

**PRAY
FOR THE
SICK**



Lately dead:

◇ Susan Lim

May she rest in peace

Anniversaries:

Veronica Boe, John Burnham,
Francesco Faccini, Jocelyn Sonderskov,
Ferrucio Pieropan, 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.

A BIG THANK YOU

Fr Isidore expresses grateful thanks all those who sent Get Well Mass Cards and remembered him in their prayers after his operation and rehabilitation. He continues the rehabilitation in the Friary and asks your continued prayers for a full recovery. May the Lord bless you and keep you.

Retiring Collection

There will a retiring collection after all mases this weekend for SVP

HOLY WEEK

◇ **Monday 25th March**
Mass at St Thomas': 10am –
Chigwell Convent: 9:30am
Service of Reconciliation at St Thomas'
7.30pm A number of priests will be
available to hear confessions.

◇ **Tuesday 26th March**
Mass at St Thomas': 10am
Chigwell Convent: 9:30am

◇ **Wednesday 27th March**
Mass at St Thomas': 10am
Chigwell Convent: 9:30am

◇ **Thursday 28th March**
No Morning Mass,
Morning Prayer: 10am at St Thomas
Mass of the Lord's Supper – 8pm at St
Thomas' & Chigwell.

◇ **Friday 29th March**
Morning Prayer: 10am at St Thomas'
10.30am Stations of the Cross for children
**3pm at St. Thomas' and
Chigwell Convent**
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Stations of the Cross: 7.30pm – St
Thomas'

◇ **Saturday 30th March**
Morning Prayer: 10am at St Thomas'
The Polish Blessing of the Easter Baskets
"Swieconka" will be held at 11am at St
Thomas'. There will be tea/coffee in the
Becket Centre after the Food Blessing.

Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter
**8.00pm at St. Thomas' & Chigwell
Convent**

Everyone is invited for cheese and wine in
the Becket Centre afterwards.

◇ **Sunday 31st March**
Masses: St. Thomas' 8.30am, 10am and
11.30am



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
Woodford Green
A FAIRTRADE PARISH



Parish Office: 020 8504 1686 Website: www.stthomaswoodford.org
Friary: 020 8504 1688 Facebook: @STOCWoodford
Email: parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org Twitter: @STOCWoodford

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)
24th March 2024

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

We need courage to make new beginnings and to move beyond the letter of the law to embrace its God-given spirit. Jesus showed us the possibilities. Where do I stand?

First reading
Isaiah 50:4-7

The true disciple doesn't abandon God despite opposition and so, in turn, is not abandoned by God.

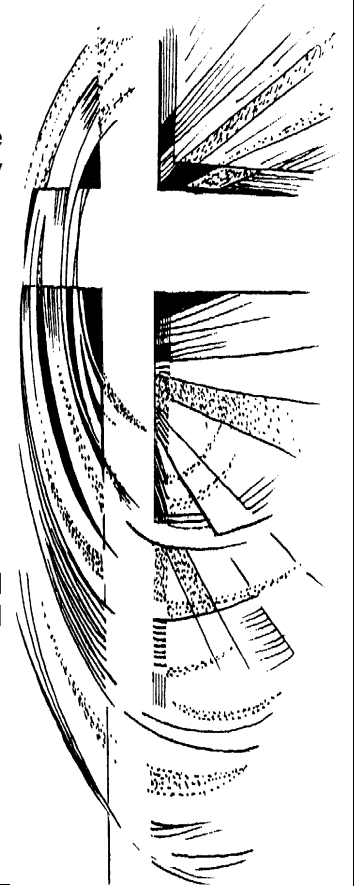
Second reading
Philippians 2:6-11

Jesus did not exploit his equality with God.

Gospel
Mark 14:1-15:47

An unnamed woman ignores convention and anoints Jesus' feet with expensive perfume and her tears.

Responsorial Psalm
My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?



