

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

### Lately dead:

- ◇ Nelson Wickramaratne
- ◇ John O'Neil
- ◇ Rose Bawll

*May they rest in peace*

### Anniversaries:

Bruno Celaschi, Jean Newman, Thomas Taylor, Iris Witchell, William Curran, Teresa Judge, Alan Norris, Irene Stephens, Eilish Whitaker, Charles Wilkinson, William Jones, Emma Mulhern, Alfred Nash, Pauline White

### Pilgrims of Prayer

This Pilgrims of prayer booklet, produced by the Institute of Jesuits, introduces exercises that you may find useful to practise prayer.

[Pilgrims of Prayer - Catholic Bishops' Conference \(cbcew.org.uk\)](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)

### Parish Council

Will next meet on 11th March. Minutes of the meetings can be found on the website

## 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

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS



7.30pm at  
St Thomas's  
on  
Fridays in Lent.

**The Parish Office will be closed on  
Wednesday 28th February**



# ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Woodford Green

A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686

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 Lent (B) 25th February 2024

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

It is wonderful for us to be here!' These are the words of the disciples Peter, James, and John. In today's Mass we accompany them onto the Mount of Transfiguration to deepen our relationship with God's Son, the Beloved.

**First Reading** Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

Abraham is willing to offer his only son to God, but God spares him.

**Second Reading** Romans 8:31-34

Since God gave up his only Son for love of us, what else will he not do?

**Gospel** Mark 9:2-10

Transfigured with heavenly light, Jesus reveals his divinity to the disciples.

**Responsorial Psalm**

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

LEAVE YOUR COUNTRY  
FOR THE LAND I WILL SHOW YOU

**Today's Gospel, according to the Second Sunday of Lent, invites us to contemplate the Transfiguration of Jesus (cf. Mk 9:2-10).**

This episode is related to what had happened six days earlier, when Jesus had revealed to his disciples that in Jerusalem he would "suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again" (Mk 8:31). This message led to crisis for Peter and the entire group of disciples, who rejected the idea that Jesus would be scorned by the leaders of the people and then put to death. Indeed, they were waiting for a powerful, strong, dominating Messiah, whereas Jesus presented himself as a humble and gentle servant of God, and servant of mankind, who would offer his life in sacrifice, passing by way of persecution, suffering and death. But how could one follow a Master and Messiah whose earthly existence was to end in that way?

That is what they were thinking. And the answer came precisely from the Transfiguration. What is the Transfiguration of Jesus? It is a preliminary Paschal apparition.

Jesus took with him the three disciples Peter, James and John, "and led them up a high mountain" (9:2); and there, for a moment, he showed them his glory, the glory of the Son of God. This event of the Transfiguration thus allowed the disciples to confront Jesus' Passion in a positive way, without being overwhelmed. They saw him as he would be after the Passion: glorious. And in this way Jesus prepared them for the trial.

The Transfiguration helps the disciples, and us too, to understand that the Passion of Christ is a mystery of suffering, but it is above all a gift of love, of infinite love on Jesus' part. The event of Jesus transfiguring himself on the mountain enables us to better understand his Resurrection. In order to understand the Mystery of the Cross, it is necessary to know ahead of time that the One who suffers and who is glorified is not only a man, but is the Son of God who, with his love faithful to the end, saved us. In this way the Father renews his messianic declaration about the Son, which he had made previously on the bank of the River Jordan after his Baptism, exhorting: "listen to him" (v. 7).

The disciples are called to follow the Master with trust, with hope, notwithstanding his death; the divinity of Jesus must be made manifest precisely on the Cross, precisely in his dying "in that way", so that here Mark the Evangelist places in the mouth of the centurion the profession of faith:

***"Truly this man was a son of God."***  
***(From a Homily of Pope Francis).***



*He was transfigured before their eyes*



**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday 25th February**  
8.30 Rose Bulla RIP  
10 Brendan & Maura Conaghan RIP  
11.30 Carl Knights

**Monday 26th February**  
Olga Nunes RIP  
Kathleen Kelly anniversary  
Da Cruz family

**Tuesday 27th February**  
Eilish Whitaker anniversary  
Francis Drennan birthday

**Wednesday 28th February**  
S Estove & M Fernando memorial  
B & J Healey & family

**Thursday 29th February**  
Rose McMorroR RIP  
Patrick & Patricia McDaid intention

**Funeral 12.30pm Nelson Wickramaratne**

**Friday 1st March**  
John Potter RIP

**Saturday 2nd March**  
10 Olga Machado anniversary  
6 Carl Knights

**Sunday 3rd March**  
8.30 Bro Raymond RIP  
10 Mick Cusack RIP  
11.30 Mary Hobart RIP

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***We are pleased to let you know that Fr Isidore has returned home to the Friary***

**Church Cleaning**  
**Saturday 2nd March at 10.30am**  
Rosie O'Connor & Charmaine Turrell

**Lenten lunches each Friday**

12.30pm to 2pm cost £5.00  
proceeds to Mary's Meals



**Trinity Vacancies**

- P/T Midday Supervisor,
  - Behaviour Support Assistant,
  - Teacher of English
- Please visit the school website for more information

**PARISH BRIDGE CLUB**

We have been going for nearly 3 years and are a friendly, uncompetitive lot who focus on learning and improving. Whether you just want some practice, or would like to learn from scratch, you would be welcome to join us. Just email [bridgeclub@stthomaswoodford.org](mailto:bridgeclub@stthomaswoodford.org) for details.

**Concert for St John Bosco Children's Camp:**

Come and enjoy an exciting variety show of music and entertainment, to raise money for the camp, which provides holidays for over 100 children. The camp is restarting in 2024, under the umbrella of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood. The fundraising concert is on **Saturday 13th April 2024 - New Windmill Hall, Upminster. 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Wine and refreshments included.** Adult tickets £10; children £5. Bookings by phone: 07957382592. Online bookings and more details: [www.boscocamp.co.uk/events](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk/events)