

Austin, ofm

We cannot guarantee life, safety, salvation, or forgiveness for ourselves or for those we love. Maturity depends upon accepting this with trust rather than anxiety. We can only do our best, whatever our place in life, wherever we stand, whatever our limitations, and trust that this is enough.

Scripture says: transform jealousy, anger, bitterness and hatred rather than give them back in kind: Any anger pain or tension that we do not transform we will transmit; we must be like water purifiers, holding the poisons and toxins inside of us and giving back just the pure water. There comes a time of challenge to lay aside our protest banners and placards and take up a basin and a towel. The message today is: if the only prayer you ever said was thank-you that would be enough.

LENTEN TALKS

Wednesdays 12th, 19th, 26th March and 2nd, 9th April at 8pm in the Becket Centre.
Fr. Austin “ The Big Question—Why does God allow suffering?”

PALMS

Please bring in your last year’s palms for ashes. Grateful thanks.

ASSISI LUNCH

Friday, 28th February in the Becket Centre.

THE POPE’S FIRST LETTER

Available from the repository—price £4.95. Diocesan Directories are also available.

CWL

NATIONAL COFFEE MORNING

Tea and coffee will be served in the Becket Centre on Sunday, 2nd March after 10am and 11.30am Masses. Please come and meet us and find out more about this active group in our parish.

ADMISSIONS TO ST ANTONY’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY

Closing date for receipt of forms is mid-day on Monday, 24th February 2014.

CHURCH CLEANING

Friday 10.30am 28th February, Rachel Varney, Lisa McDonnell, Carole Burns, Sheila Charles, Janet Walker.

WELCOME

We welcome into the parish community Louie Kelly and Maeve Maria O’Connell who were baptised last weekend in St. Thomas’.

CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP QUIZ NIGHT

Sat. 1st March 7.30pm for 8pm start at Trinity Catholic High School Upper Site. £10 per person (includes Ploughmans Supper). Bring your own drinks and glasses. Max 8 people per table. ‘Phone Ann Kyndt 020 8989 9032 for tickets.

HOLY FAMILY LAY ASSOCIATES

Meeting at Maureen’s House on Monday, 3rd March at 7.30pm

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2014

Mon. 24th Feb—Sun 9th March. Cheap bananas threaten farmers’ future. Make a difference during Fairtrade Fortnight. Buy only Fairtrade bananas. Together we can make bananas fair. Go to <http://foncho.fairtrade.org.uk> to find out more.

SACRED HEART COMPANIONS

Will have their monthly meeting on Monday, 3rd of March at 2pm at Chigwell Convent.

ASSISTED DYING

An Assisted Dying Bill to legalise assisted suicide is currently before Parliament. There is often confusion about what “assisted dying! Means. This briefing note explains simply and clearly what the issues are, and what the Church says. Copies of this short briefing note from the Bishops Conference of England and Wales are available at the back of the Church or on the website www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide-information.

QUESTIONS ON LIVING THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

You are warmly invited to attend an evening to ask questions on living the Catholic faith, with a special emphasis on Marriage and Family Life on Wed. 10th March at SS Peter and Paul Parish Centre, Ilford High Road, Ilford IG1 1QP from 7.30pm. Your questions can be on moral issues, the church in today’s world, Catholic marriage and family life or any question you may have always wanted to find the answer to. Our experienced panel members will help you! Wine and nibbles provided. Further details from 020 8478 0583 or the Commission for Evangelisation and Formation on 01277 265289.

SOUP RUN FOR THE HOMELESS



We are up London again on Wednesday night and would be grateful to receive sandwiches, fruit, cakes, sweets and warm men’s clothing. Items can be left in the parish office on Wednesday morning or in the Becket Centre between 6.30pm and 8pm on Wednesday evening. With more and more people finding it hard to live on the income they have we find they are turning to soup runs for help. Please continue to support us.

TEACHER OF MATHS

Trinity Catholic High School, wishes to appoint a Teacher of Maths with effect from Easter 2014. The successful candidate will be a practising Catholic. Full details and an application form are available on the school website <http://fc.tchs.uk.net> or email Margaret.keegan@fc.tchs.uk.net.

FRENCH TUITION

By native French teacher, UK qualified, Valid CRB, 14 years’ experience teaching all levels. Call Lauren 07950674947.

ENGLISH NANNY

Looking for full time (5 days) work). I am Jessica, and am a fully qualified nursery nurse/nanny with many years’ experience to start beginning of March. Contact me on 07703753544.

