

Lately Deceased

Anthony Grant

ANNIVERSARIES:

Richard Thomas, Clare Woolaghan, Mary Barry-Gregory, Mary Chandradasa, Sister Colette Cleary, Eric DuCasse, Robin Flindall, Michael Reilly, Christopher Stubbs, Andrew Cloonan OFM,, Daniel Healy, John McGovern, Joan Neenan, Amelio Tolaini, Mavis Bruce, Denis L'Estrange, Percy Wartnaby, Sheila Barber, Julian Famiglietti, Terence McGraph, Moyra Murphy, Anthony O'Brien, Fr Urban Judge OFM, Patricia Western, Leonard Albrecht, Elizabeth Halliday,

Sick Clergy—Second Collection

There will be a second collection after masses on Sunday 7th June

**** SAVE THE DATE ****

Open Air Mass
Sunday, 14th June

SUMMER FETE on 11th of July, 12-4pm.

If you would like to have a stall, please contact Avril on avril.leary@yahoo.co.uk.
Volunteers - The event is only possible with the kind support of parish volunteers so we would love some help to set up on the morning of the fete, on a stall during the day and with some clearing up at the end. If you can spare an hour or two, please email avril.leary@yahoo.co.uk and let us know what time works best for you.

St Vincent De Paul Society

Are you in urgent need – financial or other? Call us on 07547 491067 and leave a message. We will call you back.

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

Parents who have completed May's baptism course please contact the parish office to confirm when you would like to book your Baptism. June course dates to be released soon.

UNDER 5's

St Thomas under 5's group is running every Tuesday & Wednesday morning at 9.30am—
11am term time only.

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine & Co. Mayo Led by Bishop Alan Williams

Monday 15th June 2026 to Friday 19th June 2026. 4 nights in Knock House Hotel, with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Visit Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre. Price £799.00 per person
Contact: Patricia Tel: 01268 762 278 Mob: 07740 175 557 knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

Refreshments after mid-week 10am mass

As a Fairtrade certified parish, St Thomas uses and promotes Fairtrade products. Come and join us in the Assisi room after 10am mass on **Friday 29th May** for a friendly chat and to celebrate over 30 years of the Fairtrade mark in the UK with a cup of Fairtrade tea or filter coffee, including decaf



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



Served by the Franciscans

PENTECOST (A) SUNDAY, 24TH MAY 2026

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

The message of Pentecost is that absolutely no one is left out: the Church is inclusive at her core.

First Reading Acts 2:1-11

The Holy Spirit gives people from all walks of life the possibility of communicating.

Responsorial Psalm

Send forth your spirit O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7. 12-13

Through the Holy Spirit and baptism, we are all part of one body, united in faith and hope.



POPE LEO TALKS OF THE FREEING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Spirit opens borders, first of all, in our hearts. He is the Gift that opens our lives to love. His presence breaks down our hardness of heart, our narrowness of mind, our selfishness, the fears that enchain us and the narcissism that makes us think only of ourselves. The Holy Spirit comes to challenge us, to make us confront the possibility that our lives are shrivelling up, trapped in the vortex of individualism. Sadly, oddly enough, in a world of burgeoning "social" media, we risk being ever more alone. Constantly connected, yet incapable of "networking". Always immersed in a crowd, yet confused and solitary travellers. The Spirit of God allows us to find a new way of approaching and experiencing life. He puts us in touch with our inmost self, beneath all the masks we wear. He leads us to an encounter with the Lord by teaching us to experience the joy that is his gift. He convinces us, as we just heard in Jesus' words, that only by abiding in love, will we receive the strength to remain faithful to his word and to let it transform us. The Spirit opens our interior borders, so that our lives can become places of welcome and refreshment. *The Spirit also opens borders in our relationship with others.* Jesus tells us that this Gift is the love between him and the Father that comes to dwell within us. We then become capable of opening our hearts to our brothers and sisters, overcoming our rigidity, moving beyond our fear of those who are different, and mastering the passions that stir within. The Spirit also transforms those deeper, hidden dangers that disturb our relationships, like suspicion, prejudice or the desire to manipulate others. I think too, with great pain, of those cases where relationships are marked by an unhealthy desire for domination, an attitude that often leads to violence, as is shown, tragically, by numerous recent cases of femicide. The Holy Spirit, on the other hand, brings to maturity within us the fruits that enable us to cultivate good and healthy relationships: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (*Gal 5:22*). In this way, the Spirit broadens the borders of our relationships and opens us to the joy of fraternity. ; if we are able to dialogue and accept one another in the Church, and to reconcile our diversities; and if, as Church,

