

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lately dead: Mary Copping.

Anniversaries: Ruth Comorford, Katherine Delaney, Martin Fuller, Ethel Humphrey, Mr. Mears, Elizabeth Stoffel, Leslie Bond, Sr. Mary Heenan, John Fernandez, Roger Higgins, Patricia Greene, Peter Morgan, Lucia Nie, Hugh Gavghan.

Funeral at St Thomas'

Mary Copping's funeral will take place on 10th December 2018 at 10am.

May she rest in peace

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.

Mass Online

We believe that we could improve the quality of mass online. The problem is we are unable to record for longer than 30 minutes, which means there will be a small break in the middle of the recording to combine two recordings into one. We hope this will not spoil your enjoyment of the mass.

The next masses that we intend to record are:
Sunday 2nd/9th 8.30am;
Saturday 15th/22nd 6pm

Masses should be available online within 2-3 hours of recording.

To view mass online please visit our parish website <https://www.stthomaswoodford.org> Click on **Mass Online** and then click on the link to **Online Mass. Web News**

Website update

Recently updated/added on the parish website:

Remembrance Day (now under About Us - History)

Let us Pray (praying with the Pope; click on the heading 'Let us Pray')

Faith in Action (under tab More).

The Prayer App

Pray with the Pope daily with this prayer app – Click to Pray – available on Android and iOS.

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
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

1st Sunday of Advent

Cycle B

2nd December 2018

We may think of Advent as a time of light-hearted celebration as we get ready for Christmas, but today's liturgy looks at it in a very different way, with warnings of disasters and exhortations to stand firm and pray constantly for the strength to survive all that is going to happen.

First Reading Jeremiah 33:14-16

The prophet tells the people that the Lord will fulfil the promise he made to the House of Israel.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2

St Paul urges his readers to make more and more progress in the kind of life that they are meant to live.

Gospel Luke 21:25-28. 34-36

Jesus calls his disciples to stand erect and hold their heads high, because liberation is near at hand.



Responsorial Psalm
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

Christmas Fayre

Thank you for making such a success of the Christmas Fayre. I saw the organisers beavering intensely for several weeks in preparation. Your gifts were huge – particularly those in liquid form. The parish coffers swelled considerably – just how much is not yet clear. But principally it was a celebration of our parish family spirit. That is more important today than ever before. In today's fragmented and tortured world we need to spell out in action the precious treasure God has given us in our parish. Thank you for all you have given: of gifts, your energy and principally of yourselves.

Diocesan re-structuring

Today you will receive copies of a pamphlet that sets out the immediate- middle- and long-term strategy for restructuring our church in the Diocese. We have to digest what is proposed for St. Thomas'. Already last week the Stewards of the Gospel of our 3 parishes met with the priests currently situated in our area. We have much to discuss in the coming weeks.

Certificate of Catholic Practice

Quentin will be available to sign these for school applicants on **Friday 7th of December** from 3-4 pm.

Votive candles

Despite strong discouragement in recent newsletters 14 candles were perched dangerously on narrow ledges in front of St Antony last Sunday, just waiting to drop and cause a blaze. **Please DO NOT light any candle** unless there is room to place it on one of the sconces provided.

Ecumenical Advent Carol Service

The service will take place at St. Thomas' on **Sunday 9th December at 4.30pm**, with our own choir and that of All Saints and Loyola. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Becket Centre. All welcome.

Franciscan Vocation Talks

For Single Catholic men, 18-43 years of age, interested in the Franciscan Life. Talks will take place on Friday 4 and Saturday 5 January 2019 at St Thomas of Canterbury church.

If interested in attending these talks and you are seriously considering a Religious Vocation, then please contact now and by 28 December;
Br. Donal OFM (Vocation Director), Email only - brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk

Christmas Masses at St Thomas'

Calling all Readers, Ministers of Communion, Ushers & Sacristans.
If you will be attending Mass at St Thomas' on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, please indicate your availability by adding your name to the lists located on the table at the back of the church.

CWL

Will meet on Wednesday 5th December at 8pm. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

43rd Epping Forest South Scout Group 80th Anniversary

You are cordially invited to join us on **December 7th** at the Becket Centre from 8pm to celebrate this significant anniversary. Food and drink will be provided. This invitation extends to parents, past leaders and committee members, who have always played an integral part in our continued success. RSVP prigby54@yahoo.co.uk

Parish Diaries 2019

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Diaries for 2019 have arrived. Please leave your donation in the basket provided at the back of church..

Readers at 8.30am Mass

We are getting very short of readers at the Sunday 8.30 Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury increasing the burden on the few still preserving. If anyone would like to help please get in touch with Frank Fitzpatrick (85041466) or contact the Parish office.

Scripture Prayer

To prepare your mind and soul for Advent, everyone is welcome to explore the depth of Scripture. The meeting will be in the Becket Centre on **Thursday, the 6th of December at 7.30pm**. Not only presents are important during this festive time, please come along and spend some time in contemplation.

Brentwood Diocesan Directory 2019

Next years directory has arrived and is available from the Repository—price £2.75

Property needed urgently!

Our parish TELCO group has been successful in our application to bring a family from a refugee camp to Redbridge. We have come to a standstill as we are unable to find a property to house them in. We must find a 2,3 or 4 bedroom flat or house in Redbridge who would welcome a refugee family in the next 4 months. The family will be entitled to local housing rate but a top up can be negotiated. We have a whole team of volunteers who will be supporting the family and helping them start their new lives here. Please contact us on gemmabourdillon3@hotmail.com

Church Cleaning

Friday 7th December at 9am.
Margaret Chung, Jennifer Sorrell, Josie Kieron, Francesca Cushion and Liz Atkinson.

Trinity Vacancies

- Part time *Teacher of Science*. Maternity cover. MPS/UPS – Outer London Teachers' pay scales.
- *Teacher of Home Economics*. Permanent, January 2019
- *HoD of Home Economics*. Maternity Cover, January 2019
- Temporary Teacher of PE. MPS/UPS – Outer London Teachers' pay scales January-July 2019

Candidates visit the schools website for more details <http://fc.tchs.uk.net/vacancies.shtml> and email applications to recruitment@fc.tchs.uk.net.

Saturday School

Due to other commitments Nancy Hayward is stepping down from organising the Saturday School. We thank her for her valuable contribution and wish her well. Saturday School will continue to be run by Fiona and Sean.

Christmas Fayre

Thank you

The Home produce stall would like to thank you for your kind donations. Money collected was passed to the Franciscan mission. Thank you Mary.

Raffle prizes to be collected

We have some prizes to be collected from the Parish office.
Pink tickets no. 23/46/75 & 98
White tickets no. 29/80 & 96