PARTICIPATION IN THE EASTER TRIDUUM

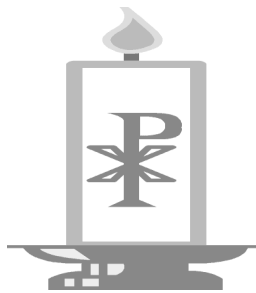
It starts on Holy Thursday evening with a sense of the church gathered in fraternity with the Lord who is making provision for us for all time; he is establishing the sacrifice of the New Testament; his enduring legacy. The evening starts with a warm being together with Christ. He longed to share this Passover meal with us and in washing of the feet, He tells us we are to serve the world. However, the transitory nature of our life here is expressed because the evening ends with foreboding and the invitation to watch and pray. We invited to stay and watch a while with Christ, that evil will not overcome us. Christ's presence enables us to overcome all the evil the world can serve up. In some sense I think that this is the worse agony for Christ. The devil is coming back for "his appointed time" after the Temptation in the wilderness. Christ triumphs in the agony in the Garden, He is determined to do the Father's Will and while on the next day there is an orgy of hatred and cruelty, He is calm through it. His bravery to calls us to be strong in the time of temptation.

On Good Friday, the Cross is venerated and becomes the focus to which we genuflect and show our affection. We should not be ashamed of the Cross as mankind's attempt to get rid of God but be uplifted by it, because it reveals the depth of God's love for us. On the other hand, it should convince us of the great tragedy that sin is and help us to find it repugnant and do all we can to avoid it. This liturgy often leaves me with an empty feeling of absence. That is part of our life with God in this world. It is also a feeling that things are not complete and we wait for the completion on the Saturday night.

The Vigil starts with the Paschal Candles as the focus; new fire, new light, the praise of Christ the Light come into the world. Then the story of salvation. May be, if you have the imagination, we could think of ourselves as a pilgrim people gathered around the fire hearing the stories of our people. The scriptures started as an oral tradition and the way in which the people came to belong was hearing the stories of our people. It all builds up to the story of the triumph of Jesus in the defeat of death; the story of liberation and salvation. This atmosphere can be re-created by reading in candle-light and then the burst of light as the Gloria begins the joy of Easter. Then we get into the renewal of life in the Baptism liturgy. The humble and useful element water that has been absent from church for a few days is blessed with a blessing that recounts the story of how God has used water to liberate us.

Then we joyfully renew our vows committing ourselves again to live the life of Christ in our own lives.

In a word, in the Easter Triduum, we travel with Christ in our prayer with the Church in order to Passover with Him to the risen life, which starts in this world, and will be fulfilled in the world to come.



Mass Intentions

Sunday 24th March

8.30 Mary Lee anniversary
10 Halyna Syzonenko anniversary
11.30 John Burnham anniversary

Monday 25th March

Susan Lim RIP
Mary Waure intentions
Denis & Remona Armstrong

Tuesday 26th March

Fr Dennis Hall anniversary
Kay Stokes anniversary

Wednesday 27th March

Jen Holmes intentions
Trinity intentions

Thursday 28th March

C.W.L intentions
Chigwell Sr Elizabeth intentions

Friday 29th March Good Friday

Saturday 30th March

Community & benefactors
Chigwell Sr M M Galvin

Sunday 31st March

8.30 Mick Cusack RIP
10 Bernadette & Peter wedding anniversary
11.30 Carl Knights

Easter Triduum

Many thanks to all who offered their help, once again we were oversubscribed for some ministries/ services. **However, we are still looking for a Sacristan and a further two Ushers for the Easter Vigil Mass**, if you can help, please add your name to the rota. The rotas for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday are displayed on the notice at the back of the church (on the right hand side as you leave)

Washing of the Feet

Would the six people who volunteered for this enactment of Our Lord washing the feet of his disciples, please arrive by 7:45pm and report to the back of the church

Quiz Night 20th April at 7pm

Quiz Night in The Becket Centre to raise funds for the Bursary fund of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service .£5 entry, BYO food and drink, Tables of 8-10 or you can join with others. Raffle donations will be gratefully received. To book please call or text James on 07480 149047

GCSE and A Level English and Media Studies Tutor

I am a retired head of department and currently have vacancies for students studying English or Media Studies. I am fully DBS checked and I offer a trial lesson with absolutely no obligation. Contact Linda - lindaecompton32@yahoo.com

Cleaner sought

Cleaner required for 8 hours per week for a family home in Woodford. Please call Emma on 07787524868.