

## **WELCOME BACK**

I hope you have had a good holiday and return refreshed for the new year now beginning. We have an interesting year ahead. The Synod on Family and Marriage convenes in Rome less than a month hence. We have made our contribution. We are part of the work in progress through our prayers. Then we must hear how the debate evolves, reflect on the live currents of faith being lived in the world-wide church. When the participants return home we still have our work to do, giving shape in life to the teaching emerging. In technical language: the Magisterium has to be proclaimed and received. What is highly important is that the Synod does not splinter into divisions. Charity demands unity almost above all.

Next comes the Holy Year of Mercy. Is it a pious platitude? That depends on us.

The regular business of parish life unfolds as usual. First Communion preparation as well as Saturday school for those not fortunate to have a place in our Catholic Schools begins immediately. Shortly, we will be gathering names for Confirmation. The Parish Council will be honing the Parish Development Plan with all its varied areas of responsibility. Many routine activities need to be looked at to see if anywhere we are getting stale, overburdening the willing, failing to encourage good ideas and potential.

I am aware of the number of newcomers to our parish who week by week take the trouble to register with the obvious wish to get involved in the rich life of the parish. How can we take them into the family more speedily and with more real warmth?

*Quentin O.F.M.*

## **BIBLE ALIVE**

The September Issue is available at the back of the church price £2.25.

## **JOURNEY OF FAITH**

Will resume meeting on Mon. 21st September at 8pm. It is for all who have any form of questions about life—the rusty who would like to know more, the doubters, searchers, disappointed, those feeling a lack of information; for those of any faith or none, cradle Catholics or any practice of Christian living. It is unthreatening and does not presume any commitment at the end.

### **1st COMMUNION 2016**

Application forms are now at the back of church. Please complete one and return it if you live in our parish and have a child who will be in Year 3 in the next school year.



**The closing date for applications is Friday 11th September 2015.**

## **SATURDAY SCHOOL**

Will restart on Saturday, 19th September at 10am upstairs in the Becket Centre. These are religious classes for primary school children who are attending non-Catholic Schools.

## **TUESDAY CLUB**

An educational start to the Autumn Term. Caroline Rose will tell us about “Working for International Citizen Service in Burkina Faso” (Upper Volta). All welcome to the Becket Centre at 2pm on the 8th September.

## **PLAY ALONG WITH MUSIC GROUP**

Sunday, 13th Sept. at the 10am Mass, the children are invited to resume their play along with the music group for the recessional hymn.

Look forward to seeing you all.

## **REPOSITORY**

The Repository is now under the new management of Geoff and Bernadette Craft. Lucy, Bernie and a stalwart band of volunteers have kept the repository going for many years and we should like to show our thanks for this at a Cheese and Wine evening in the William Scott Room on Thursday, 17th September from 7.30pm—9pm.

This would be an ideal opportunity to meet some additional volunteers, ladies or gentlemen, to spread the load. If you can spare half an hour after Mass once a month please come and share a glass of wine with us. If you would like to help but cannot make the evening email us on [bunge@ntlworld.com](mailto:bunge@ntlworld.com) and we will put you on the roster.

## **SOUP RUN**

### **For the homeless and those in need**

We are back up London next Wednesday night and would be grateful to receive sandwiches, cakes, fruit, sweets, toiletries and clean men’s clothing. Items can be left in the parish office during office hours 9.30am—1.30pm. or the Becket Centre between 7-8pm on Wednesday night.

## **SACRED HEART COMPANIONS**

Meet for their monthly meeting on Monday, 7th September at 2pm at Chigwell Convent. All new members welcome.

## **HOLY FAMILY LAY ASSOCIATES**

Meeting Mon. 7th Sept at 7.30pm at the Convent. Please bring your “Joy of the Gospel” Booklets.

## **OPEN EVENING TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

Wed. 23rd Sept at Lower Site, Sydney Road. Parents are invited to look around school between 6pm and 7.30pm. Presentation from Dr. Doherty at 7.30pm. Closing date for applications is 31st Oct.

