

## PRAY FOR THE SICK



### Anniversaries:

James Brown, Sr Madeleine Carey, Alexander Alexander, John (Sean) Gilligan, Julia Harris, Oluwarotimi Olateju, Colin Taylor, Hannah Dowdell, Lourdes Fernandez, Harry Kelley, Kathleen Mallott, Gerhard Michna, Alice Tucker, Sarah Glyde, Peggy Hall, Lita Hayde, Helena James, Margaret Murphy, Sandra Sifflet, Garrett Godkin, Dominic Correia, Michael Glynn, Patrick Lennon, Frederick Simmons.

### Franciscan life: Invitation

The Franciscan Community invite enquiries from single Catholic people aged 18-40 years pondering a possible vocation in the religious and/or priestly life, and Franciscan life; (website: [www.friar.org](http://www.friar.org)).

If interested and need guidance, please talk to one of the Friars or contact Br Dónal ofm [brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk)

## Mass Timetable

*The masses on Saturday evening and Sunday at St Thomas' are live streamed*

### SUNDAY MASSES

1st Mass: 6pm Saturday;  
8.30am; 10am & 11.30am Sunday  
(The 11.30am Mass is recorded)



*Join us for tea/coffee after Sunday Mass in the Becket Centre*

**There will be a cake sale in the Becket Centre after the 10am Mass.**

10am Chigwell Convent

### WEEKDAY MASSES

10am St Thomas'  
9.30am Chigwell Convent except on Saturday's when mass takes place at 10am

### CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30 to 11am  
and  
5.15 to 5.45 pm

### BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays  
of the month

### Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection next weekend for the promotion of vocations



**ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**  
Woodford Green  
A FAIRTRADE PARISH



Parish Office: 020 8504 1686  
Friary: 020 8504 1688



Website: [www.stthomaswoodford.org](http://www.stthomaswoodford.org)  
Facebook: @STOCWoodford  
Twitter: @STOCWoodford

Email: [parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org](mailto:parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org)

## Third Sunday of Easter (A) 23rd April 2023

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

Lent often grabs more of our intention than Eastertide. The path to the cross seems more human than the path from the cross to the ascension, but the path that we walk is through the cross, and from the cross to heaven with the risen Christ.

### First Reading Acts 2: 14. 22-33

The humanity of Christ was raised to fulfil the deepest longings of Israel.

### Second Reading 1 Peter 1: 17-21

Only the gifts of God are truly free, but the redemption is also the gift of a human being. This is why it was fitting that the Lord should pay a price for that redemption.

### Gospel Luke 24: 13-35

The Church is a conversation, as we share our faith. Sometimes we fail to allow the Lord into that conversation.



### Responsorial Psalm

Show us, Lord, the path of life

## PPC News Church sound system

For years we have heard complaints that our present equipment has deteriorated and needs renewal.

A small group expert in audio provision have been searching and working towards a total replacement. They researched diligently to ensure which of the proposals on offer will give us the best audibility that up-to-date technology can provide. We did engage a good company, but this went out of business post covid.

Finally our experts are near to placing a contract. We have hopes that in autumn we may have a brilliant new system in place. A prayer for its success is not out of place. We do need to hear the word of God.

## The Henrietta Suite

The Becket committee has been debating long about how to update this valuable and much used facility we enjoy.

The upstairs rooms have been well refurbished. Now there is need to upgrade the ground floor and particularly the kitchen area. As ever there is a shortage of storage space. Views vary about the kind of usage that fits the true needs of the parish and the range of interests Becket is serving and should be serving.

So as a first step it was resolved to engage an architect so that we know what is possible, given the nature of the premises – and of course the finance.

## Mass intentions

Occasionally in the past we have had to pass some of your mass intentions on to other friaries. Now we are well able to honour all your requests here in SToC. Gratefully!

## Shortage of priests?

Nowadays we often hear of a “shortage of priests”. Some catholic parishes are closing. Others are clustered to share a priest. Inevitably there will be fewer masses and that is now in prospect of becoming a reality for us.

To some it seems a disaster but I see it rather to be an indication of what God wants. He wants a church where priests and people work together to make their local communities in the kind of church Pope Francis is urging. At the moment in St Thomas’ parish we seem to be unaffected though occasionally you will find a mass will have to be cancelled. While others lack mass we have in the parish 3 masses on weekdays and 5 masses each weekend. We must not make the mistake we last Sunday heard Thomas making: Of thinking our ways are best, and permanent. God has other ideas.

## Email scams

Fr Michael O’Kane’s email has been hacked this week and many have received odd requests for money or services apparently coming from him. Please be aware that no one in Friary or Parish Office would ever make such a request, particularly in this fashion. Scams abound.

## Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society vacancy

**Fundraising and Partnerships Manager** is required to generate income from new and existing fundraising activities. Job Description and Person Specification are at [www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/](http://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/) Email applications to Julie Abbott at [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) before the application deadline of Friday 12th May

## Mass Intentions



### Sunday 23rd April

8.30 Anne Potter intentions  
10 Philomena Brohi  
11.30 Fr Michael Coleman RIP  
Chigwell Dominic Correia anniversary

### Monday 24th April

Ellen Luscombe  
Sr Anne Mary Nally

### Tuesday 25th April

Noel Johnson  
Catherine Gaughan anniversary

### Wednesday 26th April

Patricia Addison anniversary  
Sr Mary Ignatius McManus  
Maureen Clarke

### Thursday 27th April

Gwenyth Smythe anniversary  
Maria Vaughan sick

### Friday 28th April

Mary Loughnane  
Helen Sweeney RIP

### Saturday 29th April

10 am Molloy, Farrow, Wearing families  
6 pm Angela Meyler

### Sunday 30th April

8.30 Martin McShea RIP  
10 Walter Spence RIP  
11.30 Stubberfield family members ill

## Church Cleaning

### Friday 28 April at 9am

Claire Hobbs, Susanna Barnoin,  
Michelle Liddle, Agatha Emohare,  
Susan Juffs.

### Used stamps temporary appeal

The Medical missionaries of Mary are collecting any used stamps which they can sell to raise money for their missions. Please leave any you may have in the marked box at the back of the church and we will pass to them in May. Many thanks for any contributions.

### Becket Centre hire

The Becket Centre is available for hire for any of your events. The hall downstairs will hold a party for 100 people the rooms upstairs can hold up to 20. Private hire or regular classes are welcome. Please contact the Parish office for more information.

### Lenten lunches 2023

The lunches raised a total of £2282 this year, which is a record. The money has been sent to Mary's Meals to help feed school children in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Many thanks to all who contributed in any way: the soup-makers, the waitresses, the behind the scenes kitchen helpers, those who prepared the room and, most of all, those of you who came along every week in record numbers to enjoy the meal and the company.

We are so grateful for your support and your generosity.