

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Funerals:

Marie-Christine Ketteridge's funeral will take place in St Thomas of Canterbury church on the 5th of April at 2.30pm.

Anniversaries:

Mary Sullivan, Sister Mary Halligan, Richard Routledge, Alice Bryant, Vera Butler, Harry Kenyon, Raymond Stokes, Rosa Meriano, Sam Sebutt, Mary Tucker, Francis Jackson, John Walsh, Harold Clisset, Francis Daly.

Theodore De Freitas, Kathleen McCarthy, Angela Barrett, Joan Looney, Bruna Walker, Claude Barnes, Maria O'Grady, Arthur Smith, John Fells, Francis French, Martin Staunton, Alexander Bedell, Anna-Maria Brinckenhoff, Domina Copindale, Joseph Dalli, George Mace, Veronica Seecharan, Frederick Glock, Piedade Florencio De Sa.

Easter Mass Collections

A reminder that the offertory collections at Easter Masses will be for the Friars. Envelopes are available should you wish this to be gift aided.

**Thank you
Happy Easter**

Holy Week

◇ Monday 3rd April

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 4th April

Mass at St Thomas': 10am
Chigwell Convent: 9:30am

◇ Wednesday 5th April

Mass at St Thomas': 10am
Chigwell Convent: 9:30am
Mass of Chrism (Brentwood Cathedral 11am)

◇ Thursday 6th April

No Morning Mass,
Morning Prayer: 10am at St Thomas
Mass of the Lord's Supper – 8.00pm at St Thomas' & Chigwell.

◇ Friday 7th April

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: 8pm – St Thomas'

◇ Saturday 8th April

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 and traditional Polish Easter cakes after the Food Blessing on Easter Saturday

Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter **8.30pm at St. Thomas' & Chigwell Convent**

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

◇ Sunday 9th April

Masses: St. Thomas' 8.30am, 10am and 11.30am
Chigwell 10am



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



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (A) **2nd April 2023**

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

Our liturgy today turns quickly from triumphal acclamation to betrayal, desertion and death. Yet in the seeming failure of humility, new life bursts forth through the earth-shattering obedience of Christ.

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7

Trust in God enables us to be eloquent in our witness.

Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11

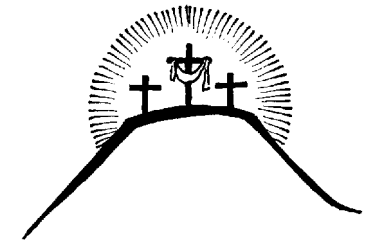
Humility allows God our Father to achieve his plan for us.

Gospel Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

The faithfulness and trust of Jesus are not in vain.

Responsorial Psalm

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



- ◇ The next newsletter will be published for Sunday 16th April
- ◇ The Parish Office will be closed on Friday 14th April

The make-up of Synod

"Too often the church is a prison that does not let the Lord out, that keeps him as its own when the Lord came for mission and wants us to be missionaries. Lay people are not "guests" in the Catholic Church and priests are not the "bosses".

When clergy and laity are focused on sharing the Gospel and helping the poor they draw naturally closer to one another and the complementarity of their gifts becomes obvious.

The need to value the laity does not come from some theological novelty, or even from the functional needs left by a diminishing number of priests. It is based on a correct vision of the church: the church as the people of God. Thus ordained ministers are not the masters, they are the servants; the shepherds not the bosses.

Lay people, especially women, need to be more valued in their human and spiritual skills and gifts for the life of parishes and dioceses." - Pope Francis at a Conference for Laity, family and life.

The Spring issue of **the Troubadour**. It is a gentle glimpse into the quiet part of some of our missionary activity overseas. You see Fr Cornelius here now, with us. He brings good cheer as he hobbles uncomfortably, worn out by decades of service with our brethren in Africa, full of joy from his service there.

Children's Quiz

Do you know inside your Church?

Test your knowledge by encouraging your children to participate in our holy week quiz. The results will be published on the website on Maundy Thursday. Please find the quiz leaflet at the back of the Church. We hope as many as possible participate.

Holy Week

Stories and symbols are important. Basic truths remain fresh when the essential stories are repeated. So this week we accompany Jesus through his final week on earth. **On Thursday** his Passion begins with the Last Supper. We join him as he washes our feet, gives us himself in the symbols of bread and wine.

We follow him into his night of agony and watch and pray as he begged us to do.

On Friday there is no mass. Just a concentration on Jesus' suffering. For children the Way of the Cross at 11am, for us at 8pm. The liturgy is at 3 pm. We go home chilled.

All day **Saturday** the tabernacle is empty. Jesus is dead. The Vigil begins in the dark at 8.30pm. The story of the Exodus from Egypt follows that of Creation. Suddenly fire and light appear: He is risen! Then come our new members: 8 for baptism, 4 more to join fully our family.

This week expresses the richness of our catholic life. We are not spectators. It is a Life involving everyone actively. It picks up the essential elements of sharing a meal, catering for all ages and conditions, the poor, the sick, the migrants. The door of welcome is open to all, offering the promise of forgiveness, of hope, of good things in this life and still better in the life beyond death. Do come to pray through this final week of Jesus' teaching that says so much about his purpose in the troubled world of our present experience.

This year with such a number being received Saturday will be an evening full of joy and drama so do come to enjoy it. And then there will be a welcoming party in Becket following immediately after. You have your part to play in that too. Do not be shy.

Mass Intentions



Sunday 2nd April

8.30 Chester Wheeler ill 2 year old
10 Galyna Syzonenko RIP
11.30 Bridie Maher RIP

Monday 3rd April

Sr Desiree
Trinity intentions

Tuesday 4th April

Michelle & Neil Liddle silver wed
Holy souls

Wednesday 5th April

Mrs Anna Doherty anniversary
Chigwell sisters
Funeral 2.30pm
Christine-Marie Ketteridge

Thursday 6th April

8 Mary Prendergast RIP
Isa Ward

Friday 7th April

No Mass

Saturday 8th April

8.30 Community and benefactors

Sunday 9th April

8.30 Jubilarians ofm
10 Elisa Darke RIP
11.30 Lucy Paul anniversary
Chigwell Andrew Blanchfield
Anniversary

Please check the notice board for mass intentions during week commencing 10th April

There will be an Easter Egg hunt after 10am Mass on Easter Sunday!

Church Cleaning

- **BIG EASTER CLEAN**
Tuesday, 4th April 11am

If you have spare time please come along to assist

- **Thursday, 13 April 9am**
Sue Mansbridge, Jackie John
Mary Charter, Srimathie Cruz
Margaret Parkinson

House Clearance

A Parishioner is offering house contents - Woodford Green: beds, dining suite, office furniture, etc. please contact Eileen in the first instance on 01440704789.

FRIARY TENNIS CLUB

Our Quiz will be held in the Becket Centre on Sat 22nd April (7pm for a 7:30 start). We have just had our courts re-laid (at the back of the Friary gardens), so we need your dosh! And it's always an excellent evening too! Contact fcwoodford@gmail.com to book.

Easter Triduum Rotas

The rotas for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday are displayed at the back of the church. Many thanks for all who offered their services and apologies if your name doesn't appear on the rotas - the response was excellent, resulting in all of the services being oversubscribed.

Maundy Thursday - "Washing of the Feet"

Would all those who volunteered for this moving enactment of what took place at the Last Supper, please ensure that you arrive by 8:15pm and report at the back of the church for instructions as to when you will be expected to go up to the sanctuary and where to sit. Towels will be provided but should you wish to bring your own, please feel free to do.