



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Lately dead:

◇ **Jim Sainsbury**

May he rest in peace

Anniversaries:

John Gavin, Anthony Murphy, James Graham, Margaret Mead, Leila Du Veaux, Marian Proscinski, Bernarda Sekolec, Elizabeth Courtney, Kathleen Douglas, Terence Murphy, Luigi Beschizza, Sr Bernadette Cain, Margaret Godkin, Eileen O'Connell, Miss Hill, Maria Petter, Gerald Thackway, Juliet Woodleigh,

Retiring Collection This weekend

There will be a retiring collection for the Promotion of vocations this weekend

Mass Timetable

All services at St Thomas of Canterbury 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

Music Group

The Music Group will not be singing at the 10am Mass on Sunday 8 May but will be back on 15 May and the following weeks.

10am Chigwell Convent

WEEKDAY MASSES

10am St Thomas'
The Rosary takes places after 10am
Mass on Wednesday

9.30am Chigwell Convent

CONFESSIONS

After 10am Mass on Saturdays

BAPTISMS

1st and 3rd Sundays
of the month



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

Facebook: @STOCWoodford

Twitter: @STOCWoodford



Fourth Sunday of Easter (C) 8th May 2022

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

Jesus grew up in the countryside, a countryside of hills and valleys where he often observed flocks of sheep with their shepherds. In John's Gospel he describes himself as a "good shepherd" who talks to his sheep and keeps them safe.

First Reading Acts 13:14. 43-52

Despite opposition, many of the people of Antioch respond to the preaching of Paul and Barnabas and become Christians.

Second Reading Apocalypse 7:9. 14-17

St John has a vision of the hosts of believers in heaven, too many to count, from every nation on earth.

Gospel John 10:27-30

Jesus the good shepherd speaks to his sheep and leads us into eternal life.

Responsorial Psalm

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.



Back to normal

The Parish Health and Safety Committee met on Wednesday. Having reviewed what has increasingly become common practice elsewhere in churches and social venues we came to the conclusion that anti-covid precautions have become a matter of individual decision. So we no longer ask as a requirement that you use a face mask. Do so by all means if you wish. The communion tables will be removed so that you will approach the priest or minister as before lock-down. The ministers will make up their own mind and I think for the moment I will continue to use a mask for your protection. I think it may be quite a while before we can resume offering you the chalice.

The offertory

You have been very good using the collection buckets at the back of the church. We have recommenced the practice of passing the baskets along each row at the offertory of the mass. It is part of the symbolism. You bring your gift to God. It is gathered together and then brought to the altar and offered with the bread and wine.

Altar servers

Former servers have been slow to return but we have made a start. I ask you parents to give thought to it. It is hard to share our enthusiasm for our faith and its practice with young people. Hard for them to sit in the pews for the whole mass. The best way is to involve them in the action. We need servers to lead in the procession with candles, to attend to the gifts of bread wine and money for service of the poor, to prepare the books and assist the priests. Jesus becomes present through the involvement of each participant bringing their own special contribution. Serving is one of these, for the young. So please encourage your children. They can begin, once they have progressed to receiving communion, to join us on the sanctuary.

First Holy Communions

This Saturday the last teaching session happened in Becket with a teaching mass. The children prepared a house, a table and the rest for a party. And discovered they had made all ready for the party to which God invites us every Sunday. The families have prepared long. Now, over the next five weeks and generally in groups of eight, some opting to receive first communion just with their own family at a regular mass, over 100 young people will receive Jesus for the first time. Pray for them. Pray that regularly each Sunday they will be there with us, enjoying such a gift.

Faith talk - 9th May 7pm

This is not so much about *prayers* as about *prayer*; not saying things to God but becoming aware of being with God, in a real presence through the power of the Resurrection. We need to be cautious about naming the ideal conditions for the best place for prayer. For prayer, in this sense, is unconditional: *prayer is ever-present in us, wherever we are, whatever we are doing or feeling.* And this fits perfectly the paradox S Paul highlights in telling us to pray always – with *we don't know how to pray* – Rom.8.26. Prayer is to become like breathing – ever present, though often unnoticed. Years ago, I saw an old gentleman come into the Church here every afternoon, and sit quietly for some time – on one occasion, I heard him whisper as he got up to go – *see you tomorrow!*

Friary Tennis Club

We have two good courts and a clubhouse at the bottom of the Friary garden, and have been there for many decades. New members are always welcome, so why not email us at ftcwoodford@gmail.com or come along and see for yourself.



Mass Intentions

Sunday 8th May

8.30 Olga Machado RIP
10 Josephine Walsh RIP
11.30 Dadswell family
People of the parish

Monday 9th May

Jack Williams RIP
Eileen Fleming RIP

Tuesday 10th May

Thomas Grisley RIP
Ann Brophy RIP

Wednesday 11th May

Peter & Petrina Stubbings
Davis Le-Pla RIP

Thursday 12th May

Terry Murphy anniversary
Trinity intentions

Friday 13th May

Alfred & Dorothy Hagger RIP
Olga Machado RIP

Saturday 14th May

10 am Jason Brown very ill
6 pm Margaret Grecian RIP

Sunday 15th May

8.30 Bruna Roberts RIP
10 Josephine Walsh RIP
11.30 Deceased of Hagger family

Church Cleaning

Friday 13th May at 9am

Claire Hobbs, Christine Acons,
Julia Bever, Susanna Barnoin, Liz
Atkinson, Josie Kiernon & Michelle
Liddle

Home Help available for employment opportunities

A parishioner with excellent references is available for home help at evenings or weekends. She is reliable and trustworthy and efficient with a full driving licence. I have previous experience of working with the elderly and less abled people in the local Woodford Community and I have always ensured that they have been well cared for. If you are interested please call Victoria on 07931807934

Franciscan life: Invitation

The Franciscan Community invite enquiries from single Catholic people aged 18-40 years pondering a possible vocation in the religious and/or priestly life, and Franciscan life; (website: www.friar.org).

If interested and need guidance, please talk to one of the Friars or contact *Br Dónal ofm* via email - brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk

Young Child's bikes

Two small bicycles were abandoned in the Friary grounds recently. Are they yours? Or would you like one? Please contact the parish office for details.