

The media have made much this week of fears that Muslims are failing to integrate into British life. If there is fault, then it is as much a duty on us to approach them as it is for them to come out to us. Anyone with this preoccupation would have found reassurance in a training afternoon conducted in the Becket Centre on a recent Sunday. Four or five Muslim women joined nine of our parish in a TELCO training session. The women were not at all reticent: sociable, practical, caring, well-informed and active in pressing the authorities to provide affordable housing. Once again TELCO insures that our parish is in contact with the real world and its issues.

24 HOURS ADORATION

The first Mass was celebrated in this church on 20th May 1896. So the 120th anniversary falls next month. It is an appropriate day for us to engage in adoration through 24 hours. So we will start with evening prayer on Friday, 19th May at 6pm. Adoration will continue through the night. Already arranged is a 9am Mass for God's Little Helpers, with Bishop Alan in attendance. For the rest there will be quiet, with frequent but brief assistance to simulate prayer. The day will end with the 6pm Mass on Saturday 20th. I hope the whole parish will engage in this act of prayer. I invite all the component groups that make up our family to give thought to how they will have an input. More anon.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

It has been held in October in recent years. I suggest it would be better to hold it before the summer holidays, and I am grateful to the Parish Council that they have agreed to this. Parish life follows the school annual routine. It starts up afresh in early September and runs down in exhaustion as the end of July approaches.

QUENTIN

CAR PARK CLOSURE

SUNDAY 24TH APRIL 2—4PM

This year our Scout Group are hosting the Annual Epping Forest South District St. George's Day Parade. The first time for some 10 years. We will be closing the Church car park to allow some 400 youngsters and adults to form up and parade into the Church. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

QUIZ NIGHT & CAKE SALE

Three young adults from the parish (Trinity pupils) are volunteering in Lourdes, along with Bishop Alan on the Diocesan Pilgrimage in August. They need to self fund and are therefore hosting a fundraising Quiz Night on 7th May at 7pm in the Becket Centre and would love if you could support them by booking tickets or a table! Please text/telephone Margaret on 07478 868 871 to book your tickets/table.

CAKE SALE

after all Masses this weekend to raise funds. Thank you for your support.

REPOSITORY

First Holy Communion cards and gifts available from the Repository.

ST JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL, WANSTEAD

Requires a Mid-day Assistant. 7.5 hrs per week, term time only. Closing date Tues. 3rd May. Contact the school 020 8989 4700.

OPEN MORNING

9.30—10.30am Thurs. 5th May.

Applications are invited for our Nursery Class to start in Sept. 2016. Girls born between 1.9.12—31.8.13 and Reception Class birthdays between 1.9.11—31.8.12 For more details contact 0208989 4700 enquiries@stjosephsconventschoo.co.uk.

10AM MASS

We need both more singers and instrumentalists to join us so that we can always be available. If you have any musical skills, however minimal, please consider joining us.

ALSO to ensure the childrens' safety at the 10am liturgy we need more adults to help, supervise and care for the 50 or so children in the Becket Centre. We are relying on a very small number of leaders, and they need help just to cope, but also some relief so that they do not always miss out on the adult liturgy of the Word. **Volunteers please**

BEREAVED PARENTS' SERVICE

This afternoon (Sunday) at 4pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and afterwards in the Becket centre for refreshments.

LENTEN LUNCHES

After two very generous donations, the total raised for Mary's Meals now stands at £1,520. Many thanks once again to all who contributed.

15TH WOODFORD GUIDES

We are looking for guide uniform that you may have grown out of or you don't need any more. If you have any, please contact Janet on 07803810666.

TELCO

28th April 2016

Copper Box, Olympic Park London Citizens' Mayoral Accountability Assembly. Although a few people have yet to confirm we have a full quota of 52 people with a waiting list. This turnout is due in no small measure to the generosity of the Parish Council funding the coach.

PLEASE NOTE

Teas and coffees will not be served in the Becket Centre during the month of May due to 1st Communion Masses.

VOCATIONS SUNDAY

The happiest workers are priests, according to a UK government job satisfaction survey carried out in 2014. The research concluded that members of the clergy enjoy the most satisfying lives and are happiest in their work.

Please pray for the beatification of Fr. Thomas Byles who was parish priest of Ongar 1870-1912. There are cards available from the back of the church.

There will be a Diocesan Collection after all Masses for Vocations.

CWL

The Catholic Women's League is an international organisation serving the parish and the wider church and enjoying spiritual and social activities. Members engage in events to whatever extent is appropriate to them. If you are interested in joining this lively group of women please come to the Becket Centre, after the 10am or the 11.30am Mass. All women, whether young or young at heart are most welcome.

