

FR. AUSTIN MERCY 2

Please come to the Becket Centre on Tuesday to hear the second part of Austin's Lenten reflection on this burning topic. Thank you for coming last Tuesday. It proved a very worth-while exercise. In small groups we shared our thoughts about Mercy: why such stress on it just now? What exactly are we expected to take in/do? Bring these questions and others and challenge Austin. Later we will offer more opportunity to delve into our faith. Some are bored with the church. That is because they are stuck at some stage along what should be a continuous process of discovery and personal growth. Engaging in the process by sharing with others where each of us makes it interesting and stimulating.

LENT LUNCHESES

In the Becket Centre on Tuesdays in Lent. 12.15pm—1.30pm in aid of Mary's Meals (an organisation which provides meals for school children in crisis-stricken countries). Home Made Soup and French Bread £3. Everyone is welcome.

MOTHER'S PRAYER GROUP

Tuesday, 1st March after the 10am Mass in the Francis Room.

There will be an SVP Collection after all Masses this weekend.

HOLY FAMILY

Lay Associates Meeting on Monday, 7th March at 7.30pm at Maureen's House.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

Please contact the parish office to register.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Friday we engage in this devotion. After the 10am Mass it is led by a volunteer of the parish community. The friars will generally lead the evening devotion at 8pm.

HAVE YOU A BICYCLE?

In the shed that you could donate to a refugee or destitute asylum seeker?

The Jesuit Hurtado Centre in Wapping arranges repair and distribution of bicycles to refugees and asylum seekers in the London area.

If you have a bike, any size or condition, that you are willing to donate to this project please contact Arthur Catterall on 020 8508 9834 who can collect and deliver to the Centre.

SACRED HEART COMPANIONS

Will meet on Monday, 7th March at 2pm at Chigwell Convent. New members welcome.

CLT's

A huge thank you to all who contributed so generously and willingly to signing our Community Land Trust (CLT) forms.

We overreached our 110 target by 28 so far and five members of our Parish presented them, together with others, to Cllc Jed Atwell, Leader of Redbridge Council on Monday evening.

There is a commitment by Redbridge Council to develop two CLTs in the Borough and the presentation of more than 450 forms will go to strengthen that resolve to build 250 affordable homes.

LIVING WAGE

There is more good news on this front Cllc. Atwell says that The London Borough of Redbridge is committed to becoming an accredited Living Wage Borough within the next year.

TELCO

On 28th April 2016, just one week before we elect the New Mayor of London, 6,000 organised voters will gather at the Copper Box in Stratford for the London Citizens' Mayoral Accountability Assembly. St. Thomas of Canterbury parishioners can play a significant role by attending the Mayoral Election on the 28th April. Coach Transport will be provided. Tickets for the Assembly: call Angela Meyler 020 8504 2138 or Bernie Harris 077 54477532/

The coach leaves St. Thomas' at 5pm prompt. Don't miss it!!

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

The SVP are trying to help a family find a 2 bedroom property to rent in the local area, preferably situated on the ground floor or on one level. Please contact 07754 100149 if you can help.

ALSO

Two bedroom house for a couple in Walthamstow or South Woodford. Please contact 020 8527 1504.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 4th March at All Saints Church, Inman's Row, Woodford Green 2.15pm and Hunter Court Lounge, Homesdale Close, New Wanstead E11 2TL 6pm. All welcome.

PARISH ACCOUNTS

There has been an up date of the parish website and the last three years of the parish accounts have been posted for everyone's information. This is to provide clarification on the parish funding and our expenditure to maintain the parish.

You are welcome to review these and should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Jeremy Davey on Jeremydavey@btinternet.com or 07717 456035

EAST LONDON THREE FAITHS FORUM

On Thursday, 10th March at 8pm, Bishop Alan Williams will be speaking in St. Anne Line Parish Hall, Grove Crescent, South Woodford E18 2JR ON "Spirituality and High Places". All welcome. Light refreshments afterwards.

SAINSBURYS VOUCHERS

Once again the Mother and Toddler Group are collecting Sainsburys vouchers and would appreciate your help. Please hand them into the parish office. Thank you.

ORGAN

There is an organ in the cloister which would be grateful for a new home. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP QUIZ

Sat. 5th March 7.30pm at Trinity Catholic High School Upper Site. Tickets £10 per person. 8 people per table. Includes Ploughmans Supper, Bring your own drinks and glasses. Contact Ann on 020 8989 9032 to book places.

