

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anna Appiah, Aichard Abangwu, Mike Angelo, Baby Oliver Barker, Angela Barrett, Miss Terry Bennett, Sandra Bourke, Angela Bromfield, John Browne, Antonia Buck, Claire Merrins, Teresa Daly, Nigel Dillon, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Don Dourado, Antony Dover, Lenny Finney, Garrie Godkin, Cynthia Gregory, Mary Grisdale, Betty Halliday, Doris Harriss, Ethne Hubbard, Jane Kirk, Roger Machin, Camille Malone, Clare Merrins, Patrick McGurk, Mary McKay, Jutta Menzies, David Morgan, Lily Reding, Joan Reynolds, Jacky Rott, Dermot Shean, Debbie Smythe, Astrid Turner, Rita Watkins, Cian Wright.

Anniv: Virginia Crook, Joseph Dias, Augustinho de Freitas, Judy & John Gilmartin, Desmond Hand, May Tudisca

Lately Dead: Maureen Barber, Freddie D'Silva, Rosalind Commins, Carla Doherty, John McMahan, Tom O'Sullivan, Mary Wynne.

Carla Doherty's Requiem Mass will take place at Our Lady of Lourdes Church at 11am on Wednesday, 21st December.

We remember in our prayers all the bereaved families who have lost their loved ones at this time.

CHURCH CLEANING

A reminder that the Christmas clean of our church is on **Thursday, 22nd from 10.30am onwards**. Can you please spare a little of your time to help give our church an extra special clean. We ask you not to leave it to the few. Grateful thanks.

Friday 9am 30th December Margaret Chung, Jennifer Sorrell, Christabel Wijeweera, Francesca Cushion, Liz Atkinson.

IRISH DANCING

Will resume on 9th January 2017

NEW TO THE PARISH

If you are new to the parish or have moved within the parish, please contact the parish office so that we can keep our records up to date.

REQUIRED

A Data and Examinations Manager a.s.a.p. for Trinity Catholic High School. The postholder will be a key player in the school and operate as the principle SIMS expert, so experience with both data set management within SIMS and also exam and results' day experience are essential. Any queries, contact Mrs Adesuwa Osagie 8504 3419 ext 153 or adesuwa.osagie@fc.tchs.uk.net Closing date for receipt of completed application forms is Sunday, 8th January.

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

St Thomas of Canterbury

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

Served by the Franciscans



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

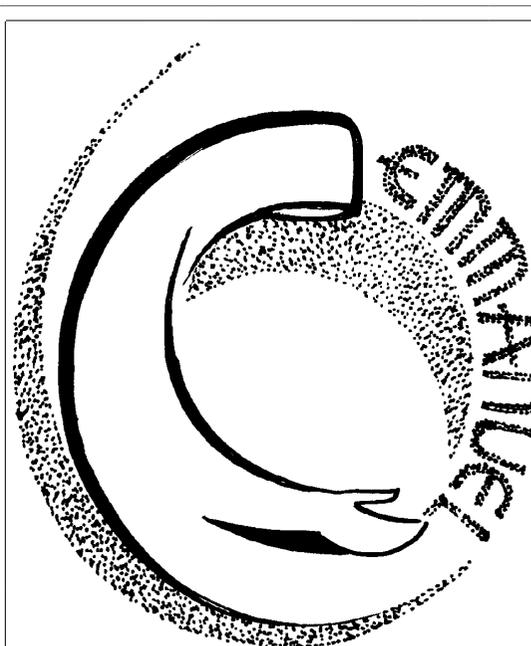


Tel: 020 8504 1686 Fax: 020 8504 1844

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

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT CYCLE A

18TH DECEMBER 2016



We wait in hope and expectancy with Mary for the birth of her son, Jesus Christ. He comes to bring the good news of God's redeeming love to all people.

First Reading (Isaiah 35:7:10-14)

The young woman is with child and will bear a son, who will be called God with us.

Second Reading (Romans 1:1-7)

St. Paul proclaims Jesus as the son of David and the Son of God.

Gospel (Matthew 1.18-24)

Joseph trusts in the power of God's Spirit and overcomes his fear.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Let the Lord enter!
He is the king of glory.