CHURCH FLOWERS

Thank you to the ladies who have offered to help arrange the flowers in St. Thomas'. You may notice that we now have two pedestals. Guidance has commenced! Just come along on a Thursday at 2pm for about an hour to see whether you may like to get involved. It is very therapeutic. You may like to work in teams of two to start with. Once everyone is confident then we can compile a rota and share the ministry. **Grateful thanks Barbara.**

BAPTISMS

If you need to attend a baptism course for your first child, please contact the parish office for details. Baptisms take place on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick:-

Mike Angelo, Baby Oliver Barker, Angela Barrett, Miss Terry Bennett, Betty Bere, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Harry Butler, Genevieve Campbell, Eustage Chesley, Claire, Cicely Croxton, Claver D'Souza, Lewis Cullinan, Teresa Daly, Tilly Deehy, Don Dourado, Betty Fielding, Chris Fitzgerald, Franca Francioni, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Karen Gallagher, Trish Gardner, Mary Grisdale, Cynthia Gregory, Doris Harriss, Wendy Holland, Imelda Lohan, Lauren, Camille Malone, Bridie McCoy, Mary McKay, Claudia McNulty, Roger Machin, Jutta Menzies, Pat Morgan, Miriam Mullally, Kathleen Preston, Anneli Prowse, Jacky Rott, Dermot Ryle, Astrid Turner, Mary Quaine.

And for all the sick and housebound of the parish.

Franca and Michael Francioni and family would like to thank everybody for their prayers, cards and Mass cards over the past few weeks. A Mass will be said for your intentions.

Anniversaries:- Dominic Correia, James Brown, Patrick & Nora Neary, Hazel Wilding, Mary Wilkinson, Leo Nzekwu.

Latelty Dead:- Betty Bere, Peter Austin Brown, Frank Parsliffe, Luciano Rocca, Hugh Sigrist.

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

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Juliette Woodleigh

(Deputy Head Trinity School)

Conducted by Fr. Quentin O.F.M. at Trinity School Chapel, Mornington Road on Friday, 13th May at 7.30pm. Finger bites after the service.

CHURCH CLEANING

Friday 9am 22nd April Margaret Chung, Jennifer Sorrell, Christabel Wijeweera, Francesca Cushion, Liz Atkinson.

ENJOY YOUR LIFE MUM!

Free Walking Meet up Group for Happy Mamas, organized by Anya—Life Coach. Please join me every Sunday at 11.30am at Connaught Water Car Park for an hour walking, networking and brainstorming sessions. Kids, friends welcome.

EARLY YEARS/KSI/KS2 CLASS TEACHERS

The Ursuline Preparatory School, Ilford are seeking to appoint qualified teachers. Applications are welcome from new entrants to the profession and from established teachers keen to contribute to the further development of teaching and learning. For more information contact 020 8518 4050 or via www.urspsi.org.uk

NEW TO THE PARISH?

Please register with the parish office.

St Thomas of Canterbury

557/559 High Road, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0RB

Served by the Franciscans



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

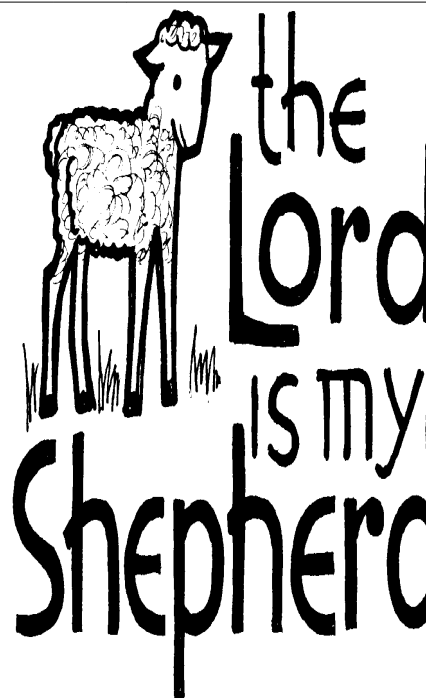


Tel: 020 8504 1686 Fax: 020 8504 1844

Email: parishoffice@friar.org Web: www.stthomaswoodford.org

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER CYCLE C

17TH APRIL 2016



Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Let us listen to the voice of Jesus, the good shepherd, and hear how and where he is calling each one of us.

First Reading (Acts 13:14. 43-52)

The preaching of Paul and Barnabas is well received by the Jewish community in Antioch, but their leaders are so opposed to it that Paul directs his mission instead to the pagans.

Second Reading (Apocalypse 7:9. 14-17)

In his vision of heaven, John sees a huge crowd standing before the throne of God. These will have the Lamb as their shepherd who will lead them to living water.

(Gospel) (John 10:27-30)

The sheep entrusted to Jesus by the Father listen to his voice and are kept safe for eternal life.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.