

## PRAY FOR THE SICK



**Lately dead:** Maureen Cowell

*May she rest in peace*

### Anniversaries:

Robert (Robin) Davidson, Peter Joseph Martin, Kathleen Bradley, Jeffrey Carlile, Catherine Nelson, Daniel Kilvington, Mary Dennehy, Jacqueline Duncan, Laura Pert, Christie Nichol, Stephen Wheatley, Joanna Elflain, Lygia Walters, Francesecs Nippress, Ronald Johnson, Guilielmuis Comerford, Reginald Smith.

### Covid—small step change

As the Government continues with its road map implementation you will also start to see small changes in the Church when you attend. As households can mix indoors we will be removing the middle tape on the central benches from 17th May. Hands, face and space are an important part of the government strategy. So please continue to sanitise hands on arrival, wear a mask and respect social distancing.

## Mass Timetable

All our services are live streamed

### Monday

Open for 10am Mass

### Wednesday

Open for 10am Mass followed by the Rosary

### Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

8am Mass no public live streamed ONLY and recorded

### Saturday

Open for Mass at 10am & 6pm

### Sunday

8.30am, 10am & 11.30am  
(The 11.30am Mass is recorded)

**Remember when attending Mass that there is a one way system in operation and the stewards will direct you to a seat**

Please wear a facemask, sanitise your hands, observe appropriate distancing & follow the instructions of the Stewards.

The Church is open at least 30 minutes before Mass commences. If anyone wishes to visit for private prayer they are most welcome

### Confessions

Are taking place by Appointment



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](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org)

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



## Seventh Sunday of Easter (B)

16th May 2021

Today the liturgy reflects upon the antagonism that people of faith may face in this world, but more especially on love, which is more powerful than hatred, because it comes to us from God.

### First Reading Acts 1:15-17. 20-26

With discernment and prayer the apostles choose Matthias to replace Judas as a fellow apostle.

### Second Reading 1 John 4:11-16

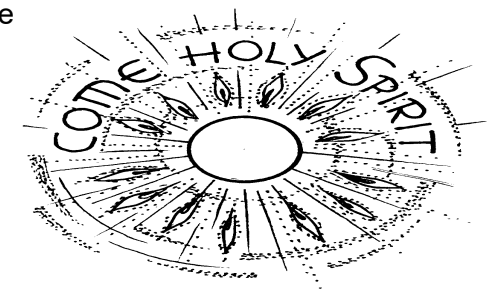
The heart of the Christian faith is love: God's love for us and our love for one another.

### Gospel John 17:11-19

Jesus prays for the Church, for each of us to be one with him, to be filled with his joy; and for us to be protected from evil.

### Responsorial Psalm

**The Lord has set sway in heaven**



[The Pentecost Novena can be found on our website](#)

**The River Does Not Divide Us:  
Pentecost Novena on the Care of Creation**

## Out of lockdown

As some relax restrictions I am afraid you will find little change in our practices in church this week. We must still keep our distance and wear masks and keep the windows open. Restrictions on the number present for funerals have been lifted, so the benches still in use are all available. Our Health and Safety committee meets very frequently and we will adjust arrangements as appropriate without delay.

## Parish Council meeting

For the first time in many months the council met in person distanced around a set of tables. It was an excellent meeting: relaxed but we did a lot. One participant commented: "*It was really collegiate*" – and I agree. Among other things we set in place arrangements for the Open-air Mass and picnic on 27th June. Discussed possible future patterns of Sunday mass; for the parish AGM; the priority of needed repairs, replacements and refurbishments.

## Care for the environment

The PC Council also looked at a project of the Diocese which will shortly require our attention. G7, COP26, and David Attenborough are all secular influences shouting of the impending threat to our world. Pope Francis and recent popes have added the Christian dimension that we should be heeding. So we must engage. I can see this as a good opportunity to "*do something for the youth*". They certainly want a healthy planet. Let's trust our young people to lead this project in parish and diocese.

## Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection after masses this weekend for World Communications.

## Confirmations

A very important week for St Thomas' parish. 57 of our young people will cement their commitment both to a personal life with the Lord and of service to his family as they receive the sacrament of confirmation. It has been a difficult year for the preparation. I congratulate you candidates and your families that you have engaged seriously in all the zoom meetings and other activities that have been possible. Particularly, I thank the team and Fr Michael O'Kane who have shown much resourcefulness and given a great deal of time to planning and executing the personal preparation.

## Evaluation of the Confirmation Programme

The team has done its task very well. Now they have produced a remarkable evaluation of the entire programme. In three documents they have drawn up a comprehensive summary of the feelings and reactions: first of the candidates, then of their parents, and finally of their sponsors. The result is a mine of information for us to explore, sift, and bring into all our planning for the whole parish. Many say they want "*to do something*" for youth. This is sincere, often expressed with exasperation because it is felt to be so important. "*What do our young people want?*" is a frequent cry. Now we have something to get our teeth into. This process of evaluation of what we do and have done should be copied by all our activities.

## Bridge - Join us

If there is sufficient interest, we will start a Bridge club when Covid restrictions allow. Please contact [bridgeclub@stthomaswoodford.org](mailto:bridgeclub@stthomaswoodford.org) and indicate if you are a beginner, a social player or a competitive player.

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday 16th May

People of the parish  
Joe Martin anniversary  
Alfred & Dorothy Hagger RIP  
Terry Murphy anniversary

### Monday 17th May

Staff pupils and families of St Antony's school  
Gaetano Catania anniversary  
Evelyn O'Connor RIP

### Tuesday 17th May

Desmond Hughes RIP  
Bro Malachy OFM RIP  
Trinity intentions

### Wednesday 19th May

Audrey McDonnell intentions  
Peter & Petrina Stubbings  
Siobhan McGrath RIP

### Thursday 20th May

Veronica Costello RIP  
Sr Margaret Gallagher

### Friday 21st May

Linda Day sick  
Sr M Ignatius McManus  
Emma Shaw

### Saturday 22nd May

Frank Costello anniversary  
Kathleen Hanley RIP  
Norma McMahan anniversary

### Sunday 23rd May

People of the parish  
Christopher Nestor RIP  
Maureen Cowell RIP



## Church Cleaning

### Saturday 22nd May at 10.30am

Deborah Butterworth, Rosie O'Connor & Charmaine Turrell

## School Vacancies

KS2 Class Teacher Vacancy at St Antony's C

Teacher of Maths, F/T at Trinity-

Please visit the relevant school website for more information.

## Fundraiser for Pax Christi.

In the week from 15th to 21st May, Pax Christi, the Catholic Peace organisation, will be trying to raise funds to make up for lost income due to Covid19. Fausta is having a dance-a-thon, Bruce is delivering a peace message to foreign embassies in London, Matt is cycling 50 miles visiting peace sites, Pat is going on a walk from Victoria to the Peace Pagoda in Battersea Park, Rachel will be cycling for 75 miles, to celebrate Pax Christi's 75th anniversary. Please go to their website [www.paxchristi.org.uk/register-you-interest/](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/register-you-interest/) for details on how you can sponsor them.

## The Word

We have published the latest issue of The Word (no. 13). You can find it on our website. Unfortunately when it was originally loaded it contained an incorrect email address in the introduction and also in the articles on Lectio Divina and Meditation. The correct address is now shown - ([STOCparishnews@btinternet.com](mailto:STOCparishnews@btinternet.com)).