

## PRAY FOR THE SICK



### Lately dead:

◇ Denise Duvin

*May she rest in peace*

### Anniversaries:

Patricia Greene, Peter Jacques, Katherine Delaney, Joan Hayes, John Martin, Martin Fuller, Leslie Bond, Ethel Humphrey, John Fernandez, Peter Morgan, Sister Mary Heenan, Mr Mears, Joan Reynolds, Michael Carroll, Florence Mulroue, James Cunningham, Jutta Menzies, Suzanna Wright, Moby Lalani, Catherine King.

### CAFOD Looking for gift ideas

Cafod have a wonderful range of ethical gifts for everyone and for every budget, with gifts starting from as little as £4.

For each gift you buy you will receive a beautifully illustrated card with a real example of how the gift has helped someone.

<https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

### 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*

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 for the SVP this weekend.



St Vincent  
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action



# ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

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Friary: 020 8504 1688

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

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



Served by the Franciscans

## Second Sunday of Advent ( A ) 4th December 2022

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

As we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ at Christmas, we prepare also to receive him when he comes again to welcome us into his kingdom.

#### First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

The descendant of Jesse will usher in an age of peace such as the world has never known.

#### Second Reading Romans 15:4-9

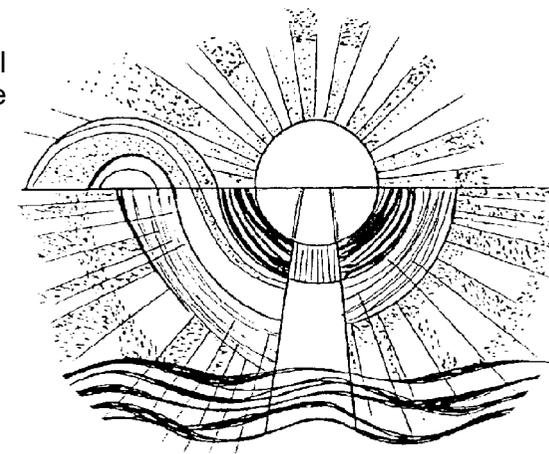
Inspired by the scriptures, Christ's followers are called to be examples of tolerance for the world to follow.

#### Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist calls for repentance because the judge is coming.

#### Responsorial Psalm

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.



## First confessions

Preparing children for receiving communion has already reached this stage. This week just over 100 children will come with their parents, possibly some siblings, to talk to one of us priests about their progress. It has concentrated on conscience recently: on how to deal with it when things go wrong. Priest and family look briefly at the work done at home. Then the family retire to leave the new penitent with the priest. It is proving a happy experience, with smiles and no suggestion of fear or embarrassment that sometimes happened in the past. The children are teaching us all that it is a good idea to come to confession now before the Christmas rush.

## St Vincent de Paul Society

In last week's newsletter you caught a glimpse of the caring work the parish SVP Society does consistently through the year. Without drawing attention its members find some of the needy in our parish and care for their plight. It is several months since we last made a collection to provide them with means for giving material help. Now their coffers need replenishing in anticipation of Christmas. So there will be a retiring collection after all masses this weekend. Please be generous. I take the occasion to thank all the SVP members who take on this major task of our parish. They also need more of you to join them. I am also aware of you perceptive ones who quietly identify new needs, sometimes very urgent needs, of individuals and families and respond generously with such things as hospital transport, and coaxing of medical attention; shopping, visits to the lonely, comforting of the bereaved. There are I am sure more who do this of whom I know nothing. It is the reality of a caring parish. The last judgement will surely find you on the right hand of the great King.

## Ecumenical Advent Service

This afternoon we welcome our sister churches of the area to join us in celebrating, not a Christmas carol service, but one for Advent. Advent is a time for feeling what the world without Christ once was and still is for too many. Listening to the Old Testament prophets we go back to the centuries before the birth of Jesus. It is cold and harsh. Jesus needed John the Baptist by way of immediate preparation for his impact of preaching and healing. Advent does something similar for us so that we appreciate his coming to us this year. - We have felt the great drop in our mass attendance due to covid. Other churches find their numbers dropping, some till closure is forced on them. This afternoon's service followed by refreshments in Becket is a gesture of mutual support, encouragement and hope. Do join us.

## Christmas Eve Masses at St Thomas'

Calling all Readers, Ministers of Communion, Ushers & Sacristans. If you will be attending any of the three Masses (3pm; 6pm or 10pm) at St Thomas' on Christmas Eve, please indicate your availability by adding your name to the lists located on the table at the back of the church. Please note, as Christmas day falls on a Sunday this year, Christmas Day Masses will be covered by the normal Sunday rotas. Traditionally the 3pm Mass on Christmas Eve has been a "children's mass", and we are looking again for two children aged 9 years or above (preferably with experience of reading at school assemblies etc.) to help with the Readings. There is a separate sign-up sheet on the table at the back of church, please add your child's name if you can help.



## Mass Intentions

### Sunday 4th December

8.30 Peggy Maunsell anniversary  
10 Patrick Jolly RIP  
11.30 John Joe Purcell RIP  
Chigwell Sarah M O'Doherty

### Monday 5th December

John Hayes anniversary  
Bro Didacus anniversary  
Chigwell community

### Tuesday 6th December

Robert & Rachel Mann & P Barrett  
Denis Burns anniversary

### Wednesday 7th December

Thomas Cosgrove RIP  
Mary James sick  
Trinity intentions

### Thursday 8th December

Michael & Bridget McLoughlin RIP  
Michael O'Donoghue RIP

### Friday 9th December

Catholic Women's League  
Michael Braley RIP  
Sr Marie Galvin

### Saturday 10th December

10 Jutta Menzies anniversary  
6 Maura Clark

### Sunday 11th December

8.30 Amanda Farrell RIP  
10 Terry Gillard RIP  
11.30 Eugenia Fitzgerald 90 years old

## Church Cleaning

**Saturday 10th December at 10.30am**

Rosie O'Connor & Charmaine Turrell

## Our New Candle Stands

We are looking for a couple of volunteers who can assist with the care of the new candle stands. Please contact the parish office for more information, otherwise we may have to return to the old votive stand.

## Faith talk

The faith talk scheduled for Monday is cancelled.

## Governors - St Antony School

The School currently has two vacancies for Foundation Governors. Please find the poster with more information on the Porch notice Board.

## Confirmation Programme Reminder

All candidates indemnity and confirmation name forms **MUST** be returned by 5th December.