table at the back of the church is a list of what we still require, in particular: Ministers of Communion for the 3pm. 5:15pm, 7:30pm & 10pm masses on Christmas Eve. Sacristans for the 5:15pm & 7:30pm masses on Christmas Eve and the 10:00 mass on Christmas Day. Ushers for the 3pm, 5:15pm, 7:30pm on Christmas Eve and the 10am Mass on Christmas Day. If you can help, please add vour name.

Notice Boards

In January we will be reviewing the contents of the notice boards in the Church porch area. This will involve removing all current posters etc. and deciding what will be placed on the boards in future.

Restoration Fund

Why not make your New Year Resolution to support our fundraising campaign. Appeals will be made in January and February. Happy Christmas to you all from The Friends of St Thomas of Canterbury.

Newspapers

To remind you that from January 2020 the Catholic newspapers will only be supplied by pre ordering/paying for them from the Parish Office. If you would like us to set up a subscription please contact us as soon as possible.

Brentwood Diocese

Have vacancies for a management accountant, safety office and parish support assistant. Please visit their website for more information.

Church Cleaning Saturday 4th January at 10.30am

Charmaine Turnell, Deborah Butterworth, Rachel Woolf, Rosie O'Connor, Deborah McNamara, Cathy Daley, Kathleen Mahoney

Friday 10th January at 9am

Christine Acons, Claire Hobbs, Julia Bever, Susanna Barnoin, Liz Atkinson, Josie Kieron

Volunteers Event -Places available

St Thomas' thrives because of the large band of volunteers that keep it alive, active and well cared for. The Parish Council would like to thank you all for your contribution to parish life and our community. We would like to invite those who can come to a small social event on 25th January 2020 between 7 & 9pm. We would love to be able to embrace you all at this event but alas, numbers have to be restricted to the numbers that can be accommodated in the Hall. Therefore, on a first come first served basis if you can come along can you please email parishoffice@stthomaswoodofrd.org as soon as possible. Whether you attend or not please accept our thanks for your role in our parish life and a mass will be offered for all your intentions on that day.

Mass Online

Saturday vigil mass will be recorded and available to view online. To view it visit www.stthomaswoodford.org Click Mass Online, then click on Online Mass.

SVP

Thank you for the generous donations given to our collection last weekend. The monies will be used to help families in need locally. Sincere thanks for your support, we could not help those in need without it.