

### **POPE FRANCIS' REQUEST**

*Pope Francis wants to hear the experiences of the whole church on contemporary family and marriage.*

Thank you for coming to the two evenings on Family and Marriage. We know many more would have come but were otherwise engaged. Good contributions emerged from the two evenings and these we will convey to you shortly.

The subject and task is diverse, vast with many ramifications. The Pope wants a contribution for the Synod. But it needs to be the expression of the whole parish "Think with the whole church".

Next we discovered needs: to know **what** the church is teaching. Much more importantly **how** the church is teaching i.e. not by thundering laws but by presenting ideals, not condemnation but encouragement; not controlling but reminding of the freedom God gives us.

These we will continue to explore. We, the whole parish need to change in mind and heart. Otherwise we are simply a corpse.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Fridays of Lent

After 10am Mass and at 8pm in the church.

### **LENTEN LUNCHESES**

Tuesdays in Lent, 12.15pm—1.30pm in the Becket Centre. If you haven't tried our delicious home-made soups, French bread and butter why not join us this coming week.—it's only £3 and your money would help to feed vulnerable children.

### **EASTER TRIDUUM**

Readers, Ministers of Communion, Ushers & Sacristans: If you will be attending any of the services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday; please add your name to the lists located at the back of the church.

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

#### **Washing of the Feet**

We are looking for up to 12 volunteers (male or female). If you would like to take part, please add your name to the list at the back of the church.

### **SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION**

Monday, 30th March 7.30pm at St. Thomas'. A number of priests will be available to hear confessions. No further public times for celebrating this sacrament before Easter.

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TALK**

There will be a Human Trafficking Awareness talk on Tuesday 24th March at 7.30pm at Chigwell Convent. Come and find out more about the global and local issue of human trafficking. All are welcome. Tea and coffee will be provided. Additional talks will be arranged after Easter.

### **LET MY PRAYER ARISE**

The Meljon Singers bring you an evening of a cappella Russian sacred music from the 17th to the 21st centuries on Sat. 21st March at 8pm at St. John's Church, Epping CM16 5DN. Advance Tickets £10. On the door £12, Under 18s free. Book Online [www.meljon.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.meljon.ticketsource.co.uk) 01992 611711.

### **MOTHER & TODDLERS**

Are collecting Sainsburys vouchers, please hand them in to the Parish Office.

### **LIGHT A CANDLE**

If you wish to let someone know that you have lit a candle for them, cards are available from the Repository or the Parish Office. Price 50p each.

### **GARDEN FETE**

The Committee are in desperate need for help in cooking the burgers on the BBQ stall this June. Please contact Mick 07875 473269 if you can help.

### **CWL**

Woodford Section warmly invites any ladies interested in joining our active and sociable group to drop into the Becket Centre after the 10am or 11.30am Masses on 22nd March where there will be CWL members who will be pleased to speak to you about our international organisation.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENTS' MEETING**

Thursday, 19th March 8pm in the Becket Centre.

At this meeting we will discuss arrangements for individual Communion Masses. It is very important that you come along to this meeting so you can have the Mass you want for your child.

### **22ND MARCH 3PM**

Mass for all First Holy Communion children and parents. Fr. Michael will explain all aspects of the Mass.

### **CHURCH CLEANING**

Saturday 10.30am 21st March Charmaine Turnell, Rosie O'Connor, Eweline Allen, Debbie Bryant, Christine Pinnock

### **EASTER CLEAN**

This is a reminder that the Easter Clean of the Church is at 10.30am on Wed. 1st April—An easy date to remember. **PLEASE PLEASE** put it in your diaries. We only had 3 people helping at the Christmas clean. Can you please give just a little of your time to get our Church clean for the Easter celebrations. **THANK YOU.**

### **QUIZ NIGHT**

Saturday, 28th March 7.30pm at Trinity School. Fundraiser for Young People of the parish on Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Please contact Mrs Lanchester on 0208 504 8946 for tickets.

### **NO JUMBLE PLEASE!**

We ask parishioners not to leave jumble in the church porch or the cloister. The next jumble sale will be in October. We do not have storage space so we would advise you to take jumble to the local charity shops or we will have to dispose of it in the refuse bins!!

### **BAPTISMS**

If you have not attended a baptism course and would like to have your child baptised, please contact the parish office for details. Baptisms take place on the first and third Sundays of each month.

### **NEW TO THE PARISH?**

If you are new to the parish or have moved within the parish please contact the parish office so that we can keep our records up to date.

### **LOGS**

Do you have a log burner? Are you on the lookout for logs? Then look no further. Please help yourselves to the pile of logs located in the car park.

### **ST. JOHN'S 6TH FORM & COLLEGE**

Turpin's Lane, Woodford Bridge. Open Morning Wednesday, 18th March 10am—12Noon. To find out more and register your interest 'phone 0208 504 1818.

