

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

If you wish a name to be added to the sick list please email the parish office



**Lately dead:** Narishta Ratnanather, Leslie Graham, Joan Kenny  
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**May they rest in peace**

### Anniversaries:

Nigel Dawson, Adela Musson, Gerard Seeberan, Mary Cunningham, John Cleere, Thomas Feeney, Barbara Gois, Henricus Hustun, Thomas Mathews, Syrus Morley, Margaret Russ, Anka Stuttard, Eileen Bell, Jacob Black, Margaret Clarke, Susan Faulkner, Robert Heath, Conrad Roudette, Jacob Sullivan, Charles Vychodil, Anthony Murphy, Terence O'Brian, Margaret Arthur, Gerald Cobb, Marlene Cooper, Mrs Eileen Morrill, Frances (Fran) Piller, Victor Van Boolen

### FLAME 2025 "Unstoppable" Fan the Flame of Hope

Although it may feel like months away, we are excited to be preparing for Flame in March 2025, following on from the incredible experience that 1000 young people from the Brentwood Diocese had at the event earlier this year. Once again, the BCYS will purchase a block of earlybird tickets on behalf of the Diocese, to enable us to allocate seats together, in a very desirable area as close to the front as possible.

Details are in the poster at the back of the church.

## 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*

10am Chigwell Convent

### WEEKDAY MASSES

10am St Thomas'  
9.30 Chigwell

### St Thomas' Prayer Group

Saturday mornings  
10.30 to 11.30am

### CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30 to 11am  
and  
5.15 to 5.45 pm

### BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays  
of the month

### Retiring Collection

There is a retiring collection this weekend for Pax Christi



**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)

## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) 14th January 2024 Peace Sunday

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

If we want to know Jesus, we must spend time with him, talking to him and listening to what he has to say.

### 1 Samuel 3:3-10. 19

The story of the boy Samael in the Temple is many things—the story of a child growing in self-awareness; of a boy learning to pray, guided by the old priest, Eli; of Samuel's discovery of a sense of calling; above all, the story of a God of love who speaks with a living voice, heart-to-heart. Nothing can ever substitute for this person-to-person encounter in our human story.

### 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

St Paul's insistence on purity is not just about abstinence from causal sex. It is far more fundamentally about recognising what it means to be human—the temple of the Holy Spirit, the dwelling place of God. We should let neither the pursuit of pleasure nor the values of a society increasingly in thrall to technology undermine the dignity and value of each human person.

### John 1:35-42

Andrew, John and Simon Peter came to learn about Jesus through spending time with him.

### Responsorial Psalm

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.



### Christmas Thanks

The friars were very impressed with the smooth running of the liturgies over the busy Christmas celebration. We always get very large congregations especially at the Vigil Masses on Christmas Eve. The large numbers of people were received in a welcoming manner and great efforts were made to get them seated. In the sacristy on the vestments press, there were sheets telling the celebrant and anyone who wanted to see, who the readers, ministers of communion and ushers were. The organisation was done quietly and efficiently and really paid off. I noticed that a number of new faces were doing the ushering so please don't go away; your efforts are appreciated. I think there is always a lot to be gained by volunteering mainly in gaining a better sense of belonging to the community and the friendships that arise from working together. The readers could all be heard and the ministers of communion did their ministry with reverence. You cannot have a proper celebration without music and this was beautifully provided by our dedicated musicians. Thank you also for your Christmas collection that helps to fund the Franciscan Community and for your gifts of food and drink. Some bicarbonate of soda would be useful! So well done everyone.

### Father Isidore

We had a very good Christmas dinner and Isidore was in good form telling jokes and laughing. However, he started to get excruciating pain in his thigh and eventually was taken into Whipps Cross Hospital at 4 on the morning of St Stephen's Day. An ex-ray showed that the pin in his replacement hip had broken. He had an operation on Wednesday of last week that lasted for seven hours. He came through it successfully and has been out of bed sitting in a chair. He will have to be got onto his feet and walking so it could take some time.

### Liturgical Confusion

The period after Christmas until the Baptism of the Lord is the Christmas Season liturgically. Last Sunday we celebrated the Epiphany and on the following Monday, the Baptism of the Lord. After that we have been in Ordinary Time until Lent which starts early on the 14<sup>th</sup> February and leads to an early Easter on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

### Ecumenical Advent Service

The retiring collection raised 700 pounds, which has been divided between Mary's Meals, feeding school children in some of the world's poorest countries, and the Malachy Centre, helping the homeless locally. Many thanks to all who supported the service.

### Lenten Lunches

Over the past fifteen or so years, our Ecumenical Lenten Lunches have taken place during Lent. We provide homemade soup, fresh bread and endless tea and coffee all for about £5 which goes Mary's Meals (a charity which aims to give children in deprived or war torn areas a hot meal every day). We have an army of soup makers but are now in need of some more people to boost our numbers. Could you make soup for 12 people once during Lent? If so, please phone Diana on 020 8504 8429. The lunches begin on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February and run every Friday until 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

### The service for Christian Unity

The service for Christian Unity will take place at Woodford Methodist Church, Derby Road, South Woodford, on Sunday, January 21st at 6.30 pm. There will be light refreshments to follow. All are welcome.



### Mass Intentions

**Sunday 14th January**  
8.30 Raymond Duggan RIP  
10 Bro Raymond RIP  
11.30 Da Cruz family

**Monday 15th January**  
Pauline McKeon anniversary  
Christopher Comely RIP

**Tuesday 16th January**  
Peter Joseph sick  
Cynthia Gregory RIP

**Wednesday 17th January**  
Susan Faulkner anniversary  
Bridgie & Mary Shevlin intentions

**Thursday 18th January**  
Martha Charles anniversary  
Trinity intentions

**Friday 19th January**  
Granny & Grandad Sullivan  
Bro Raymond RIP

**Saturday 20th January**  
10 Josephine Mbuagbaw RIP  
6 Paddy & Phil Callanan in memory

**Sunday 21st January**  
8.30 Sebastiano Maggi RIP  
10 Narishta Ratnanrather RIP  
11.30 Robert Taylor RIP

### Companions meeting

Companions of the Sacred heart of Jesus and Mary meeting will take place on Monday 15th of January at 2pm in Chigwell Convent.

### Church Cleaning

Saturday 20th January - 10.30 am  
Rachel Woolf, Kathleen Mahoney.

### Baptism Congratulations

To the following children who were baptized in December  
Sloane Allen  
Chase Allen  
Ethan Sharkey  
Alan Nguyen  
Betty Roche-Smith  
Francesca Stewardson

### Church Donations—Gift Aid

People can now gift aid donations via the new electronic tablet at the back of the church.

Annual statements 2022/23: These have been issued, If you have not received yours please email the parish office.

If you pay taxes, you can gift aid your donations, 25pence for each pound will be added by the Government for the amount of your donation.

If you pay £2, the church can claim extra £0.50. The Gift Aid Declaration forms are available on the website and at the back of the church.

[https://www.stthomaswoodford.org/\\_files/ugd/2c0a5a\\_71442c2e51cc4f68bef120caa2f71284.pdf](https://www.stthomaswoodford.org/_files/ugd/2c0a5a_71442c2e51cc4f68bef120caa2f71284.pdf)

Please return completed forms to the Parish Office.

### Korean Facial experience

A parishioner will be offering free Korean Facial Experience in the Assisi Room (Becket Centre) on Jan 21, 2024 From 11am-1pm. Limited Availability Please contact/WhatsApp Gemma to register 07805475490