BRAHMS REQUIEM

South West Essex Choir, Saturday, 5th April 2014 7.30pm at St. Gabriel’s Church, Aldersbrook Road, Wanstead, E12 5HH. Tickets £13, £11 concessions in advance Apply for tickets from ticketsales@southwestessexchoir.org.uk or 020 8554 2830. Leaflets available from the back of the church.

TUESDAY CLUB

It’s the fitness season!. At 2pm on the 25th we’re throwing ourselves into CHAIR YOGA swiftly followed by refreshments. Lycra & trainers NOT required. All adults welcome to the Becket Centre.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

A family with children would like to rent accommodation (2/3 bedrooms) in the Woodford area. Please contact 07975720279 or 07404511427 a.s.a.p.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick:- Phil Archer, Ellen Armstrong, Mary Barnes, Alice Binder, Moira Bisset, Teresa Bonaventure, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Siobhan Davids, Rudi de Burgh, Stanley Desborough, Donald Dourado, Mary Duffy, Michael Durcan, Harold Elston, Alan Farmer, Ray Finney, Fr. Jim Fitzpatrick, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Nora Gaiger, Martin Garnar, Judy & John Gilmartin, Kathleen Gissane, Joan Green, Pat Greene, Lyndsy Greck, Amelia Halfyard, Doris Harriss, Baby Harry Johnson, Sophie Jordan, Phyllis & Geraldine Kelly, Phyllis Kelly, Fr. Austin Kinsella O.F.M., Claire Lauren, Nora Lucey, Mary McKay, Hannah Martin, Paul Mason, Sadie Meade, Jutta Menzies, Kay Meyler, Jean Morgan. Maureen Noden, Betty Norton, Anthony O'Boyle, Mary O'Boyle, Joanne O'Boyle, Fr. Con O'Connell, Janet Pinfold, Anneli Prowse, Jacky Rott, Debbie Smythe, Karen Spencer, Carmel Sweeney, Mary Sullivan, Mary Taylor, Christine Thurston, Teresa Warnock, Terry Wauer, Monica Worsefold.

Lately Dead:- Frank Khan, Mrs Minnie Lynch, Ron Peggs, Kathleen Scott, John Thurston.

SAINSBURY'S VOUCHERS

Mother & Toddler Group are collecting the vouchers. Please bring into the parish office. Grateful thanks.

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

CALLING ALL MUMS, DADS, STAFF & FRIENDS OF ST. ANTONY'S SCHOOL

To help fund raise for the school by running or sponsoring someone who is going to run 13.1 miles on 9th March 2014 at the Roding Valley Half Marathon. Anyone happy to join the St. Antony's running team please contact Aine Wood at ainewood@btinternet.com or sign up at <http://www.rvhm.org.uk/>. If running isn't for you, you can always sponsor those who are at <http://www.justgiving.com/StAntonysSchool>.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

8th April—Fund raising for Ovarian Cancer in the Becket Centre at 7.30pm.

THE HIGHAMS PLAYERS

Present "Separate Tables" two linked plays by Terence Rattigan, to be held at Wanstead House, 21 The Green, E11 2NT. Dates 6th, 7th and 8th March at 8pm and Saturday matinee at 3pm. Tickets:- evenings adults £8, children £4, matinee adults £6, children £3 available from 020 8924 6987 or at the door before performances.

DOMESTIC CLEANING & IRONING

I am able to assist you with any cleaning or ironing duties. Very reliable All areas. Please contact Mags 07944 983825.

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

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME CYCLE A

23RD FEBRUARY 2014



Leviticus 19:1-2.17-18

The First Reading is part of what is known as the Holiness Code in Leviticus. At God's command, Moses gives some practical implications of what it means to be holy.

The Psalm is a song of praise to God, who is perfectly holy, forgiving, compassionate and loving.

Second Reading: Corinthians 3:16-23

St. Paul underlines the countercultural character of Christianity: Godly wisdom seems foolish to the world, and vice versa.

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus continues on from last Sunday's Gospel, this week with hard sayings about non-violent resistance and love of enemies. If this all seems a bit impossible, Jesus' last command seems totally impossible: "you therefore must be perfect". If we remember that we are made in God's image, then although we know we will fail we can at least strive to be perfect like God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **The Lord is compassion and love**

There will be a Diocesan Collection for The Catholic Education Service after all Masses this weekend.