### **BRENTWOOD NEWS**

Copies are available from the back of the church. Please take one.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Sick:-** Sheila Abrams-Batley, Angela Barrett, Teresa Bonaventhor, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Claire and Lauren, Paddy Callanan, Bernadette Clancy, Julia Croft, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Don Dourado, Ana-Maria Erkasap, Ray Finney, Baby Frankie in Great Ormond St Hospital, Trish Gardener, Joan Green, Cynthia Gregory, Pat Greene, Lily Hanna, Doris Harriss, Christine Hewstone, Michael Hehir, Rowland Hill, Phyllis Kelly, Paul McDonnell, Mary McKay, Gloria McQueen, Roger Machin, Camille Malone, John Meneghan, Jutta Menzies, Kay Meyler, Harry Moody, Patrick Moran, Miriam Mullally, Betty Norton, Fr Con O'Connell OFM, Mary O'Donnell, Maureen Pestell, Sally Picton, Anneli Prowse, Lily Reding, Joan Reynolds, Jacky Rott, Debbie Smythe, Grace Taylor, Barry & Beryl Vaughan, Lorenzo Vaughan, Teresa Warnock, and for all the sick and housebound of the parish.

**Lately Dead.:** Joan Barfoot, Irene Boyle, Pauline Horan, Alexander Lobo, Aliko White,

**Anniv:** William Birbeck, Joseph Byrne, Frank Fuscoe (1st Anniv 15th March,) Eileen Godber, Nicki Jacques, Patrick Lennon (1st Anniv),

**SUNDAY MASSES**

**St. Thomas'**

1st Mass Sat. 6pm; 8.30am;  
10am (Children's Liturgy)  
11.30am

**Chigwell Convent**

10am

**St. James URC**

**(Buckhurst Hill)**

9am (Children's Liturgy)

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**St. Thomas'**

10am

**Chigwell Convent**

9.30am

Saturday 10am

(1st Weds of the month)

No morning Mass

**Trinity High School**

8.20am on Lower Site.

**SATURDAY**

**CONFESSIONS**

**St. Thomas'**

10.30am—11.30am

5.00pm—5.45pm

**Chigwell Convent**

After 10am Mass

**BAPTISMS**

1st and 3rd Sundays

Of the month

We extend the sympathy of the parish to the family of Aliko Lobo.

His Requiem will be on Wednesday, 25th March at 10am in St. Thomas'.

*May he rest in peace*

**ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER**

If you are looking to work in people's homes and wish to advertise in the newsletter please can you let the Parish Office have sight of your Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS, formerly CRB) certificate.

**VALENTINE SINGERS**

Js Bach St. Matthew Passion on Sat. 28th March at 7pm at St. Mary's Church, High Road, S. Woodford E18 2PA. Tickets £16/£10 (students/benefit holders) £18/£12 on the door 020 8550 4654

**THE HIGHAMS PLAYERS**

Present "THE WEEKEND" by Michael Palin at Wamstead House, 21 The Green Wanstead E11 2NT. 8pm evenings and 3pm Saturday Matinee. Tickets 020 8924 6987. Evenings £8 adults and £4 children. Matinee £6 adults and £3 children

**St Thomas of Canterbury**  
557/559 High Road, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0RB  
Served by the Franciscans



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

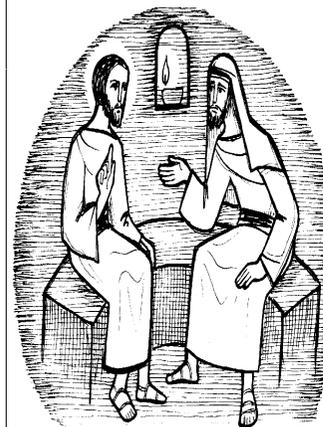
Tel: 020 8504 1686 Fax: 020 8504 1844



Email: parishoffice@friar.org Web: www.stthomaswoodford.org

**4TH SUNDAY IN LENT  
CYCLE B**

**15TH MARCH 2015**



**Rejoice!** That is the message for this fourth Sunday in Lent—"Laetare" Sunday. As we gather together, with all our different struggles and blessings, we prepare to hear God's Word and meet the Lord in the Eucharist.

**First Reading  
(2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23)**

Such was the persistence of God's people in pursuing their own way and ignoring the Lord's that they found themselves exiled from the land promised to them. But the Lord worked through Cyrus, a Gentile, to restore his people to their land and relationship with him.

**Second Reading  
(Ephesians 2:4-10)**

The great gift of God's boundless love and grace comes to us in Jesus, and fills our everyday lives in the Spirit. When we hand ourselves over to the Lord's love, he recreates us as his works of art.

**Gospel  
(John 3:14-21)**

Nicodemus has come to Jesus by night. In the shadows of this conversation of wondering and searching, Jesus speaks of the love of the Father and the healing that is made possible for all people through the gift of his own life and his sacrifice on the cross.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**O let my tongue cleave to my mouth  
If I remember you not!**