

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lately dead:

- ◇ Stuart Richie
- ◇ Claire Pearce

Stuart Ritchie, one of the Parish's elder statesmen, died last weekend. Stuart played an active role in Parish life. He and his wife Doreen were stalwarts of the Saturday 6pm mass with Doreen playing the organ and Stuart as Reader and Minister of Communion; both were key figures in the Journey of faith group. Stuart served on the parish finance committee and also part of the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal in Brentwood. After Doreen's death, Stuart soldiered on and up until 3 months ago continued to drive himself to mass, a very private and independent man, but one who enriched this parish with his many years of faithful service. We send our condolences to his three daughters and extended family. "Well done good and faithful servant" May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory!

Anniversaries:

Francis Drennan, Michael England, Sister Imelda Manning, Houghton Sandra, Anthony Carden, Nino Jomaa, Charlotte Spencer, Catherine Dalli, Angela Douglas, Matthew Glendenning, Michael Lynch, Michael Scully, Paul Julien, Georgina Mack, Raymund McGill, Frances McKeown, Constanza Bowman, Susan Gillespie, Kevin O'Brien, Sister Xavier Pitts, Maria Sell, Elsie Valles.

Caremark Redbridge

Provides private care home services to those in need within our community. It is run by a prisoner of a local parish. More information can be found on the Church notice Board or on their website at www.caremark.co.uk/redbridge

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

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30 to 11am
and
5.15 to 5.45 pm

BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays
of the month

St Thomas' Prayer Group

Will be held in the Becket Centre on Saturday mornings 10.30 to 11.30am
All welcome.



Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection this weekend for Prisoners Sunday

Lost property

Items of lost property will be placed in the porch next weekend. Any items not reclaimed will be disposed of



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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 15th October 2023

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

We are invited to share in our Mass together. It is God who invites us. How do we respond to that invitation, joyfully or reluctantly? Do we come out of a sense of duty or because deep down we are fully aware of what that invitation signifies?

First Reading Isaiah 25:6-10

We exult and rejoice because the Lord in whom we hoped has saved us.

Second Reading Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

The Lord gives us the strength to be ready for anything, anywhere.

Gospel Matthew 22:1-14

The Lord invites us all to his celebratory feast.

Responsorial Psalm

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever



The Synod in Rome

This an extract from Pope Francis opening remarks.

Given what he says, it is significant that the meeting is of groups of about ten people around tables: not an auditorium with a speaker addressing an audience.

“Brothers and sisters, let us experience this moment of encounter, listening and reflection as a *season of grace* that, in the joy of the Gospel, allows us to recognize at least *three opportunities*.

First, that of moving *not occasionally but structurally* towards a *synodal Church*, an open square where all can feel at home and participate.

The Synod then offers us the opportunity to become a *listening Church*, to break out of our routine and pause from our pastoral concerns in order to stop and listen. To listen to the Spirit in adoration and prayer. Today how much we miss the prayer of adoration; so many people have lost not only the habit but also the very notion of what it means to worship God! To listen to our brothers and sisters speak of their hopes and of the crises of faith present in different parts of the world, of the need for a renewed pastoral life and of the signals we are receiving from those on the ground.

Finally, it offers us the opportunity to become a *Church of closeness*. Let us keep going back to God’s own “style”, which is closeness, compassion and tender love. God has always operated that way. If we do not become this Church of closeness with attitudes of compassion and tender love, we will not be the Lord’s Church. Not only with words, but by a presence that can weave greater bonds of friendship with society and the world. A Church that does not stand aloof from life, but immerses herself in today’s problems and needs, bandaging wounds and healing broken hearts with the balm of God. Let us not forget God’s style, which must help us:

closeness, compassion and tender love.”

Confirmation Programme 2023/4

We would like to invite year 10—13 students who are registered parishioners and who attend Mass at St Thomas to apply to join our 2023/4 confirmation programme. Please complete the registration form which can be found at the back of the Church. The closing date for applications is 31st October 2023 at 1.30pm.

Date for your diary

Our Christmas fayre will take place on **25th November** at Trinity School Lower site from 12—4pm. We will need **volunteers** to help set up, run stalls and clear up. If you can help for a couple of hours please contact the parish office. We are also looking for **donations** of unopened bottles, unwanted gifts, raffle prizes, good condition toys & teddies, these can be left in the church porch.

BEAVERS

Should you wish your child to join Beavers, you need to ensure that you have put their name on the waiting list. Beavers start at 6 years old and then move on to Cubs when they are 8. They meet on a Monday night for 1 hour from 6.15pm at the Scout hut alongside the Becket Centre. An application form can be obtained by emailing the beaver leader
paulineelkin616@gmail.com

Tickets on Sale!!

International Food Evening

On **Saturday 21st October** in the Beckett Centre at 19:30 we shall be hosting the International Food Evening. Tickets are now available for purchase from the parish office or if you are unable to get to the parish office, email michellespears@live.co.uk to reserve your ticket.



Mass Intentions

Sunday 15th October

8.30 Bernadette Craft RIP
10 People of the Parish
11.30 Marie Hill RIP

Monday 16th October

Stella & Charles McKay anniversary
Jim Cunningham RIP
Chigwell Mary Collins RIP

Tuesday 17th October

Jeanie Day RIP
Patrick Gilligan RIP

Wednesday 18th October

Deceased of Di Palma family
Deceased of Fernando & Gomez families
Christina Nealsu sick

Thursday 19th October

Bernie Dillon RIP
Janina Baranowska RIP
Iannou family

Friday 20th October

Rita Nanayakkara sick
Peggy Egan RIP
Norma D’Vaz RIP

Saturday 21st October

10 Ann Gorman RIP
6 Tina Kerr RIP

Sunday 22nd October

8.30 Michael Carrig RIP
10 Joan Bright RIP
11.30 Chris Bell RIP
Chigwell John Walsh

The **Bi-Annual Concelebrated Requiem Mass** at St. Patrick’s Cemetery, Leytonstone E11 4HL, will be on Monday 13th November at 11.30am

Church Cleaning
Friday 20th October at 9am
Claire Hobbs, Julia Bever,
Susanna Barnoin, Susan Juffs,
Agatha Emohare & Michelle Liddle

GCSE and A Level English Tutor
I am an experienced teacher and ex head of department. I have spaces available for students studying English GCSE and A Level. If you are interested in a free trial lesson please contact me on 07736402243 or lindaecompton32@yahoo.com.

School vacancies

Trinity

Teachers of Geography & Music,

Exam invigilators

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Stanford-le-Hope

Assistant Headteacher
Please visit the school website for more information

“Giro D’Italia” Wine Tasting Event

Thursday 19 October 2023 7.15pm
Following the success of last year’s event, The Catenians’ Epping Forest Circle is sponsoring an Italian wine tasting evening in the Becket Centre, in aid of **St Francis Hospice**. Tickets £30/head includes wine sampling and light snacks
Please text for tickets
Bernard ([07867908814](tel:07867908814)) or Iain ([07806998187](tel:07806998187)).

2 boxes of Ensure (food supplement) available for whoever would like it. Contact Therese McLeary on 07554 420349 if interested.