WELCOME

We welcome into the parish community James Cooke, Connor Matthew Brown, Heathcliff Clarence Bruce, Connor Matthew Brown, Imogen Bonnington-Carter, Bonnais Lee Inglis who were baptised in St. Thomas' last weekend.

SUNDAY TEAS

We serve tea and coffee after 10am and 11.20am Masses most Sundays. Do pop in and join us. A good chance to meet old friends and new people.

CWL

Wednesday, 2nd March AGM 8pm in the Assisi Room.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sick:- Mike Angelo, Baby Oliver Barker, Betty Bere, Angela & Kerry Bromfield, Liz Browne, Genevieve Campbell, Eustage Chesley, Claire, Ann Carmody, (Kieran's Mum), Mike Crutchlow, Bernadette Clancy, Carmel Cork, Claver D'Souza, Don Dourado, Laurie Durrant, Maureen Halford, Thomas Hefferman, Joan Farrelly, Maurice Flynn, Irene & Carter de Freitas, Karen Gallagher, Trish Gardner, Mary Grisdale, Cynthia Gregory, Catherine Heagney, John Harris, Doris Harriss, Tony & Mary Keane, S. Kuntz, Lauren, Chris Lavin, Mary McKay, Roger Machin, Camille Malone, Bridie McCoy, Claudia McNulty, Jutta Menzies, Pat Morgan, Miriam Mullally, Frances Piller, Dr Courtney Price, Anneli Prowse, Lily Reding, Mary Ryder, Dermot Ryle, Edward Shearer, Joshua Smikle, Jane Spring, Melda Tierney, Pauline Tuite, Astrid Turner, Mary Quaine, Kath Vaughan, Evi Maria Vogel.

Farewell to Carmel Cork who is has moved to Chelmsford last Friday. She was our longest serving choir member and we wish her well in her new surroundings.

Anniversaries

John Cummings, Paul McDonnell, Mike Moore, Christi Quinn, Siobhan Davids, Pauline White,

Latelty Dead Ivor Burkwood, Violet Clifford, Karen Gallagher, Julia Hayes, Declan Holian. Mario Zeppa, Margaret Burke, Frank Thompson,

CHURCH CLEANING

Thursday 9am 3rd March Kath Mahoney, Jack Edwards, Amanda Rae, Emily Hannon, Kathy Howes.

SONGS OF SPRINGTIME

The Crofton Singers present E.J. Moeran's Songs of Springtime on Sat. 5th March 7.30pm at St. Barnabas Church, 127 Snakes Lane East, Woodford Green IG8 7HX. For tickets www.ticketsource.co.uk/croftonsingers or call 07811369063.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX CHOIR MASS IN BLUE ZIMBE!

Sat. 5th March 7pm at St. Gabriel's Church, Aldersbrook Road, Wanstead, E12 5HH. Please see leaflets at the back of the church.

ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

To ensure that your note is included in the newsletter the weekend, it would be most helpful if you could kindly let the office have it by Thursday morning at the very latest. Grateful thanks.

MOTHER'S HELP URGENTLY REQUIRED

For 9 year old boy, 3 days a week, plus some time in the school holidays. You will need to be calm, 100% reliable, organised, outgoing, fun and have good common sense. Salary—to be discussed based on experience. Please contact 07793 045 839.

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



A FAIRTRADE PARISH

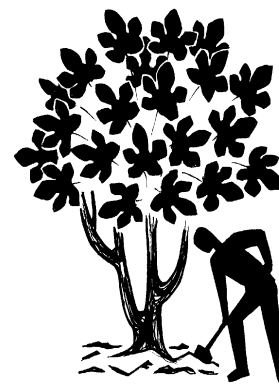
Tel: 020 8504 1686 Fax: 020 8504 1844



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

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT CYCLE C

28TH FEBRUARY 2016



The ever-present and extremely difficult question of the suffering of innocent people is at the heart of today's Gospel. Jesus makes it plain that personal tragedy is never God's punishment for sin.

First Reading (Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15)

The Lord not only reveals the name by which he wants to be known; he declares that he has heard his people's cry in their distress. God acts on their behalf.

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12)

In a brief history lesson, Paul reminds the Corinthians of the deeds of God on behalf of God's people in the past. Their infidelity should be a warning to greater effort in the present.

Gospel (Luke 13:1-9)

Jesus makes it clear that sudden death is never to be seen as a punishment for sin. A more important issue is that people take to heart the call to embrace the arrival of God's kingdom.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM The Lord is compassion and love

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