Your offerings at the Christmas Masses will be for the Community

CAR PARK AND OTHER REPAIRS

We regret inconvenience caused by the partial closure of the car-park and other necessary repairs this week. We have long tried to remedy the defects of the parking surface, caused by much use and some abuse. For months we have looked to find a solution and one ready to effect it. You have seen the valiant work done by Bernard Hunter to deal with the worst of the damage. When finally workmen competent to do more extensive repair became available we thanked them and urged them to start. Hence the absence of notice. Yet even while the park was closed, individuals parked their cars for a whole day albeit they had no business with church, friary office or Becket Centre. When the surface is safe and healthy we will have to address this problem to make sure the park is serving parish rather than the unconnected public.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Please note that there will be only a short period of carols—at most 15 minutes—before the Masses at 5pm, 7pm and 10.15pm next Saturday. This to avoid lengthening the service for excited young people. We will sing the carols through each Mass. Please help the Stewards who will be on hand to monitor parking before and after the afternoon Masses.

TOO MUCH PAPER!

So with this newsletter we friars send our very cordial good wishes to all for a very happy Christmas. We are very conscious of how fortunate we are to be receiving constantly such goodwill, collaboration in our aims and tasks, personal support and love from you. Thank you. May God give you all good health, peace and joy and be palpably present in every home and family as he was in Bethlehem long ago.

CHRISTMAS EVE 24th December

St. Thomas' 5pm Family Mass preceded by carols at 4.45pm.
7pm Preceded by carols at 6.45pm
10.15 Midnight Mass preceded by carols at 10.00pm.
Chigwell Convent
Office of Readings with carols 8.30pm
Midnight Mass 9pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

St. Thomas' 8.30am, 10.00am, 11.30am.
St. James (URC) Buckhurst Hill 9am
Chigwell Convent 10am.

IN TOUCH

The exciting Christmas edition of In Touch is available this weekend featuring a personal letter to the parish from H.M. Queen Elizabeth. Price £2.

PARISH OFFICE

Please note that the parish office will be closed over the Christmas period and re-opens on Thursday, 29th December 9.30am—1.30pm.

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.

WHIPPS CROSS HOSPITAL

If you, a family member or friend would like to see a Catholic Chaplain or receive Holy Communion whilst receiving treatment at Whipps, please contact the Chaplaincy Team 020 8535 6988 or St. George's 020 85295877.

The next Assisi Lunch will be on 27th January 2017.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES AT ST. THOMAS'

The rotas for the Masses on Christmas Eve for Ministers of Communion, Readers, Ushers & Sacristans, are displayed on the notice board at the back of the church. We urgently need additional help with the following Masses:-
For the 5pm Mass: Experienced Ushers and 1 additional Minister of Communion.
For the 7pm Mass: A Sacristan and 4 Ushers.

If you can help with any of these, please add your name to the list on the table at the back of the church.

SCRIPTURE SHARING GROUP

Will not meet until the New Year. 19th January in the William Scott Room at 7.30pm. All are very welcome to study and share the Word of God.

PARISH NEWS



Our Communications group are publishing a quarterly newsletter to keep us updated with events and parish news. It will be sent out by email, with a few copies printed for those not having email access. If you would like to be among the first to receive it and keep up to date with what is going on in the parish, please send a mail to parishnews@friar.org or scan in the QR code.

YEMEN CRISIS

CAFOD—If you would like to support the appeal to provide humanitarian assistance in the form of food, water, medical care and shelter, please donate on line emergency.appeal@cafod.org.uk.

SOUP RUN FOR THE HOMELESS AND NEEDY

A big thank you for the fantastic response to the selection pack appeal. The soup run has now finished for 2016 and we would like to thank once again the anonymous donor for a fantastic contribution towards the new parish minibus. All the parishioners for the endless supply of food and clothing, Fr. Quentin and the Friars for continuing to support and fund the soup run van expenses, the helpers who work so hard behind the scenes to ensure the soup run which is now the 4th longest running in London continues for its 21st year. The next soup run is on Wednesday, 11th January 2017.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA ST ANTONY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

The consultation for our Admissions Criteria for 2018/2019 is now available on our school website on the Admission page. www.stantonyscatholicdps.co.uk. If you wish to comment please send your responses by emailing admin.st-antonys@redbridge.gov.uk or posting it to the school address. Deadline for all responses is 27th January 2017.

The Franciscan Community in the Friary at Woodford Green, wish you many blessings, prayers and well-being this Christmas and New Year! We thank you for your prayers, support and generosity, and we ask that you pray and encourage more Vocations to the Franciscan Order from St. Thomas' parish!"

**Br. Donal and Franciscan
Brothers O.F.M.**

**THERE WILL BE AN SVP
COLLECTION AFTER ALL MASSES
THIS WEEKEND.**