we become a welcoming and hospitable place for all. Finally, *the Spirit also opens borders between peoples.* At Pentecost, the Apostles spoke the languages of those they met, and the confusion of Babel was finally resolved by the harmony brought about by the Spirit. Whenever God's "breath" unites our hearts and makes us view others as our brothers and sisters, differences no longer become an occasion for division and conflict but rather a shared patrimony from which we can all draw, and which sets us all on journey together, in fraternity.

Items for Disposal

As a result of the Henrietta Suite refurbishment, there are a number of items to dispose of to good homes, either for a small donation or for nothing. Some of these can be inspected in the tent by the side of the scout hut. Pictures of items are also available on the website www.stthomaswoodford.org. Please contact the parish office if interested - but do it soon, because they will be taken to the recycling centre or scrapped otherwise at the end of the month.

** Seniors' Afternoon Tea Party **

On Friday 19 June, students at Trinity Catholic High School are hosting an Afternoon Tea Party for the elderly in our local community. They are working on a project that targets loneliness and isolation among the elderly and would very much like to bring our communities together to bridge the generations.

They will be serving finger sandwiches, a selection of cakes, and a Cornish Cream Tea, along with a glass of Prosecco and teas and coffees. There will also be music, a free raffle, and a fun quiz. If you would like to attend on Friday, 19th June a in the Ratcliffe Hall, Trinity Catholic High School, Mornington Road, Woodford Green IG8 0TP between 2.30-5.30 pm.

RSVP: By Friday 5 June to Mrs Nicola Anthony Tel: 020 8504 3419 Email: nanthony@tchs.org.uk



Mass Intentions

24th -31st May

Sunday 24th May

8.30am - Peg Carrig RIP
10am - Sheila Kelly RIP
11.30am - Molly Charles RIP
Chigwell - Michael Kilkenny

Monday 25th May

Bridie Dillon RIP
Michael Teresa & family

Tuesday 26th May

Philomena Canny RIP
Peggy Carrig RIP

Wednesday 27th May

Sheila Julia Barber anniversary
Joseph Basti anniversary
Sr Teresa anniversary

Thursday 28th May

Martha Charles RIP
Marie Tisi RIP

Friday 29th May

Marie Murphy RIP
Tommy Bourke RIP
Harrison Nada anniversary

Saturday 30th May

10am - Olive Jacobs RIP
Chigwell - Kathleen Blanchfield anniversary
6pm - David Pleasance

Sunday 31st May

8.30am - Peg Carrig RIP
10am - Anne McShea RIP
11.30am - Molly Charles RIP

Church Cleaning

Thursday, 28th May at 9.00am
Sue Mansbridge, Jackie John, Mary Charter, Srimathie Cruz, Margaret Parkinson, Chelsea Chaplin

Hospital Chaplain- Basildon Hospital

A vacancy has arisen for a Hospital Chaplain. All applicants should have strong communication skills and be able to deal with the private and confidential nature of the role. The closing date for applications is 29th May 2026 and suitable applicants will be invited to attend an interview. If you have any queries or if you would like to apply, please send your CV to basildon@brcdt.org

Young Vinnies

Do you know of anyone in the parish or wider community who is housebound/unwell/isolated who would like to receive a door step call from the Young Vinnies with a basket of good wishes and gifts to be received the weekend 13/14 June. Please email Louise to express an interest/for more information on louise.cherry5@gmail.com

The team are also undertaking a 15km walk from Stratford to the Ugandan embassy for a charity we have links to, who provide accomodation, food and education for children (and their parent) from disadvantaged backgrounds undergoing cancer treatment. Please see the link below for more information or if you would like to support the cause.



**** QUIZ NIGHT ****

Please support the 43rd EFS Scouting group fund raising event by booking a place at the Quiz night at the Beckett Centre on Saturday 6th June 2026. Doors open 7.15pm. Quiz starts 7.45pm. Tickets cost £10 per person and teams of up to 8 people. We have organised a prize raffle on the night and a bar with drinks and snacks to purchase too. For bookings please contact 43rd.efs.scouts@gmail.com
Put your knowledge to the test and support a great cause