## **BAPTISMS**

The next baptism course will run shortly. If you need to attend a course please contact the parish office. If you have attended a course with a previous child the baptism can be booked.



Contact the office for a form. Baptisms take place on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

We do recommend that parents attend a baptism course before the birth of their child.

## **15TH WOODFORD BROWNIES**

Are you free on a Tuesday night from 5.20pm—6.20pm and would like to come and help with girls aged 5—7? Please contact Janet Morris 07803810666.

## **KEEP FIT**

Restarts on Monday, 7th September at 8pm in the Becket Centre. Lose those extra holiday lbs in time for Christmas!!

## **TEA PARTY**

*Saturday, 19th September  
3pm in the Becket Centre.*



The TELCO Tea Party held earlier this year was voted a great success by all those who attended. Consequently, Gloria

Gottschalk and her team have very kindly volunteered to host a second party.

All those receiving care, together with carers, who attended the earlier tea party are warmly invited to join us again on the 19th. We also wish to invite those who are housebound or cared for by friends or family to join the party as we celebrate together. For catering purposes please contact Gloria 07946652262 or Angela 020 8504 2138.

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Sick:-** Mike Angelo, Baby Oliver Barker, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Don Dourado, Thomas Hefferman, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Pat Greene, Doris Harriss, MaryMcKay, Bridie McCoy, Paul McDonnell, Alex McVeigh, Jutta Menzies, Lily Reding, Joan Reynolds, Debbie Smythe.

**Lately Dead.** Danny Byrne, Mick Cullinane, Clement Dodge, Mairead Furlong, Dick Hennessy, Grace Kenny, Ann (Eileen) Kenyon, Oona Lindemann, Mary Scahill.

Oona Lindemann's Requiem will be on Wednesday, 9th September at 10am in St. Thomas'.

Grace Kenny's Requiem will be on Friday, 11th September at 10am in St. Thomas'.

Ann (Eileen) Kenyon's Requiem will be on Wednesday, 16th September at 10am in St. Thomas'.

### **MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

**Anniv:** Catherine Gibson, Mary Harrington, Tony Judge, Murtagh Meyler,

### **NANNY?**

Anna Lesniewska is looking for a position as a full-time nanny. Resident in Buckhurst Hill. CBS checked. Please contact her on 07849275974.

### **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

### **CHURCH CLEANING**

Friday 10.30am 11th September Rachael Varney Lisa McDonnell, Carole Burns, Sheila Charles, Janet Walker.

### **IRISH DANCING**

The Claddagh Academy of Irish Dancing resumes dance lessons in the Becket Centre on Monday, 7th September. Any interested boys and girls should just turn up 4.30pm—5.30pm or 5.30pm—6.30pm. All classes are pay as you go, no term fees,, fitness, fun and friendship. For more information contact Pauline Shaw ADCRG on 07846603259/0208 502 6294

### **PARISH DIARY**

Will all those groups and societies who use the Becket Centre on a regular basis, please submit their dates in writing for 2016 to the parish office. Please do not presume that your booking will be carried forward.

Grateful thanks.

### **ST. THOMAS' BADMINTON CLUB**

Badminton has restarted on Thursday night between 8—10pm in Trinity School Mornington Road. New players always welcome. For details please 'phone Liz on 07759410304.

# **St Thomas of Canterbury**

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

**Served by the Franciscans**



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

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

## **23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME CYCLE B**

**6th SEPTEMBER 2015**



When Jesus cures a man who is deaf and has a speech impediment, he not only heals him physically but also deepens his faith. May our faith be deepened as we hear God's word today.

### **First Reading (Isaiah 35:4-7)**

Isaiah rejoices in the hope of Israel's return from exile. Among the first to enjoy the blessings of restoration will be those who are deaf or dumb, blind or lame.

### **Second Reading (James 2:1-5)**

James points out the contradiction of believing in Christ yet treating those who are poor as inferior.

### **Gospel (Mark 7:31-37)**

The miracle reflects the first reading and is a sign that Jesus fulfils the Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Messiah.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

My soul, give praise to the Lord.